



WEST LAKEVIEW NEIGHBORS

THE VOICE OF WEST LAKEVIEW

West Lakeview Neighbors Meeting May 12, 2014; 7:00pm; Mystic Celt; 28 people present

Will DeMille, President, called the meeting to order at 7:04

He announced that Target will be selling the lot at Ashland and Belmont.

Electric choice and municipal aggregation

Ann McCabe - IL Commerce Commissioner - regulates utilities in the state. Safety tips she offered: call 811 before you dig//if your gas appliances are over 20 years old and have a brass connector, you should have the connector replaced (see <http://www.peoplesgasdelivery.com/home/connector.aspx>). We have retail electric competition, choices including Integrys (City of Chicago's municipal provider), ComEd and about 30 other electricity providers. ComEd is the "wires" company and continues to bill you. www.PlugInIllinois.org is the ICC site that allows you to sort and compare choices. Another option is to sign up for real time pricing; electricity generally costs more during peak morning and evening hours.

Laura from Chicago Utility Board (CUB)- What ComEd customers should know - the handouts she brought gives info on the electricity and gas providers. Figure out how much your annual usage is. If it's under 950 kw, stay with ComEd, if over, go with Integrys (or another supplier). Make sure you're not automatically enrolled. <http://www.citizensutilityboard.org/electricgaschoice.html>

Kelly Rebor, a WLVN resident, explained who generates electricity, supplies it, and delivers it. Everything stays the same. Look for the BBB endorsement, in New York 5 companies went out of business. Make sure you go with a large enough company and that it's stable. Don't pay early termination fees or administration fees.

Other gas companies are out there, but they're usually not a better deal than People's Gas.

The question of how you can identify "green" power was asked, and she said typically you can't.

School Street Park groundbreaking

Jackie Early stated that it's very close to completion. People will be needed to manage it. May 21st the Park Advisory Council will meet to discuss the name of the park, at Sheil Park clubhouse. Naming it after Margaret Donahue, a trail-blazer for women in baseball, has been suggested. She invented "season tickets". Fundraising is short only about \$10,000. Donor bricks are still available. Claus Brothers are doing the construction, and working with the artist. A groundbreaking is scheduled for later this month or early June.

2014 Taste of Lakeview

John Barry, Star Events, gave an overview. A plan is followed to contact all concerned, the alderman and businesses. They shrank the footprint of the festival last year by just closing one block. On Melrose the public parking lot will be open. Ads start in 2 weeks. The festival will be July 5th and 6th. Jason Mundy mentioned that he and John Lyons talked to a lot of the neighbors, residents and businesses last year, and would be happy to discuss any part of it with anyone.

John mentioned all the children's activities. Entry is a \$5 donation. John Lyons stated that it's much more family friendly than it was a few years ago. WLVN will have a table at the event. Last year we received \$9,000 from the fest.

Lincoln/Belmont Library

Dick Donalek, Director, Lincoln/Belmont library stated that the new commissioner has focused on technology so the new website is much improved. There are a lot of workshops, learning programs and city events at the library, even more in the summer. He explained some of the children's activities and programs.

Terri Hanley announced Mayfest will be happening next weekend, and that during the morning hours there will be a children friendly fair event. John Lyons added that 20-25 businesses have tables, including Lyons Eye Care, and that there will be children's activities and give-aways. It's at the corner of Ashland and Barry in the Petco parking lot.

Someone asked about the Roscoe/Lincoln development, and it seems to be proceeding.

The next meeting will be Monday, July 14th.