
Hamlin Park Neighbors

January 2006

Hamlin Park Neighbors Bylaws

by Adam Jaffe, President, Hamlin Park Neighbors

Over time, the organizational documents of any group become antiquated and need to be revised to meet the needs of the organization as it grows and changes, as well as to be in compliance with recent statutes and legal judgments. (If you receive this newsletter by e-mail, you will also receive the proposed new bylaws for HPN.)

The proposed new Bylaws will, if accepted, bring Hamlin Park Neighbors into compliance with changes to Illinois law that have been enacted over the years of our organization's existence. Additionally, these bylaws will slightly reorganize the officers and committees of HPN among other changes. These changes will allow the organization to grow in a reasonable manner, and to improve over time. I worked on these bylaws with the help of residents from the community as well as the Loyola University Business Law Clinic.

In order for our current bylaws to be amended, the dues-paying members of Hamlin Park Neighbors must approve the changes by a 2/3 majority of those present at the regular meeting. I will call for a vote for these bylaws at our regular meeting on January 24, 2006.

If you have any questions or would like to discuss the changes, please contact me at adamjaffeHPN@gmail.com. I look forward to hearing from you.

19 Police District Leads City in Violent Crime Reductions

by Tom Barnard, HPN Vice-President

The 19th police district, where we live, has experienced the greatest decrease in violent crime of any district in the City. Overall our community is ranked as one of the most crime free citywide. We all want that trend to continue.

CAPS meetings are one hour meetings which promote crime prevention techniques, study crime statistics, and discuss past and current neighborhood concerns. CAPS meetings are a unique opportunity to meet many of the policemen, officers, CAPS coordinators and BGK Security Inc. personnel who are responsible for our neighborhood's safety record.

These officers have repeatedly stressed that one of the best ways you can help fight crime is by reporting any crime or suspicious behavior. Call 911 any time you observe suspicious persons, graffiti, etc. and give as detailed a description as

possible. This will help tremendously in enabling the police to do their job.

For example: Jan 3rd, at the Damen and Diversey intersection, two men on a paper delivery route in a van miraculously survived a point plank shooting. Bullet holes were found in the drivers jacket and pants in several locations. The two victims continued their paper route and reported the incident two hours later after they finished their deliveries. It's a miracle any of us got papers that day, it's too bad the gunman got a 2 hour head start.

Many of you may have attended a CAPS meeting for beat 1913 or 1931. Usually new attendees come to express concern about a recent problem or police activity in their neighborhood. CAPS meetings citywide are scheduled for every other month and the schedules are being set now. There are going to be fewer CAPS meetings in 2006 (bi-monthly), so it is even more important to attend the meetings to target specific problems.

I urge you to attend CAPS meetings and help make Hamlin Park an even safer community.

Lake View Citizens' Council Looking Forward to 2006

by David Winner, LVCC President

The Lake View Citizens' Council and its twelve neighborhood associations continue to serve you, the residents of this great community. Completing our 53rd year, we are pleased to represent over 100,000 people in five aldermanic wards.

Our twelve associations continue to be the grass roots association working with the community, local officials and government agencies to make our streets safer, cleaner and in better repair, to enhance our lakefront and other green spaces and, lastly, to protect our community from irresponsible development. This ongoing effort is accomplished through the valiant efforts of volunteers who keep the community informed through public forums, news media, our website, community rallies, neighborhood meetings and many other assorted lines of communication. We are all working to make Lake View a better place to live, work and play.

In 2005 LVCC:

- Worked on property tax reform in conjunction with TRAC
- Initiated dialog with the CTA on station closings during capital improvements
- Communicated with our five aldermen and alderwomen on issues regarding safety and zoning
- Conducted forums on Identity Theft, Graffiti, the

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- Smoking Ban Ordinance, and the Roof Top Ordinance
- Collected outerwear through Operation Mitten (providing winter coats, hats and mittens for underprivileged children in our area)

What's in store 2006? LVCC is planning more community forums and networking events to get more people involved in our neighborhoods. LVCC wants to work with all of its branches and has a goal of doubling each branch's membership during the month of March. For more information, visit lakeviewcitizens.org .

Wishing you and yours a prosperous 2006!

Editors note: Hamlin Park Neighbors is one of 12 neighborhood branches of the Lake View Citizens Council.

Upcoming HPN Meetings

- January 24 – Monthly General Meeting
– New Bylaws discussion
- February 14 – Planning Committee Meeting
(tentative date)
- February 28 – Monthly General Meeting
- March 14 – Planning Committee (Board) Meeting

All meetings will be held at the Hamlin Park Fieldhouse and begin at 7:30 PM.

General Meetings are held on the 4th Tuesday of the month and are open to the public.

Planning Committee (Board) meetings are open to all members, though dates may change. To be notified of Planning Committee meeting dates/times by e-mail, please contact hamlinparkchi@yahoo.com

Zoning Issues at Forefront of Neighborhood Concerns

*by Tom Barnard,
HPN Vice President and Zoning Committee Chair*

There's a lot we know about building and zoning and potential zoning within our community. There's also a lot going on that we don't seem to be privy to.

The HPN Zoning Committee has reviewed and sent to the membership several proposed zoning changes which have been voted on over the past few months:

- 2309 W. Belmont
- 2435 W. Fletcher
- 3124 N. Leavitt

There are many prior proposals which may have been turned down and not heard from again. There are some prior proposals which we turned down that the Alderman approved regardless. Some properties have changes hands and are still in Zoning Limbo.

After meeting with both Aldermen Matlak and Flores we are confident that the Aldermen and their staff will seek our input on any and all zoning and density issues which affect our community. We may not always agree with certain decisions but we will be successful when we are kept informed of the zoning decisions we approved and more importantly, ones we rejected. That will be the proof of a successful relationship with our Aldermen. We will achieve this relationship by consistency in our message follow-through and understanding of the zoning and density issues which face Hamlin Park.

Please let us know of any potential construction in your neighborhood. If you receive any correspondence regarding zoning changes within a certain radius from your residence, please inform us so the Zoning Committee can be pro active in addressing the zoning issues.

Hamlin Park Neighbors
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