

## Minutes of the EPIC Annual Meeting

April 6, 2013

The meeting was called to order by President Bob Solomon at 10:10 a.m. at Bethany Lutheran Church.

The first item on the agenda was a presentation by Alderman Harry Osterman. The Alderman's first item, and his most critical, was **safety in the ward** which is a day to day challenge. While our safety issues are better than those on the south or west side of the city, we are not where we need to be. Working with the police commanders, the Alderman's goal is to have two years of peace and to minimize or eliminate gang activity. The focus has been on Thorndale, Argyle and Lawrence. Police foot patrols have been increased and the Kenmore/Winthrop corridor has been a focus. One of the problems is that victims have not cooperated in police investigations. **Citizens need to be engaged.** If you see something, say something – report suspicious activity to the police and to the Alderman's office.

Moving on to other issues, the Alderman reported that the new Edgewater Library is scheduled to be completed in late June. His office is planning a community celebration either June 22<sup>nd</sup> or June 29<sup>th</sup>. On May 23<sup>rd</sup> at 7, there will be a meeting at the Armory to help plan this event.

The "Edgewater Reads" program focusing on literacy will be hosting a meeting at the Alderman's office on Tuesday, April 9<sup>th</sup> at 6:30.

Other issues: improving infrastructure. There will be a water main improvement project in May on Magnolia and on Rosedale. The Alderman's office will try to make it as painless as possible.

Bringing businesses to the Ward: This has been an ongoing focus for the Alderman. The new upscale wine store will be opening on Broadway in the next few months. The Walgreens north of the Dominick's will open in July. The new Mexican restaurant on Broadway south of Rosedale has recently opened. The Alderman's office is working diligently to bring new businesses that people will want to patronize to the ward.

Other news: The second annual Edge Fest street fair will be August 3-4. MB Bank will begin construction on its new building at the south west corner of Thorndale and Broadway in the next few months.

The 48<sup>th</sup> Ward Master Plan is near completion and will be presented in late May/early June for community review and input.

Other good news: Armory program is growing and doing well. Schools in the Ward are thriving. Plans are underway for a new Metra station at Peterson and Ravenswood. A new restaurant will be opening at the corner of Clark and Edgewater.

The Alderman closed his presentation with his testimony regarding the many great things about Edgewater, especially location and diversity.

The next item of business was election of the EPIC officers. Clare Lake, for the nominating committee, presented the following slate:

President	Sarah Bornstein
Vice President	Robert Solomon
Recording Secretary	Elyse DeVries
Corresponding Secretary	Willard Duncan
Treasurer	Marsha Holland

Volunteers for the Nominating Committee are Lynn Pierce, Clare Lake and Nancy Lewis.

The meeting closed with everyone present making brief introductions and with community announcements:

- The Thorndale Action Task Force will renew positive loitering starting Monday, April 15
- The Annual Community Garage Sale will be Saturday, June 1

The meeting was adjourned at 11:50 a.m.