Lake View Citizens’ Council

June 6, 2024, meeting minutes

*Mike Raffety, secretary*

Kevin Lakomy called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM. A quorum was not present. The following board members were present:

Chester Kropidowski

Heather Way-Kitzes

Jan Sumrall

Kevin Lakomy

Maureen Martino

Mike Raffety

Terie Kata

Financial update (Mark sent statements before the meeting): $6,576 in the bank. There’s been 5 member renewals YTD. Largest expenses YTD are $921 for insurance and $455 for e-mail services (like ConstantContact).

Water towers (Chester): The water towers have historic and visual value, and it would be nice to try to keep track of the remaining ones, and try to encourage owners to preserve them. There may be none left in Lakeview.

Redefine the Drive (Chester): CDOT is not being very communicative about updates.

Educational seminars (Chester): We should organize seminars to help people with issues like being safe in public and computer skills.

SELVN (Jan): They’re back to in-person meetings, and they had a nice turnout. There are some new businesses coming, and some that have closed. No new projects.

ELVN (Terie): Working on Octoberfest, Sept. 15, which overlaps with the Broadway art fair. They need volunteers to help, before and on the day of.

Police presence (Kevin): Hasn’t seen a lot of bike patrols. Maybe we can come up with some better ideas to help them. We should ask for a return to staffing levels before the police districts 19 and 23 merged in 2012. There have been some good arrests of people involved in multiple crimes. There’s also been an issue with aggressive homeless people. LVCC will write a letter to the mayor and the alderman about restoring staffing levels near Wrigley to what they were before the district merged; Kevin will write a first draft and circulate it to the board for review.

Lakeview East Chamber of Commerce (Maureen): The Pride parade route is shortened and an hour earlier, there’s still a concern about the activity late at night near the Belmont El station. Dine Out on Broadway is this weekend, and there will be another one in July.

Heart (Mike): Lakeview Landing (accessible and affordable housing on Addison, replacing the church across from the police station) had a great groundbreaking this morning, about 60 people. Demolition of the church is expected to begin next week. Redevelopment of the Torstenson Glass facility (3233 Sheffield) is beginning to move forward, with 90 apartments planned on 5 stories. The 925 Belmont project (where Ann Sather’s is located) presented a revised proposal with one less story (10 in total), and 200 units (including 30 low-income). More on the alderman’s web site.

Next meeting is on Thursday, September 5, at 6:30 PM. Meeting adjourned at 7:19 PM.