NOTES & NEWS: A CLVN publication highlighting membership meetings and events

**Member Notices**

1. CAPS meetings are now held on the second Tuesday of odd months at 6:30 p.m. and the CLVN meeting will be held on the second Tuesday of the odd months at 7 p.m.

2. Dues for 2016 are being accepted by CLVN. Dues are $20 per person, $10 if you are a senior (60 years or older) and $50 for a business. You can pay by check, cash or paypal.

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**NEXT MEETING SEPTEMBER 13, 2016**

**Agenda for September 13, 2016**

1. Second presentation by Kevin Vaez for 821 W. Oakdale zoning change from RT4 to RM4.5 to add a dwelling. This will be a voting matter.
2. Second presentation by 922 W. George for zoning change from RT4 to RM5. This will be a voting matter.
3. Second presentation by 937-941 W. Belmont zoning change from B3-3 to B3-5 for 5-6 story building. This will not be a voting matter.
4. Presentation by Chicago Cubs-Heather Kitzes
5. President’s Report-Marsalek
6. Approval of Minutes –July 2016
7. Treasurer’s Report-Kerr
8. Committee Reports- Beautification-Marsalek
9. CDDC Report-Poppy/Diamond
10. LVCC Report-
11. Ald. Report
12. New Business
13. Old Business
14. Adjournment

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**Up-Coming Events**

9/13/16 CAPS Meeting 6:30 p.m.; CLVN meeting 7 p.m.

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**WHAT HAPPENED LAST MONTH**

**MINUTES FROM JULY 12, 2016 MEETING**

CLVN President, Diann Marsalek, called the meeting to order at 7:10 p.m. Officers in attendance: Terry Diamond-Recording Secretary, Ross Kerr-Treasurer, Area Directors: Jude Korol, Sharon Williams, Dorothy Klee and Charley Wilcox. Excused officers were Jeanne Saliture-Vice President and Mary Anderson-Corresponding Secretary. A quorum was present.

Presentation for 1102 W. Wellington for a zoning change from RM3 to RM3.5: Marsalek informed the membership that she was contacted by the developer. They are withdrawing their request and will build a single family home with the current zoning of RM3.
Presentation for 621 W. Oakdale for a zoning change from RT4 to RM5: Attorney John Pikarski and Kevin Vaez presented at the meeting. Pikarski is a land use attorney and Vaez is the owner of the property. The owner seeks to improve the property which consists of a stone and brick 3 unit dwelling. There is a garden level space that is used as a space for storage and utilities. The owner seeks to convert the garden space into a dwelling. The exterior of the building would remain the same with only work being done to the interior. The owner has owned the property for 1.5 years and does not live on site. The owner has not contacted to adjoining neighbors to get their approval or reaction. Currently, there are 3 spots for parking and no additional parking would be offered. The property would need to receive a zoning change and a variance. The area was previously zoned RM5 and was downzoned about 16 years ago to RT4. The owner and his lawyer contact the alderman’s office who told them to come to CLVN. The owner would like to have 4 units in his building like other existing buildings have now. The unit would have a measurement of floor to ceiling of 7 feet. The unit could have 3 bedrooms and he would charge rent of $2200-$2500.00 per month. The unit would be 1507 sq. feet. The owner would do a restrictive covenant and downzone the building back to RT4 after the permits have been secured. It was not practical to combine the basement with the first floor and have a unit with 5-6 bedrooms. A suggestion was made to get letters of support from the neighbors before the next presentation. The matter was referred by Marsalek to the CLVN Planning and Zoning Committee for further review of this request. A second presentation will be made at the September 13, 2016 meeting.

Presentation for 922 W. George for a zoning change from RT4 to RM5: Attorney Jack George made the presentation with representatives from the Golub Company. Golub acquired the property in April 2016 which consists of 12 units. The zoning is RT4 which does not permit for 12 units. They need a zoning change to RM5. No changes will be made to the building which consists of 6250 sq. ft. If they seek financing in the future they would need the required proper zoning. They will be on the zoning committee agenda for a zoning change on September 13, 2016. They will return for a second presentation on September 13, 2016 and the matter was referred to the CLVN Planning and Zoning committee for review. (Note: After the July 12, 2016 meeting it was learned that the building has 11 existing units, the owner is planning on adding an additional unit in the basement to increase the total count to 12 units).

