

**EPIC Block Club**  
**Minutes of the Annual Meeting**  
**March 21, 2009**

President Pierce called the meeting to order at 10:15 am. Members of the Executive Committee were in attendance and were joined by Illinois State Senator Heather Steans and Illinois State Representative Harry Osterman.

1. President Pierce introduced the members of the Executive Committee that were present: Vice President Steve Northey, Corresponding Secretary Jennifer Devens, Recording Secretary Michael Bergmann and Treasurer Robert Smith.
2. President Pierce noted the handouts that were available: EPIC 2008-09 Annual Report (now available on EPIC website), Thorndale Action Task Force accomplishments, ECC membership brochure and ECC spring benefit flyer (now available on the EPIC website).
3. President Pierce introduced and thanked Senator Steans and Representative Osterman for joining us at today's meeting and for their continued service to our neighborhood.
  - a. Representative Osterman discussed the recent transition of power to Governor Quinn. He noted that Illinois has an \$11 billion deficit and the Governor has now put forth his budget address calling for significant tax hikes. He pledged that he and Senator Steans would work together on the budget process and they are also working on several pieces of ethics reform legislation. Representative also noted environmental legislation, funding and support to improve Thorndale Avenue and the L station and the need for a capital spending bill that includes funding for Red Line renovations. He also noted that a senior and early childhood education center were in the works at the Broadway Armory.
  - b. Senator Steans noted the high level of collaboration between the elected officials in our community, including Representative Osterman, Alderman Smith and Congresswoman Schakowsky. She said that she had a high regard for the new Governor but stated that she has some concerns regarding the budget proposals he has put forth due to the scope of the proposed changes in the current economy and the lack of sufficient funding for certain issues such as education and health care. She did note that she thought the budget put forth a "sense of shared sacrifice." In addition to her and Representative Osterman's efforts, she anticipates that the Governor will be putting forth ethics legislation as well, but despite the need and recent events, push back is expected by some on these efforts. Senator Steans noted that there will be an ethics town hall meeting at Loyola on April 16<sup>th</sup>. Senator Steans also noted that education, health care, the environment and Red Line improvements were priorities and also explained legislation she has proposed to create Low Profit Limited Liability Corporations (L3C) for organizations engaged in social purposes.
4. Following their addresses, Senator Steans and Representative Osterman took questions from the audience. President Pierce again thanked both for their participation in today's meeting.
5. Election of EPIC Executive Committee for 2009-10: President Pierce turned the meeting over to Robert Meyer, Chair of the EPIC Nominating Committee who announced the names

of those who were nominated to stand for election, as follows: President: Michael Bergmann of 5937 N. Magnolia; Vice President: Clare Lake of 1255 W. Elmdale; Recording Secretary: Nicholas Peneff of 5850 N. Broadway; Corresponding Secretary: Marilyn (Lynn) Pierce of 5951 N. Lakewood; Treasurer: Robert Smith of 5845 N. Magnolia. Nominations were called for from the floor, but none were made. The candidates were then given the opportunity to make brief remarks. Mr. Meyer then moved the slate as offered for election and the motion was seconded. There was no discussion and the vote in favor of the motion was unanimous.

6. Newly elected EPIC President, Michael Bergman, thanked the Nominating Committee for their work. President Bergmann also thanked the former Executive Committee for their service, particularly outgoing Vice President Steve Northey and Corresponding Secretary Jennifer Devens and President Lynn Pierce. He congratulated the newly elected Executive Committee and said he looked forward to serving in this new role.
7. Announcements:
  - Former Vice President, Edgewater Community Council Board member and Chair of ECC's Membership Committee, Steve Northey, explained the role of ECC in the community and encouraged those in attendance who were not members of ECC to join. [Click here to learn more about ECC and membership in ECC.](#)
  - President Bergmann noted that ECC will have its annual spring benefit at the Raven Theatre on Friday, May 1<sup>st</sup> (flyer is available on EPIC website).
  - President Bergmann introduced ECC Vice President, Troy McMillan, for some brief remarks about the services ECC provides its members and the block clubs of Edgewater.
  - Corresponding Secretary Pierce noted that the 15<sup>th</sup> Annual Neighborhood Garage Sale will be held on Saturday, June 6<sup>th</sup>. Visit the EPIC website for additional details as they become available.
  - President Bergmann announced that the annual EPIC Spring Potluck will be held on Saturday, June 13<sup>th</sup>, beginning at 6:00 p.m. at Bethany Evangelical Lutheran Church at Magnolia and Thorndale. Visit the EPIC website for additional details as they become available.
  - As a reminder, EPIC's e-mail address is [epicblkclub@yahoo.com](mailto:epicblkclub@yahoo.com) and the website is [www.epicblockclub.org](http://www.epicblockclub.org).
8. Election of 2009-10 Nominating Committee: President Bergmann asked for nominations for individuals wishing to serve on EPIC's Nominating Committee. Robert Meyer, Steve Northey and Judy Diaz agreed to serve as members and Mary Stoner agreed to serve as first alternate. A motion to elect the nominees was made and seconded and with no discussion the motion passed unanimously.
9. President Bergmann thanked everyone for attending and adjourned the meeting at 11:45 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Michael G. Bergmann  
EPIC 2008-09 Recording Secretary