

SOUTH EAST LAKEVIEW NEIGHBORS (SELVN)
General Meeting
September 9, 2019
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 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 7:05 p.m. with 17 current members and 11 non-members in attendance.

2) CUDDLE BUNNY LLC – 2901 North Clark Street – Special Use to Allow Animal Services – Barbara A. Burdick.

- a) Cuddle Bunny LLC (“Cuddle Bunny”) is applying for a special use to allow animal services (boarding) in an existing tenant space in an existing 1 and 2 story building. Cuddle Bunny intends to provide club space on its main level for customers to enjoy the companionship of domesticated rabbits without the need to purchase or care for them. Cuddle Bunny intends to provide space for patrons to both interact with the rabbits during specific activities such as bunny yoga and as they freely roam around the facility spaces. On the lower level of the space, Cuddle Bunny will also provide for expert rabbit care and boarding for the public for either brief or extended stays. Retail goods such as bunny-themed apparel and home goods as well as bunny adoption starter kits will also be available for purchase.
- b) The hours of operation will fall between 10:00 a.m. and 10:00 p.m. The Lakeview East Chamber of Commerce introduced Bunny Reiss to Cuddle Bunny. Bunny Reiss will paint a mural on the south wall in various pastel colors. The mural is entitled “Good Luck.”
- c) The request for a special use was presented to Alderman Tunney’s Office and approved.
- d) A motion was made by Bob Clark and seconded by JoAnn Potashnick to approve the support of a special use to allow for animal services (boarding). A vote was taken with the following results: 14 votes for; 0 votes against; and 1 abstention.

3) REPRESENTATIVE SARA FEIGENHOLTZ - UPDATE – Representative Feigenholtz.

- a) Representative Feigenholtz introduced two of her staff members, Abigail Johnston and Alyssa Goldstein.
- b) Representative Feigenholtz has been working on the following projects and/or passage of laws: (i) correcting issues with DCFS; (ii) minimum wage; (iii) fair taxes; (iv) decriminalization of possession of cannabis; (v) women’s right to choose, which codified

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abortion as a fundamental right; (vi) adding LGBT history to the teaching curriculum; (vii) Capital Funding Bill; (viii) legalization of sports betting; (ix) recreational cannabis sale locations are under review; and (x) funding of parks. Representative Feigenholtz is on the Property Tax Relief Task Force.

- c) A Conversation on Clean Energy with Representative Ann Williams, Senate President John J. Cullerton and Representative Sara Feigenholtz will be held September 10, 2019 from 6:30 p.m. to 8:00 p.m. at the Center on Halsted, 3656 North Halsted, Hoover Theatre. Flyers are on the sign-in table.
- d) How to Appeal Your Property Tax Assessment Workshop hosted by Board of Review Commissioner Mike Cabonargi, Representative Sara Feigenholtz and Alderman Tom Tunney will be held on September 19, 2019 at 6:00 p.m. at Ann Sather Restaurant, 909 West Belmont.
- e) Please reach out to her Chief of Staff, Keith Sokolowski, or any other staff members for assistance. Brochures from her office are on the sign-in table.

4) GENERAL UPDATE – Jan Sumrall.

- a) Re-Define Lake Shore Drive. The Community Meetings were held on August 12 and August 13, 2019. There was a total of approximately 230 attendees. CDOT presented the current plans for the redefined Lake Shore Drive Project. CDOT followed up with e-mails to all attendees requesting any additional feedback. All of the particulars of the Project are posted on www.northlakeshoredrive.org. In addition, there is a link on the website to sign up for the newsletter. Chester Kropidlow is on the Transportation Committee for LVCC (Lake View Citizens Council). Public meetings about the Project are ongoing and Chester Kropidlow and Alderman Tunney attend all of the meetings.
- b) Chicago Park District – Proposed Turf Field for Soccer, Lacrosse and Football (East of the Driving Range). (i) The Community Meeting was held on August 14, 2019. The Park District is still working on solutions for the drainage issue. Once they have a viable solution, they will present the revised plan. (ii) Jessica Papp (Alderman Tunney's Office) added that it has been determined that the water table is 11 inches, which is higher than initially thought. Since the original techniques to correct the water problem will not work after a year and a half or so, the Park District is going back to the drawing board. Once the Park District has a viable solution, the Park District will present again. (iii) Bob Clarke mentioned that he attended the meeting. He further mentioned that the artificial turf is not an acceptable solution for draining the swampy area. There are alternative soccer fields in the Park District that can be used. As an alternative, the area at Montrose and Lake Shore Drive is massive and could be used for a soccer and lacrosse field. Mary Davis mentioned that a lot of people were not for the turf field but that the draining issues should be addressed. Jessica Papp mentioned that 30 residents attended the meeting. The Alderman's Office has received a lot of calls and e-mails in favor of the turf field. Jessica further stated that Alderman Tunney is adamant that the drainage issued will be resolved. Jeff Perkins asked about the removal of the existing willow trees in that proposed area for the turf field. Jessica advised that none of the

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existing willow trees will be removed. Richard Eastline suggested that it makes perfect sense to move the driving range to an area by the Sydney R. Marovitz Golf Course at Waveland.

