



## **Epic Block Club President's Report 2012-2013**

Submitted by: Robert Solomon, President

It has been a pleasure and honor to serve as EPIC Block Club president in 2012 and 2013 and to represent all of our members and residents at various meetings and events. I especially want to thank my fellow officers for their support and their time, work and commitment to our block club: Michael Frontier, Terry Opalek, Bob Kaplan, Sarah Bornstein, Willard Duncan and Marsha Holland. I also want to thank Bob Cross for making sure our Blue Cart recycling signs get put out, Michael Bergmann for being our webmaster, Clare Lake and each block club captain for making sure our flyers get distributed. Also a special thanks to Lynn Pierce for ongoing advice and help on many different block club matters and for coordinating our participation in the annual June multi-block club garage sale. I also want to thank the folks at Bethany Lutheran Church for their continued support and hospitality in letting us use their facilities for most of our events and meetings. But most of all I want to thank EPIC Block Club members for all their help, support and participation in our events over the past two years.

Overall 2012-2013 was a pretty quiet year within the boundaries of our block club. Some excitement has been generated over the past year with the inauguration of the first annual Edge Fest in August 2012 on Broadway and with the ongoing construction of and soon-to-be-completed new Edgewater Library.

EPIC officers have continued to implement cost-cutting measures by producing our event announcement flyers on half pages instead of whole pages and changing our web name registration and hosting services to lower cost suppliers. We continued a new tradition of having our fall block club potluck as a street party on Magnolia, between Elmdale and Thorndale and we had for the second year our Halloween Pumpkin Painting and Carving event just before Halloween. And in June we put together another successful summer EPIC potluck dinner and many of our members participated in the 18th annual Edgewater Neighborhood Garage Sale, also in June.

We continued the program I implemented in my first year as president, the "EPIC Business High Five Club." In this program we asked local EPIC neighborhood businesses to support our area and promote their businesses by contributing \$5 or more in gift certificates that are distributed as raffled door prizes at EPIC meetings and events. It's been a big success with a number of local businesses participating and it helps make our meetings and events a little more fun and exciting.

We held special block club meetings in 2012 and 2013 to garner support of a new MB Financial Bank Branch Building, slated for construction at the southwest corner of Broadway and Thorndale, and Independent Spirits, a fine wine and spirits store scheduled to open at 5947 N. Broadway in July 2013. During the year I, as an EPIC representative, attended meetings called by 48th Ward Ald. Osterman concerning area issues that affected our block club area and grand openings of new businesses in the neighborhood.

As my two-year tenure as EPIC Block Club president came to an end, I again want to say what a pleasure it has been to serve in this position and I appreciate the support each of you has given me and my board over the past two years. My sincere thanks and appreciation to all of you.