

# **West Lakeview Neighbors Meeting Minutes**

**January 10, 2012; 7:00; Mystic Celt**

## **Representative Ann Williams update:**

ComEd smart grid – She voted no because it included rate hikes. It did pass so increases will occur.

Pensions – will be looked at in the spring, double-dipping was reviewed and eliminated in a bill.

Speed cameras – She voted no. Targeted to revenue not safety, it actually did pass. Now it must go to city council for vote.

Budget decisions – very “tight and tough”, passed a balanced budget. Map grants were restored, Community health was restored, CME and Sears tax incentives of 85 million were approved, plus more incentives. Bill was passed.

Eavesdropping law – can’t tape a cop in his job. It’s currently a class 1 felony in this state. She would support repeal.

Mental health facilities issue - It’s still ongoing. Funding would be from the state.

Gaming bill - was passed. Revenue is needed. Not yet signed by the governor, he has said he would veto it. She doesn’t think it will happen.

## **Redistricting**

Both aldermanic chiefs-of-staff were present. 2 proposals for redistricting have been put out. We would be out of Alderman Waguespack’s ward. The Latino map would create a new ward that would include part of WLVN, and one would push Tunney’s ward back to Southport. 2 others, MALDOF version would keep most of the north side wards the same, but it has no support in city council. Ald. Waguespack put out a proposal to reduce the number of wards, 50 to 35.

Paul Sejovic – progressive caucus drew up a map consisting of 35 wards. 10 aldermen must sign the proposal to get it presented to city council. The 32<sup>nd</sup> ward is 10,000 people over. Waguespack discussed his thoughts with the committee designing the Latino map. He doesn’t agree with his ward ending at Diversey on the north end. He signed off on the Latino map. He thinks it would

stand up in court. A map needs 41 aldermen to agree for it to pass. Or 10 to sign off on choices and it would go to a referendum. A minority ward must have 60% to be classified as a minority ward. 35 wards divide along neighborhoods more than current maps. New wards could happen as quickly as May, but probably won't be. This could drag on for more than a year. A law suit will probably happen.

Max Bever – Tunney wants to keep his ward basically the same. He signed off on the Black Caucus map, but none have council backing.

Tomorrow night's meeting regarding the new wards is at 2250 N. Sheffield.

### **Jennifer Dedes from the Cubs.**

New management is in place including a GM and coaches. Cubs Carivan will start tomorrow. It's a bus of front office employees, coaches, and players that goes to schools, hospitals, police stations. The Cubs organization purchased the McDonald's property across the street from the field. The skating rink is still open, through February. There will be a concert in June, Roger Waters, Fall to Earth tour, and possibly another concert will be in Sept.

### **Lionel Martin – City Office of Emergency Management.**

The EMS, police & fire manages them. City operations, install & service cameras, manage 311 and 911 call centers. It is the right arm between the City and homeland security as emergency responders. Emergency planning includes weather, a fire, power outage, and water damage.

First, build a kit. Have enough water and food. Second, have a communication plan, how to contact or meet family members. Third, be involved in the community and look after your neighbors, like the elderly and disabled. Contact them at the EMS office, regarding signing up if you're elderly or disabled. The city will contact you with info on any emergencies, if you sign up on their website.

### **Local updates:**

Rock Around the Block update: meetings have started with Star Events. The festival didn't happen last year. A donation to WLVN would be part of any agreement. An ordinance is going into effect with new regulations regarding street festivals.

The high rise fire that occurred in the 3100 block of Lake Shore Drive will be followed up by LVCC and police dept.

The 1230 West School Street park is a priority for Alderman Tunney.