- c) 19th District Memorial Golf Outing. The Golf Outing was held August 29, 2019 at the Sydney R. Marovitz Golf Course at Waveland. The Golf Outing was successful. There was good weather, a lunch was served and there were great raffle prizes.
- d) AIDS Garden Community Meeting. The AIDS Garden Community Meeting was held on August 21, 2019 at the Belmont Harbor Yacht Club. The Parking District presented the current plans and provided a status update. The plans for the AIDS Garden can be viewed at the official website: aidsgardenchicago.org.
- e) New Business. Oasis Fresh – 500 West Diversey. The restaurant's fare is Mediterranean Fusion food. Menus are on the sign-in table.
- f) 15th Anniversary Lakeview East Festival of the Arts. September 14, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 7:00 p.m. and September 15, 2019 from 10:00 a.m. to 6:00 p.m., along Broadway from Belmont to Hawthorne.
- g) Residential Electronics Recycling Program. A flyer that describes the types of electronics that can be recycled as well as the city's drop off locations with the operating days and hours is on the sign-in table. The flyer is posted on the SELVN website.
- h) Recycling Committee. Sandra Hebenstreit and Michelle Giles are members of the Recycling Committee. Elizabeth O'Laughlin was added as a member of the Recycling Committee.
- i) 44th Ward Updates. See below.
- j) The Old Walgreen's (Broadway and Diversey). Andrew Alt asked about the status of the project. The developer decided not to go forward with the project. It is a dead deal. The developer is looking for a retail tenant for the existing commercial space.
- k) 19th Police District Twitter Account. The 19th Police District has a Twitter account. Daily postings include alerts, general activities and events.
- l) Alderman Tunney Newsletter. Alderman Tunney's Office circulates a weekly newsletter every Thursday. The newsletter includes general updates, alerts and events. You can subscribe to the newsletter by signing up through Alderman Tunney's website.

5) 44th WARD UPDATE – Jessica Papp (Alderman Tunney's Office).

- a) Burling/Diversey. The speed bumps on Burling that were removed due to construction will be re-installed in the next couple of weeks.

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- b) Belmont/Outer Lake Shore Drive Construction Work. The recent construction work was not performed correctly. It is being redone and should be completed shortly.
- c) 2860 Broadway Repair Work. Comcast will be performing work from September 11 through September 13, 2019 to repair damaged conduit. Upon completion of Comcast's work, asphalt restoration will follow.
- d) Merlo Library. Restoration work on the library commenced and the estimated completion date is January 2020. It is anticipated that the library will re-open in the first quarter of 2020.
- e) Construction Updates. See Alderman Tunney's Newsletter for all additional construction updates in the area.
- f) Dog Park. Jonathan Green asked about an update on the proposed dog park. Jessica Papp mentioned that a non-profit committee was formed by neighborhood residents. A couple of the members of the committee were at the meeting. They are currently raising funds. Jessica advised that Alderman Tunney was in support of a dog park in the area.
- g) Turn Signal at Broadway. A resident asked about the status of a left-hand turn signal on the corner of Broadway and Belmont. Jessica Papp advised that, at this time, there was no plan to install a turn signal at that intersection.
- h) Water Ponding/Draining. Liz Cohen mentioned the water backup along Waterloo after the recent rains. Liz asked about scheduling the vactor truck to clean up the ponding of water on Waterloo. Jessica Papp advised that there are only two vactor trucks. One serves the north side region, the other serves the south side region. She will check with Dan Manoli (Director of Infrastructure in Alderman Tunney's Office).
- i) Landmark District Update. John Rafkin asked about the status of the non-contiguous landmark district in SELVN. Jessica Papp advised that a non-contiguous area located in the near north is going before the Landmark Committee for landmark designation. There are currently sixty-three (63) properties in the SELVN area that are being considered for landmark designation (the "SELVN Properties"). Alderman Tunney is waiting for the outcome of the landmark designation on the near north properties before he goes to the Landmark Committee to start the landmark process for the SELVN Properties. So far, the feedback from the owners of the SELVN Properties has been positive for landmarking. Updates will continue to follow.

6) NEW BUSINESS.

- a) None.

7) ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- a) Next meeting will be Monday, October 14, 2019.

8) MEETING ADJOURNMENT.

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a) The meeting was adjourned at 7:55 P.M.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Sumrall – President, SELVN