

SOUTH EAST LAKEVIEW NEIGHBORS (SELVN)
General Meeting
February 10, 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 board members were introduced for the benefit of new members/attendees.
- b) The February SELVN General Meeting was called to order by President Sumrall at 7:00 p.m. with 15 current members and 8 non-members in attendance.

2) LINCOLN PARK CONSERVANCY (the “Conservancy”) – Doug Widener, Executive Director, and Lauren Levine, Board Member.

- a) Established in 1984, the Conservancy is a nonprofit partner of the Chicago Park District. The Conservancy’s mission is to enhance the natural, historical, and cultural assets of Lincoln Park. The Conservancy also provides educational and engagement opportunities, including restoration, management, advocacy and stewardship programs.
- b) The North Pond Nature Sanctuary is home to over 250 migratory birds, 100 native plant species, and a variety of fish, amphibians, and insects. The Lincoln Park Conservatory, the Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool and the North Pond Nature Sanctuary have over 50,000 visitors each year. The Conservancy has a docent program. You can volunteer to be a docent and greeter and welcome visitors and assist with questions about the Lincoln Park Conservatory & Gardens and the Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool.
- c) The Conservancy galvanized support and raised \$2,000,000 in 2001 and restored the Alfred Caldwell Lily Pool and the French Gardens.
- d) The Conservancy recently completed the Sunshine Playscape at Stockton Drive just south of Diversey. The Sunshine Playscape is a nature playground and is made up of natural elements.
- e) In October 2019, LPC announced its three-year revitalization project of North Pond. Plans include dredging to deepen the pond; edge grading; planting and stabilization; and expanding natural areas around the pond. 100% of the project funding and ongoing care will come from private and community sources. The revitalization project will cost \$7,000,000.
- f) Bob Clarke asked when the last time the pond was dredged. Doug Widener responded that the last dredging occurred during the 1950s. A restoration of the pond occurred about 15 or 17 years ago. Said restoration added aerators in the pond.

SOUTH EAST LAKEVIEW NEIGHBORS (SELVN)

General Meeting

February 10, 2020

Second Unitarian Church,

656 West Barry Street, Chicago, IL

- g) Save the Date. Celebrate the work of the Conservancy. Wonders of the Park Gala, April 24, 2020, Saddle & Cycle Club of Chicago. Save the Date cards are located on the sign-in table.
- h) Flyers for the Conservancy, including how to become a member, docent or a volunteer, are located on the sign in table. To learn more about how to become involved with the Conservancy, go to: LincolnParkConservancy.org.

3) GENERAL UPDATE – Jan Sumrall.

- a) Black & Caspian Restaurant – 2908 North Broadway. Black & Caspian Restaurant has opened in the space previously occupied by Troy Restaurant. Black & Caspian is a Turkish/Mediterranean restaurant.
- b) Choo Choo Chicago – 2941 North Clark. Choo Choo Chicago is currently a family in-home day care center operating at 615 West Oakdale. Choo Choo Chicago is expanding in the space located at 2941 North Clark Street.
- c) Ama La Vida – 2937 North Clark. Ama La Vida is an in-person coaching service scheduled to open soon.
- d) The Serbian House – 448 West Barry. The Serbian house has been up for sale. However, it is being actively marketing with the broker, Fulton Grace.
- e) Chicago Park District – Proposed Turf Field for Soccer, Lacrosse and Football (East of the Driving Range). The community meeting was held Wednesday, January 15, 2020 at 6:00 p.m. in the Café at St. Joseph’s Hospital. The Park District attended the meeting and presented the revised plans detailing the new drainage plan. Among the attendees were Alderman Michelle Smith, the President of Lincoln Park High School, the Soccer Coach of Lincoln Park High School and some of the students in the sports program of Lincoln Park High School. Said attendees spoke and addressed the positive need for the turf field. Approval of the turf field will go before the Plan Commission for approval. Pursuant to a status update from Jessica Papp of Alderman Tunney’s Office, “Going to Plan Commission, February 21. If it passes, they will start the bidding process and probably start work, first on the field, in June. They expect to start programs in the fall. I will continue to work with the Park District to ensure open community times.”
- f) Landmark District Update. Alderman Tunney was waiting for the outcome of the landmark designation on the near north properties before he goes to the Landmarks Commission to start the landmark process for the properties being considered for landmark designation in the SELVN area. The Landmarks Commission approved the designation of the Near North Side Multiple Property District (the “NN District”). The NN District is bounded by Chicago Avenue, LaSalle Drive, Grand Avenue, and Fairbanks Court and the period of significance of the properties is from 1872 through 1923. Fifteen (15) properties located within the NN District were designated landmark status. There is a full report that identifies each property and provides detailed information on each property as well as photos. The report can be accessed via the internet by Googling

SOUTH EAST LAKEVIEW NEIGHBORS (SELVN)

General Meeting

February 10, 2020

Second Unitarian Church,

656 West Barry Street, Chicago, IL

“Near North Side Multiple Property District.” Pursuant to a status update from Jessica Papp of Alderman Tunney’s Office, “For the Southeast Lakeview Landmark non-contiguous district, they will go back and use Pine Grove as the spine, if you will, and capture as many buildings along that as possible. This will probably be a two-part designation. The first to establish the Pine Grove district; once that has been established, they can then add in other parcels. Landmarks feels this is the best way to proceed, given the problems with the near north district. The good thing is the research has already been done, so while there was a pause, Landmarks should be able to prepare a new report fairly quickly. I should find out more in the next couple of weeks.”

