

SOUTH EAST LAKEVIEW NEIGHBORS (SELVN)
General Meeting
September 14, 2020
Second Unitarian Church,
656 West Barry Street, Chicago, IL

SELVN Meeting Minutes at selvn.org

MINUTES

1) WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS, President Jan Sumrall.

- a) The meeting was a **virtual** meeting via a YouTube Link. Board members were introduced for the benefit of new members/attendees.
- b) The September SELVN General Meeting was called to order by President Sumrall at 7:00 p.m. with 11 board members and 3 guest speakers in attendance virtually. 15 members/non-members joined via the YouTube link.

2) GENERAL UPDATE – Jan Sumrall.

- a) Re-Define Lake Shore Drive. See below, 44th Ward Update.
- b) Construction Updates. See below, 44th Ward Update.

3) CONGRESSMAN MICHAEL B. QUIGLEY – General Update.

- a) Congressman Quigley (“Quigley”) has been attending SELVN community meetings since 1983. This is a crisis in which you cannot help people in person. Helping is remote and works against us. In every crisis people step up. We see those with the essential workers and first responders and health care workers. Quigley has never seen a situation in which a country has been called on to act responsibly so much. Quigley is very proud of his community.
- b) By the end of September, Congress will have done a couple of things. First is to fund the government. Since Quigley is an appropriator and also a chairman, one of the twelve (12) bills that will pass will be his. Four (4) Care Relief bills have been passed. The programs are running out. Congress must continue to provide benefits and needs the expand these programs.
- c) In a meeting Quigley attended today, Alderman Smith of the 43rd Ward said 15,000 people have shown interest in early voting by mail in her ward alone. The numbers are similar for the 44th Ward in Lake View. This will be a vote by mail election. Under the Heroes Act, the Post Office received 25 billion dollars. In the past, Quigley was the lead sponsor on two (2) measures to update new election equipment. Quigley’s new bill will provide another billion dollars for training, software and new equipment.
- d) Quigley is looking forward to an infrastructure package to move forward. An infrastructure package will be an investment in the country. Bob Clarke asked how hopeful Quigley was that the infrastructure package would get through the Senate and

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how much would be determined by the end of September. Quigley said as a best bet at the last minute they will probably do something, but probably not as much as they should.

- e) Bob Clark asked if the Fed was buying Illinois bonds? Anil Kaship (a former board member of SELVN) said that Illinois is the only bond the Fed bought.
- f) Liz Cohen referred to the fact that people who received unemployment benefits of at least \$100 per week would be eligible to receive an extra \$300 per week. Liz wanted to know why it was not available to people who receive less than \$100 per week in unemployment. Quigley responded that he did not know. The \$300.00 was an Executive Order. The Heroes Act extended it through the end of January the same way someone was receiving the \$600.00.
- g) Our first job is service. Quigley and his staffers can be contacted at Quigley.house.gov.

4) 44th WARD UPDATE – Jessica Papp - Alderman Tom Tunney’s Office.

- a) New Personnel. Chris Jessup, Director of Public Safety and Community Relations, recently left Alderman Tunney’s Office to pursue other opportunities. Jessica Papp introduced Calvin Cottrell who was recently hired and will take over some of Chris’s duties. Calvin will be the liaison with all of the neighborhood groups. If there are any questions or concerns regarding community outreach or social media, then please reach out to Calvin. Calvin’s title is Director of Community Outreach and Public Safety. Calvin will oversee the Alderman’s social media profiles and the weekly newsletter. Calvin will go to all of the community group meetings and help with constituent concerns and public safety matters. Calvin will work closely with the Police Officers of the 19th District to make sure that Lake View continues to stay safe, as well as a vibrant neighborhood.
- b) Street Resurfacing. Briar is being resurfaced between Halsted and Broadway. Oakdale between Pine Grove and Broadway is being resurfaced. Resurfacing should be done by September 23.
- c) Tree Trimming. Tree trimming is occurring throughout the ward.
- d) Office Hours. Alderman Tunney’s Office is open five (5) days a week, five (5) hours a day. The hours are Monday, Wednesday and Friday from 8:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m. and Tuesday and Thursday from 1:00 p.m. to 6:00 p.m.
- e) Wellington/Waterloo Crosswalk. Liz Cohen asked when will (i) the resurfacing of Wellington between Clark and Broadway be completed and (ii) the Wellington/Waterloo crosswalk be completed. York Chan asked when the resurfacing of the 3100 block of Orchard be completed. In a follow-up e-mail, Jessica advised that, (aa) Alderman Tunney’s Office will take a look at the 3100 block of Orchard for resurfacing next year; and (bb) the work for the Wellington/Waterloo crosswalk is scheduled to start in late November and should be finished within four (4) to five (5) weeks.

