



## **Annual Open Meeting Recap**

We held our annual meeting Tuesday, May 15 at Sauganash School. Some highlights:

**Neighborhood updates:** SCA President Dave Seglin reported that the association made design recommendations to a developer who wants to replace 1 home with a large side yard on the 5800 block of Kenneth Ave. with 3 cookie cutter homes that don't fit the character of the neighborhood. While the zoning allows for 3 homes and the developer can legally go with his original design, we are hoping he will come up with something that better fits the area.

An approximately 1-acre parcel at 4362 W. Bryn Mawr is up for sale for \$1,499,770. The wooded property runs between the abandoned Weber spur (slated for an eventual bike path) and La Bagh woods. Even with the unusual narrow shape and limited access to Bryn Mawr, there had been a proposal for 18 townhouses. The association opposed the project and the proposal was eventually withdrawn. Part of the parcel was recently rezoned from a public open space designation, which would have prevented development, to residential. The association has heard much opposition to developing the property from residents and looked into having the forest preserve district purchase the land, but the county typically pays \$70,000-\$80,000 per acre.

We got a good response to our infrastructure survey and shared the results with our alderman.

Plans are underway for the 4th of July parade and picnic and we are looking for volunteers; send an email to [contact@sauganash.org](mailto:contact@sauganash.org) if you are interested. Look for more information on our news page in the coming days. We will also need volunteers for the 5K run in the fall, and are looking for ideas on where to hold our annual holiday party.

**Sauganash School:** Principal Chris Munns shared some of the many events at the school like International Night, Battle of the Books and a partnership with MSI. She reported that almost half the graduating class went to the Taft IB program; Sauganash was one of the 2 schools with the highest number of students accepted by selective schools and that the students are making great use of their 3D printer, purchased with funds donated by the association.

**Taft High School:** Principal Mark Grishaber said they are working on a possible plan to offer bus service to students from Sauganash, Edgebrook and Wildwood to the planned freshman academy on Oak Park Ave. The fee would be commensurate to the cost of using the CTA. The

academy is expected to open in the fall of 2019. He noted the range of programs Taft offers, including the IB program, AVID and AP classes. The school supports the many clubs that enrich the high school experience and they are so open to club concepts they include a procrastinators club (they haven't chosen a president yet) and an anti-social club (they don't talk to anyone). He also reported that 100% of Taft students were accepted at colleges last year and that Taft will be represented at almost all major Ivy League universities.

**39th Ward update:** Alderman Laurino reported that she and some NW side aldermen will meet with the police to discuss getting more officers in the 17th district, especially as there are a number of retirements.

She will soon be able to share the names of some major retailers for the Edens Collection shopping center on Foster near the expressway. The Dunkin Donuts on Peterson is coming soon. A new car wash is coming to Pulaski and Rosemont. Peoples Gas administrative offices will be moving to Pulaski and Peterson in a 2 year, \$60M project with potential for hiring and a community room that we can utilize. The Alarmist Brewery now serves wine but is putting a potential beer garden on hold.

Imperial Realty is pursuing opportunities for the building on the southwest corner of Cicero and Peterson and plan to knock down the ground level wall that wraps the building.

The alderman is looking for events to be held at the new Whole Foods pavilion in the parking lot.

**FAIR:** John Kane presented a graphic of runways to be closed, extended or built at O'Hare and said that airplane noise is expected to increase in Sauganash. A new Granville runway opens in 2020 and the Thorndale runway extension will be finished in 2021. This will allow for more cargo planes and larger passenger jets. He invited all residents to join FAIR at [fairchicago.org](http://fairchicago.org).

**Mosquito Dunks:** Jim Dunbar from Mosquito Joe held up the cap from his bottled water and explained that it could hold 300 mosquito eggs. To prevent mosquitoes, all standing water must be drained; check gutters, wading pools, plant saucers, tarps, bins, buckets. Water in bird baths should be changed at least once a week. Drill holes in in the bottom of tire swings to let water drain. Have an area that can't be drained? Use a dunk. The dunks target mosquito larvae and are safe for pets and wildlife. There were free mosquito dunks for all who attended.

**Mary Ann Levar (Mike Quigley's Office):** Mary Ann shared some issues the Congressman has been involved with such as the Asian carp problem, cyber hacking, and gun violence. While he couldn't make this meeting, he likes to visit community groups when he can and invites all to his website to find out more about issues for the district at [quigley.house.gov](http://quigley.house.gov).

**Jenny O'Flaherty (Commissioner Gainer):** Jefferson Township is going to be reassessed. The Commissioner's office provides seminars and gives phone support for property tax appeals, also has information online.

**39th Ward Republican Deputy Committeeman (Barry Bebart):** Barry reminded us that contrary to common perception, republicans do reside in the city of Chicago. The 39th Ward GOP believes the bulk of the financial problems in the city are due to single party rule and are focusing on property taxes and getting republican candidates on the ballots.

**39th ward Democratic Committeeman (Robert Murphy):** Since elected in 2016, Robert has held 20+ open and free events for the community, hosted governor candidates, conducted the 1st ever endorsement process in the 39th Ward and raised funds to support candidates. He will continue to prioritize community concerns.

**Election of SCA Board:** We also held the election of the 2018 - 2019 SCA board of directors which goes into effect June 1. Our new slate is:

David Zulkey, President;

Michelle Whatley, 1st Vice-President;

Jim Murphy, 2nd Vice-President;

Carmen Finch, Treasurer;

Sue Witkowski, Corresponding Secretary;

Jean Papagianis, Recording Secretary;

Phil Barone

William J Braasch

James Cantillon

Maureen DeRose

H. Maria Enright

Kathy Folena

Karen Hand-Harper

Steve Kehoe

Michael Kelly

Kathy Manriquez

Sam Nugent

Mary Lee Paoletti

David Seglin

Christine Strom