- g) 12th District State Representative Candidate Forum. Sara Feigenholtz was sworn in as State Senator of the 6th District on January 21, 2020, filling John Cullerton’s recently vacated seat. Tom Tunney, Sean Tenner, Lucy Moog, Tim Egan and Walter Burnett are hosting a “Meet the Candidates” simultaneously with the Selvn Meeting this evening at 7:00 p.m. at the Landmark’s Century Centre Cinema at 2828 North Clark Street.
- h) Illinois 12th District Candidate Forum. Lake View Citizen’s Council is sponsoring a candidate forum with candidates running in the Illinois 12th District. The forum will be held at Amita St. Joseph’s Hospital, Boikan Conference Center, 2900 North Lake Shore Drive. Meet and greet the candidates from 6:30 p.m. to 7:00 p.m. The form will start at 7:00 p.m.
- i) Merlo Library. The Library will be restocked by the end of March 2020. The Library will be open on March 17, 2020 in time for voting. Early voting will be at the 19th District Police Station, 850 West Addison. As a follow-up, Alderman Tunney’s Office advised that due to issues with the exterior façade, the Library will not open until the end of June.
- j) Shredding Day. Shredding Day will be March 14, 2020 from 9:00 a.m. to noon at the 44th Ward Office, 3223 North Sheffield.
- k) East Lake View Neighbors (“ELVN”) Expansion. ELVN was expected to vote at its February 4, 2020 Meeting on expanding its boundaries to include part of the area covered by Belmont Harbor Neighbors. The ELVN expansion area shall be bounded Belmont to the south, Irving Park to the north, Elaine Place to the west (north to Addison, then Clark Street to the west), Irving Park to the North and Lake Shore Drive to the East. It was later confirmed that the vote to expand was taken and approved.
- l) Community Directed Development Council Meeting (the “CDDC”). The CDDC Meeting was held January 22, 2020. The following are updates from the CDDC Meeting. (i) The Optima Proposal for 3960 North Broadway (the old Treasure Island site) passed the Plan Commission on January 23, 2020. Optima will go before the Zoning Committee for approval of the plans at the February 13, 2020 Meeting. The plans are on Alderman Tunney’s website. (ii) Updates and revisions to the 44th Ward Master Plan were discussed. Bennett Lawson will follow up with an e-mail outlining the specific areas that could be updated and asking for anyone interested in serving on a specific area to reach out to Bennett. (iii) The Southport corridor continues to expand. There are currently four

SOUTH EAST LAKEVIEW NEIGHBORS (SELVN)

General Meeting

February 10, 2020

Second Unitarian Church,

656 West Barry Street, Chicago, IL

- (4) transit-oriented developments proposed for Southport. The plans are on Alderman Tunney's website.
- m) Taco Restaurant. A new taco restaurant opened at 2909 North Broadway.
 - n) Muse – 3169 North Broadway. Muse should be opening soon. The owner advised that he is waiting for a sign off from the City inspectors.
 - o) 420 West Belmont. It is rumored that a new restaurant is interested in going into the space previously occupied by Bridget McNeill's Pub. The menu will offer food items infused with CBD.
 - p) Flyers. On the sign in table there are several flyers for safety tips, ride sharing tips, Smart 911, recycling of electronics and additional community information and menus.
 - q) 19th Police District Twitter Account. The 19th Police District has a Twitter account. Daily postings include alerts, general activities and events.
 - r) Chicago Alternative Policing Strategy (CAPS). Officer David Diaz is available to come to a resident's home or commercial business to provide a security assessment and safety tips for the residence, garage or business. Officer Diaz can be reached at david.diaz@chicagopolice.org.
 - s) Re-Define Lake Shore Drive. 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.
 - t) Alderman Tunney Newsletter. Alderman Tunney's Office circulates a weekly newsletter every Thursday. The newsletter includes general updates, alerts and events (i.e., neighborhood events, donation drives, etc.) You can subscribe to the newsletter by signing up through Alderman Tunney's website.
- 4) PURGE – E-MAIL MEMBER LIST** – Jan Sumrall. As mentioned in previous SELVN Meetings, in order to lower costs, we will be purging the e-mail member list on or about March 2020. Any person, business or group that is a paid member will remain on the e-mail list. Any person, business or group that has unsubscribed or has not been active for several years will be purged from the list. An announcement of the purge was sent to all members January. Since then, we became aware that there was a glitch in the renewal process from an e-mail member to a paid member. Once the glitch has been resolved, a follow-up announcement will be sent to all members.
- 5) 44th WARD UPDATE** – Jessica Papp - Alderman Tom Tunney's Office.

SOUTH EAST LAKEVIEW NEIGHBORS (SELVN)
General Meeting
February 10, 2020
Second Unitarian Church,
656 West Barry Street, Chicago, IL

- a) Due to the 12th District State Representative Candidate Forum hosted simultaneously by Alderman Tunney, a representative from Alderman Tunney's Office was not in attendance.
- b) Construction Updates. See Alderman Tunney's Weekly Newsletter for additional construction updates in the area.

6) NEW BUSINESS.

- a) None.

7) ANNOUNCEMENTS.

- a) Next meeting will be Monday, March 9, 2020.

8) MEETING ADJOURNMENT.

- a) The meeting adjourned at 7:45 p.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Jan Sumrall – President, SELVN