Presentation for 937-941 W. Belmont for a zoning change from B3-3 to B3-5 to have 6 stories: Sarah Barnes of Samuel Banks Law Office made the presentation with GW Properties. They purchased 2 parcels of land directly to the east of the Belmont El. There is an existing ETA easement on the property immediately to the east of the el in which they can’t build anything on, or over the easement. The current zoning is B3-3 and they seek B3-5. There is no B3-4 zoning. The building would house 5 stories and a recessed penthouse on the 6th floor. The building would be a mixed use with a restaurant at grade level with outdoor seating. The second floor would consist of retail or medical spaces. There would be apartments or offices on the remaining floors. The building would act as a buffer for the noise of the el. No parking is required as this project is a transit oriented development. A member commented he liked the current design and thought the proposed building looked beautiful. They chose not to keep the building in its current state to rehab as it is small and requires many repairs. The alley is 24 feet wide. A truck could turn into and fit in the proposed loading dock area and there is a space in the rear of the building for enclosed trash containers. There would be bike parking in the basement or on the first floor. They hope to file as a Type 1 zoning in which the City requires bike parking. If they chose to make the building residential they would have 18-24 units and 10% would be affordable housing. The second option to make the building commercial spaces such as offices and businesses. Approximately 6 units would be located on an upper floor. The current height is 65 feet and the proposed height would be 76 or 79 feet. The CTA can lease up to 10 parking spots to the building. They would also consider doing a green roof. They would work with the City and CTA to stage construction to avoid peak times for el traffic. They also need a project name. They have been working on this project for over a year and have met several times with the CTA. They are open to our input on the style and function of the building. They are aiming to have plans by the fall.

President’s Report: The 2016 CAPS/CLVN schedule is Sept. 13 and Nov. 8. Thanks to all who attended the CLVN Beer Tasting at George Street Pub. A special thanks to George Street Pub for hosting us and Jude Korol for her work on the event. We had a great turn out for our first summer movie on June 17 “Annie”. The second movie is scheduled for July 15 “Inside Out” at Hawthorne. CLVN is working on obtaining our own 501 c 3 non for profit status. Marsalek attended the “Keeping It Real” forum sponsored by the Chicago Police in which former burglars spoke about their crimes and what they look for to burglarize a home or garage. Please remember to lock doors, windows, garages and do not adveritize when you will not be home on social media. Thanks to all who bartended at the CLMA Music Fest in May. A post pride meeting is being scheduled for Marsalek to attend. If you have comments good or bad about the parade let me know so I can share the comments with the City and parade organizer. Pompel has closed at Sheffield and Wellington.

Approval of Minutes: A motion was made by Terry Diamond and seconded by Ross Kerr to approve the May 10, 2016 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: Ross reported a balance in all CLVN accounts of $17,404.19. We still owe money for the Agassiz Project which will come from the CLVN Beautification Fund. We had several successful fundraisers with the following made: $620 from the Beer Tasting, $60 from the movie in June, $859 from the beer tent tips at the music fest, $750 from the flower sale. We have 166 active paid members with 46 of those members who paid on paypal and 21 are business members. We were approved by the IRS for our 501 C 3 status and more forms are being submitted.

 Beautification Committee Report: Marsalek reported work will still be done on the boxes at Agassiz to raise their height. The landscaper has been busy with other projects. We also hope to do a few more boxes on George and Wolfra as well.

CDDC Report: Diamond reported the May meeting was cancelled. The next meeting is July 27, 2016 at Ann Sather’s.

Planning & Zoning Committee Report: Poppy reported the next meeting will be August 1, 2016 to review the matters discussed tonight.
LVCC Report: Lauren Tavel reported that LVCC has formed an anti crime committee that will address issues with the Alderman, police and the community. They will seek community engagement with block clubs and other groups. They will go to court to show support for victims and prosecutions. They are looking for funding for this committee. There was a meeting on June 21. They also need to fill 2 executive board spots as chairs of the events and membership committees.

