



WEST LAKEVIEW NEIGHBORS

THE VOICE OF WEST LAKEVIEW

West Lakeview Neighbors Meeting

Monday, May 13, 2019; 7:00 pm; Butchers Tap; 29 people present

Meeting called to order at 7:05pm by Jeff Goad, president.

Congressman Mike Quigley-

Is on 2 committees, Vice-Chairman of Appropriations Committee

Committee decides money for transportation, housing. Rebuild the blue line, rebuild our schools

Intelligence Committee - Mike Morell said what the Russians did was the political equivalent of 911. Got 23 million for new election equipment. 13 states don't have a paper trail. The Russian investigation has 10 instances of obstruction and Congress must decide how to come down on it. Damage was done to intelligence force. The president cannot obstruct justice. Rule of law is in question, it's not easy. A lot of people are working on this. Donald Trump Jr. has been subpoenaed. Terrorist attacks have no warning, the mosque had 15 minutes.

Q How are we giving 6 million to the wall and less to military?

A: What does the border really need, cameras, drones, heat sensors, all high tech equipment. They do need more resources to process the people that apply for asylum. We're only scanning 1 out of 10 cars.

Q: What about paid family leave laws?

A: It's extremely important. It will pass the House soon. Gun control measure, climate control, prescription control are all in committees.

Q: What if the White House ignores subpoena power?

A: Impeachment will only get 1 chance. Give us some time. Courts will understand we need that report. We need all the information. This began as counter investigation, FBI questioned if the president was compromised. If the president does not respond, it's a constitutional challenge.

Matt Martin - 47th Ward Alderman

Next Monday is inauguration day for new aldermen. Same office location. We'll have a few new people in the office, Laura Rimmers, Chief of Staff; 2 part time individuals. Initial task is to create strong neighbors associations, like this one. Will request neighbor input for the ward. Our job to support the residents, so we would like to hear your opinions. Asking what you want to see. Put together a document on planned development for him. Will explain his thought on developments after his office reviews them. Josh Mark, Planning and Development Director. We want to build strong relations with police. Our schools are important, opportunities for children, viable options for neighbors. Additional thoughts - we are in negotiations around committee. Chairs are important, they should reflect our needs. Focused on budget, gaps are 250M for pensions this year. Public safety issues, gun crimes, summer activity,

Q: What do think might be the easiest way to stop people from other parts of the city coming into this area?

A: Alert people to crimes in the area. Policing is very important, peace of mind is important. Will talk to the commander.
Q: Quality of life, crime don't follow boundaries, will you work with the 44th ward in particular?
A: Will reach out to the surrounding wards. It is important. Not just short term solutions but long term solutions.
Comment: Gun crime is gang crime. We have the Royals and the Kings here. We have not hit the gang issue hard enough.
Reply: We need to identify and catalog the gang actions. We must clean off the gang tags quickly. Some are going to our schools, some come from outside the community.
Q: Any big actions?
A: More community policing interactions.

Bennett Lawson, Chief of Staff, 44th Ward

CVS is now Panera.
We have a new commander for the 19th, he's from the academy.
We have 10 new officers for nights and weekends. Overall number is 379. Sign up for 44th ward newsletter.
Melrose water main work will continue for several more weeks.

Cubs update, Heather Way-Kitzes

We stand in first place. Gallagher's Way kicked off today, 7:00pm
First movie, Wayne's World, this week. Clueless, Big are scheduled
June 1st concert, Ludicrous.
All Stars school grant, up to \$35,000. The neighborhood has 10-6 security patrols.

Craft beer festival, July 20th and 21st – Mary Markarian

Looking for volunteers, need 25 people, 5:45 - 10pm, both Fri and Sat. New this year is a ticket for a craft beer tasting.

1501 W. School Street, SW corner of Greenview and School, development

Developer of the bldg. It was built as a firehouse and then used as the ward sanitation office. Want to add a garage for 3 spaces and 3 units in the bldg. 4 story, like townhomes. 1,300 sq ft addition on the roof. The existing bldg is lot line to lot line. It's over on FAR and side lot spaces. To save the bldg some zoning changes will be necessary.
Comment: Severe rodent problem on the property now.
Reply: Yes, we've seen that. The city owns it now.
Q: Adding a floor?
A: Yes.
Q: Isn't that a possible TOD?
A: Yes, it could be, but we feel we need garages.
Q: Condos or rentals?
A: Rentals.
Q: What is the rent?
A: \$3,500
Jeff : These plans will be on the WLVN web site, and will forward our comments to the ward office.

Craftsman Development – 1225 West School St.

Updates from last meeting:
Developer, attorney, architect.
Were happy to hear comments at last meeting, to help create solutions:
Heard 2 major concerns: Traffic in and out of the garage and trash removal.
Trash - We use 2 contractors. We have 2 choices :Individual containers and central collection areas. Collection area points in 2 spots. Enclosures will have glazed interior tiles and drains so that it can washed, doors are sealed so rodents

can not get in. Mechanical exhaust will be running all the time to control odor. Some type of climate control will be installed.

Q: How do owners get trash there?

A: inside the property

Q: Will trucks go down streets?

A: Alley

Q Where will they park?

A: Have watched the trash collection. We are very much aware of the current city truck system. Some stay as long as 15 minutes.

Comment: We can't get out of our garages with these trucks in our alley.

Reply: Private trash collectors will move if asked, city workers won't.

Comment: The association can dictate the timing of the pick-ups.

Bennett: The city requests trash trucks go through the alleys, not streets.

The other concern was traffic. Development produces 28 cars. Melrose was 1 alternative. The alley is another. Went to CDOT, they said the only solution they would support was in and out from alley.

CDOT said the north-south alley is the only practical route.

The alley access ordinance is done for individual bldgs. The city would not support a more dangerous solution.

Comment: Our number one concern is safety. The traffic for Cubs games is scary. We object to where the entrance/exit is located.

Reply: the CDOT solution is the only one the city will approve.

Q: Can you do a traffic study?

A: Yes, but if we pay someone to do it, then it could be mentioned that it's our paid vendor. So, we went directly to the city.

Q: Can we continue conversation about this?

Bennett: Yes, we usually contact the local neighbors and the local neighborhood assn.

Reply: What we present will be reviewed by the alderman and he will oversee it.

Q: Can you post it on Tunney's site, wait a week for us to digest it?

Jeff: We are WLVN, we have a different view from the immediate neighbors. Our vote tonight is from a different perspective. Our vote tonight does not green light the plan.

Q: How much time can we take? Six months?

A: Yes, 6 months is a good answer.

Comment: We are objecting to the in/out location.

Jeff: This is not a binding vote, this is an advisory vote. Continue talking to the alderman's office.

Q: When would you like to start?

A: While the ground is soft. This will be a 2 yr project.

Irene: First, member vote: Overall are you in favor of the project as it's been presented? 14 in favor

If you are not supportive. 4

Non members - 4 supportive

Meeting adjourned at 8:35

Next meeting: July 8th