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- f) Dine Out on Broadway. Liz Cohen commented that the program was wonderful. Liz noted that a few more community tables and trash cans should be added so that more people could be accommodated. Liz noted that the barrier at Surf and Broadway should be put up earlier so that vehicles do not go up Broadway and cause an accident. Lindsay Melnick commented that the Dine Out on Broadway was one of the highlights of the summer and seconded Liz's comment about the availability of community tables.

Anil Kaship asked that once outdoor dining closes and the weather turns, what options will be available for restaurants. Several questions were raised regarding what is being considered about expanding the outdoor dining program. Jessica said that the Illinois Restaurant Association via a contest/survey is trying to figure out how to extend the outdoor dining program safely through the winter, help businesses survive and allow residents to socialize.

York Chan said that the board had a discussion at the SELVN board meeting and the board was supportive of Dine Out on Broadway. York said there were some concerns about other businesses on Clark Street and other areas within Lake View that were not able to participate in the same way as businesses on Broadway. York asked if the Alderman's Office in conjunction with the Chamber were looking to expand outdoor dining programs in other areas to include those other business, such as Clark Street. Jessica said that the Dine Out on Broadway was a pilot program. Clark Street is very different and very busy. For safety reasons, the Police Department and OEMC were reluctant to expand the program to other streets. Alderman Tunney's Office and the Chamber are hoping to expand the program so that the businesses survive through the fall and winter. There will be a review of the pilot program and all feedback received from the community, the Police Department, the Fire Department, OEMC and the other departments and entities involved in the program.

In a follow-up e-mail, Jessica advised that (i) the contest/survey ended September 7; (ii) the Illinois Restaurant Association contest/survey can be viewed at www.openideo.com under "How might we stimulate and encourage safe outdoor dining and entertainment during cold weather in Chicago"; (iii) the Block Club, September 15, article, "How Will We Dine Outside this Winter? From Igloos to Shipping Crates, City Shares Your Ideas" describes the program and includes some of the submitted suggestions; and (iv) Jessica has shared the suggestions and concerns raised at the meeting with Maureen Martino, Director, Lake View East Chamber of Commerce.

- g) Chicago Park District – Proposed Turf Field for Soccer, Lacrosse and Football (East of the Driving Range). John Rafkin asked about the status of the construction of the Turf Field. Jessica confirmed that the project was moving forward. It was out for bid and construction is anticipated to start in October depending on the weather. In order to lay the turf, the weather needs to be around 60 degrees for one week, which normally occurs in April. The project should be completed by spring/summer of next year. The drainage and turf field plans are on Alderman Tunney's website. Bob Clark commented that, considering the current fiscal setbacks for the City and the public-school system, he was amazed that the project was moving forward.

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- h) Re-Define Lake Shore Drive. John Rafkin asked if the Briar Street underpass for vehicles is a dead issue. Jessica said that she was pretty sure that it was a dead issue. Jan Sumrall noted that all of the particulars of the Project are posted on www.northlakeshoredrive.org.
- i) TIF Funds. Bob Clarke said that the media mentioned that there is 350 million dollars in TIF funds. Will any of those funds be tapped to get through the City's next two (2) years of near billion-dollar deficits? In a follow-up e-mail, Jessica advised that regarding the using of TIF funds to fill in holes in the budget, this is actually already done when there is a surplus. Budget season begins in October, so the City will take those surpluses into account to help with budget shortfalls.
- j) Masks. Bob Clarke mentioned that the Police were not wearing masks. This is a terrible example and is harmful for public health.
- k) Construction Updates. See Alderman Tunney's Weekly Newsletter for additional construction updates in the area.

1) NEW BUSINESS.

- a) None.

2) ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- a) Next meeting will be Monday, October 12, 2020 at 7:00 p.m.
- b) Next CAPS Meeting will be a virtual meeting on Tuesday, October 13, 2020 at 6:30 p.m.

3) MEETING ADJOURNMENT.

- a) The meeting adjourned at 7:40 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Sumrall – President, SELVN