Ald. Report: Chris Jessup reported that he handles safety, business affairs, CTA and now will also take on community relations. Dan from the office handles infrastructure. There is work in progress on the Sheffield and Fletcher water main. A new traffic signal will be installed at Sheffield and Wellington and he will confirm if it will have a countdown for pedestrians. Issues were raised with regard to the vehicular flow of traffic on Sheffield during construction. A neighbor asked if a bumber could be installed at Nelson and Sheffield due to bad driving and to prevent an accident from occurring. Jessup will look into this issue but believed a petition would need to be circulated. A question was raised about replacing the stop for signs for pedestrians along Belmont. This was a legislative decision for the signs with no funding for the mandate. The signs cost $450.00. There will be a Cubs security training on Thursday from 7:30 a.m. to 2 p.m. The might be helicopters in the area. There will be a post parade meeting for the community leaders to discuss issue with the parade. There are more police in the district over the last several months and district staffing can be provided for the next meeting. There is also a move to have a police camera at this intersection. The street surface at 1102-1104 W. Wellington will be restored.

Agassiz School report: Tabled to the next meeting.

CLMA report: Gus Isacson reported they are now known as Chicago View. Thanks to those who attended and bartended at the Music Fest. Thanks to those who attended the Art Institute event. On September 16 there will be an event with Chicago Soccer at Toyota Park. The movie will be on Friday that which they co-sponsored. They offer façade rebates for businesses and a security rebate of up to $1000. A reminder to businesses that if you have a sandwich board up for advertising you can be fined $500.00.

Old Business: None.

New Business: A question was raised if we could do events at Salon Blue and Barcocina. Marsalek said she would look into these events for the fall as many members take vacations over the summer.

Adjournment: A motion was made by Terry Diamond and seconded by Marie Poppy to adjourn the meeting. The Motion passed unanimously and the meeting adjourned at 8:25 p.m.

CAPS REPORT 19th District - Beat 1933 (boundary - Belmont to Diversey between Lincoln to Halsted): The CAPS meeting was held on July 12, 2016. A review of the top 10 crimes was done. In 2015 we had 4 robberies to date and this year we have 5. An arrest was made for two offenders who robbed a senior citizen on Barry and Kenmore. In 2015 burglaries were 4 and this year we have had 8. The police sponsored a Keeping It Real Seminar in which former burglars talk to communities about what they look for in a house, car or garage to rob. They are not worried about dogs or alarms. They do not like places with nosey neighbors. Call 911 if you see any suspicious individuals. Most robberies in our area are for cell phones and money. The sentence for armed robbery is 6-20 years. There was a question about the 4 robberies over the weekend. Walsh will get more information and see if these crimes might be tied to the two guys arrested. On the midnight shift we have the most patrols and the most officers working the district. We have a large district for the staff to cover. We are down staff since October but have been getting staff each month. The numbers show we are down over 100 officers. There was a question as to how we can get more security coverage at the Belmont el especially the canine units on the weekends. The CTA has informed the police that they are short staff. Many off duty police work for the CTA. When you are on the streets be aware of your surroundings. The police have been making good arrests. A neighbor was concerned that there seems to be a change in the pattern to include armed robberies during the day. Southport neighbors and businesses are funding an effort to provide additional security. Many of the bars have hired more security. A comment was made that there seems to be less visibility of the police patrolling. The Superintendent’s office is now requiring the officer to ride in teams and pair up on patrol. We had many resources for the Pride Parade. Someone stated they feel officers make less stops as they now have more paperwork to complete. The Broadway youth Center is moving to Sheridan Road. Many individuals mentioned a black male who approaches you seeking money for his sick daughter. He is begging for money. If you see him you should call 911 as he has been by the Jewel on Ashland, Beercade, Halsted and Wellington and other spots in our area. Some individuals told of events in which people looked suspicious and were asking them for money or get close to them to take something. Call 911 when you see suspicious persons. Many individuals at the meeting expressed their gratitude to the police and thanked them for their service. The CAPS dates for 2016 are Sept. 13 (Back to School Safety) and Nov. 8. (Seasonal Crime Trends). The focus of the beat meetings in 2016 is back to the basics to problem solving and above listed topics. The 19 District’s Commander is Robert Cesario and his contact information is robert.cesario@chicagopolice.org. The next CAPS meeting will be held on September 13, 2016 in the Olson Auditorium (first floor), Advocate Illinois Masonic Hospital, 836 W. Wellington. Sign up for CLEARpath at www.chicagopolice.org to find the latest news and communicate with the police. Also you can text the police and receive cash rewards for tips on crime see www.chicagopolice.org/txt2tip. The 19th District CAPS phone number is 312-744-0064.

Questions about your membership? Know neighbors that want to join? Go to www.clvn.org to download a copy of our membership form or contact Diann Marsalek at centrallakeviewneighbors@gmail.com.

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