Lake View Citizens’ Council

Feb. 7, 2019, meeting minutes

*Mike Raffety, secretary*

Mike Raffety called the meeting to order. A quorum was not present. The following board members were present:

Abby Sullivan

Chester Kropidowski

David Byrd

Dorothy Klees

Greg Kawliche

Heather Way Kitzes

Jan Sumrall

Kevin Lakomy

Maureen Martino

Michael Raffety

Michael Zink

Scott Miller

York Chan

Candidate forum (Greg): Jan. 17 at the Center on Halsted, 235 people, with Erica and Mike. Scott, Jan, Mark and Tim helped out on the day of the event. Lakeview and East Lakeview chambers co-sponsored. Laura Washington was a great moderator.

Technology (York): It’s on a really old platform and in limbo, hard to update. We need help with it, it hasn’t been updated in two years. York will try to have a prototype web site by the April meeting. It needs a graphic designer to give it a good look and feel.

CAPS (Chester): Lots of crime from people just leaving doors and windows open. Put a “No Trespassing” sign at your building entrances. Maureen attends meetings with the state’s attorney’s office. The panhandling ordinance was repealed, which had previously prevented people being near ATMs, etc. Maureen is willing to chair, Chester as backup.

Transportation (Chester): For the LSD “redesign the drive” project, there was a proposal to eliminate ramps at Wilson, but 46th ward community meetings showed strong sentiment against doing so. Clark Street between Buckingham and Roscoe will be closed for the month of March, for CTA RPM project, to relocate utilities.

SELVN (Jan): Pretty quiet, a couple construction projects approved last year that are starting up. The park district wants to put in a soccer field near the driving range.

ELVN (Michael Z.): Their Octoberfest was in September, and raised $24,000. Distributed $11,000 to police, firefighters, schools, food pantry, migratory bird sanctuary, and the legacy project . Each board member will approach one large business about obtaining grants. Awaiting the Chicago sculpture exhibit, looking at the artwork being proposed. Board elections are next month, get your dues paid by Feb. 19.

CLVN (Dorothy): Most of last meeting was taken up by a new restaurant project at the old Mi Terra on 1000 block of Belmont, the building will be torn down, rezoned, and rebuilt. It will be a Cumin restaurant location (Indian) with an incidental liquor license, plus some apartments.

Triangle (Scott): Next meeting is scheduled for March.

SNA (Abby): There’s a mural going up on the CVS on Southport around mid-April. Two developments on Patterson are being negotiated.

Lakeview Chamber (Maureen): Lights across the street near Belmont and School, staying up until further notice. Working on some streetscaping projects. There’s a soup walk on Feb. 24, 18-20 stops. Feb. 25 is the annual meeting at Moe’s Cantina. Feb. 21 is the Lakeview supper club kickoff, restaurants will have unique experiences, and there’s a new dining guide. Street security starts in March. Traffic patterns for baseball season are being discussed. On Friday, Feb. 8, at 3208 N. Sheffield, there is a new Australia pie place opening, just $2. The Harley Davidson store will be opening soon, at the Addison/Clark building. Lucky Strike bowling is opening in March. The movie theater is on hold. Houndstooth has a new owner. Happy Camper on Clark near Cornelia is opening.

Cubs (Heather): All winterland activities are wrapped up, the ice rink is coming out this week. Still doing construction until opening day, this is the fifth and final phase of off-season construction (though some interior work through mid-summer). They came to a solution with the neighbors for the blue lot, going for the zoning approval soon, with a better structure and landscaping, and widening the alley by two feet so it’s a proper width. Opening day is just two months away. Only one concert announced so far, for Dead & Co. Heather has been attending these meetings since 2002, and this may be her last meeting, depending on the 47th ward election.

44th ward alderman’s office (Chris): Early voting starts Monday at Merlo Library, or any of the early voting sites across the city. Office is closed Tuesday for Lincoln’s birthday. The Strategic Decision Support Center for the 19th district should be open today, helping police with real-time high-quality cameras and a mobile unit. The 19th district has the highest robbery arrest rate in the city; still checking on whether convictions are as high. Scheduling a meeting with Kim Fox, hopefully by the end of March. The shredding event is March 30, 9 to noon, at the alderman’s office on Sheffield. They are moving forward with the park district to create an AIDS memorial garden at the Belmont rocks area, a design is being developed. The Keith Haring foundation has donated a massive 30-foot sculpture, hopefully in place by August, and the garden complete by June 2020. The web site is aidsgarden.org. The Merlo branch library will be extensively renovated, closing around March 1 (depending on the election runoff) through December.

Institutional member recommendations: The dated web site doesn’t help in recruiting.

The annual meeting is due in April? There’s a notice requirement, and a nominating process.

Next meeting is April 4 at a place to be determined. Meeting adjourned.