

WEAR Annual Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 14, 2018
St. Gregory's Social Hall

The meeting began at 7:10PM with WEAR Board Member introductions.

WEAR BOARD

Lisa Hand – President

Scott Fink – At Large Member

Cecilia Horan – At Large Member

Ruthie Williams – Social Chair

Cid Stanford Jarvis – Secretary

Bill Farmer – Acting Treasurer

Charlie Parker – At Large Member

Alderman Pat O'Connor was also in attendance

- Lisa offered the WEAR community description – The West Edgewater Area Residents (WEAR) association is a volunteer organization that has been actively serving the neighborhood north of Bryn Mawr - south of Peterson – east of Ravenswood and west of Ashland/Clark, for over twenty years.
 - Attendees were invited to volunteer on various initiatives
 - WEAR Garden on Ravenswood
 - Neighborhood Spring Clean up
 - Issues of public safety
 - Wear Bear Social neighborhood gatherings
 - Parking Initiatives
- Lisa explained that Board positions were for 2 years, however Robert Ross had resigned his position as Board Member and Treasurer, as such the Board appointed Bill Farmer to his position to fill the remainder of Robert's term. New Board elections will take place next fall and encouraged any and all neighbors interested in becoming a board member to raise their hand. Forms for interested residents will be made available in the New Year.
- Ruthie detailed WEAR's Code of Conduct and Rules of Civility which will govern all WEAR meetings
 - The residents of West Edgewater place a high value on respect and civility in our lives and we understand that these characteristics are essential to any healthy community. West Edgewater Area Residents (WEAR) supports opportunities for civil discourse and discussion.
 - Because we sometimes address controversial issues about which people feel passionately, which at times leads to uncivil behavior; and because an atmosphere of incivility and disrespect can have a damaging effect on the quality of debate, and on the practice of democracy itself; WEAR recognizes nine tools of civility that will provide increased opportunities for civil discourse in order to find positive resolutions to the issues that face our neighborhood.
 - **Nine Tools of Civility**

- 1. **Pay Attention:** Be aware and attend to the world and the people around you. Be informed about what is occurring in our community. Focus on the issue. Consider the whole picture; issues are connected.
- 2. **Listen:** Focus on others in order to better understand their points of view. Seek to understand. Ask effective questions. Give thoughtful attention; avoid distractions such as: your emotions, multi-tasking, or formulating a response instead of listening.
- 3. **Be Inclusive:** Welcome all groups of citizens working for the greater good of the community. Intentionally and sincerely invite diverse perspectives. Seek participation.
- 4. **Don't Gossip:** Go to the source for the facts; validate the information. Model integrity and mutual respect. Honor those who are not present.
- 5. **Show Respect:** Honor other people and their opinions, especially in the midst of a disagreement. Value the person; appreciate his/her contributions, experiences, passion, culture, norms and values. Use questions to clarify. Value ideas that are brought to the table.
- 6. **Seek Common Ground:** Look for opportunities to agree; don't contradict just to do so. Rise above emotions; focus on the issues. Build relationships; make a connection. Work toward mutual trust
- 7. **Repair Damaged Relationships:** Be sincere; apologize and forgive. Take responsibility for your actions and words. Accept an apology. Practice forgiveness; let go of the past.
- 8. **Use Constructive Language:** Be mindful of the words you choose. Address conflict with the intent of resolution. When disagreeing, stick to the issues and don't make a personal attack. Learn from others' perspectives and feedback.
- 9. **Take Responsibility:** Practice accountability in language and actions. Take ownership; use "I" statements. Don't shift responsibility and blame onto others. Be trustworthy. Tell the truth.
 - ***The WEAR board will promote the use and adherence of these tools in conducting the business of the neighborhood organization.***
- Ruthie also encouraged all neighbors to attend WEAR Bear Social Hours in the Summer and to participate in the Earth Day Clean Up – current year cleanup picked up over 30 bags of garbage.
- Scott offered the WEAR development updates
 - Neuman Services – not technically in WEAR boundaries, but our understanding is that the building will become small business/incubator offices, 42 in total. Not residential. No further detail available at this time.
 - Starbucks would be opened 11/15/18 at 4:30AM. Still no detail on the adjacent business at this time.
 - EMC – moving forward with demolition. Targeting a 2020 completion date.
 - Water Main construction – North end Paulina – old pipes are under the trees, there has been a request to save the trees by installing center pipes. Water

department is considering but at this meeting, still not determined whether this would be a possibility.

- Edgewater Lounge – we have heard that it will become a daycare center, but we do not have specific detail at this time.
- Candea Development on Hermitage and Rosehill – targeting a fall 2019 completion
- Metra – Funding was allocated in 2017 budget but still has not been released by Governor Rauner. Anticipate that the funds will be released before JB Pritzker is in office 2019. IDOT plans to meet by December 31, 2018.
 - When funds are released, there will be a 6 months RFP process, possible construction initiation 2019 with completion targeted to late 2020.
- Bill reviewed the Parking Survey results
 - Complete results shared via email and Facebook posting mid-September
 - Brief overview
 - Majority of survey respondents want to have ZONE 65 extended
 - Current Zone 65 residents do not want to eliminate the Zone
 - Q&A ensued – please reference video of LIVE Stream on Facebook for all Q&A exchanges
- Cid detailed the process of next steps for parking changes

Step One

- Identify WEAR block captains to spearhead petition process
- Petition the community. By city ordinance, valid signatures are residents with City Wheel Tax (City Sticker) holders.
 - City will verify signatures
 - 65% of block required to pass
 - Must be contiguous to neighborhood zones
 - Zone Timing must be designated on Petition
 - Zone enforcement timing can be different throughout the zone but cannot be different Block by block – must consider zone enforcement (if too different, erroneous tickets may result)

Step Two

- Submit signed petitions with Zone application to the Alderman's office
- Alderman submits application and signed petitions to City
- Traffic Safety ordinance prepared

Step Three

- City Council conducts public hearing
- City Council votes to create new parking zones
- Once approved, City will survey for where signs will be placed throughout the zone
- City makes signs (4-5 months to make new signs)

Step Four

- Residents receive official notice from the Department of Finance/Revenue Department describing the new zone parking and designating a specific date by which all residents within that zone must have their zone stickers
 - Zones stickers are now incorporated into the City Sticker.
 - If residents have a City Sticker which is not expired, a separate Zone sticker can be purchased

Total Timing from completed signed petitions/application submission to Alderman to new Zone on the streets approximately 6-8 months

- Q&A ensued – please reference LIVE stream video on Facebook for a complete detail of Q&A
 - Primary concerns –
 - What would be the designated timeframe for new Zone 65?
 - Block Captains will need to survey neighborhood to determine timing
 - Timing must be designated on Petitions to get signatures
 - What about our neighbors on perimeter streets? How do they get access to Zone parking?
 - Generally, residential permits are restricted to zoning districts R1, R2, R3, R4 or R5, but it appears possible that exceptions can be made on an individual request basis.
 - Once someone provides the specifics of where they live, the current parking restrictions and request to be included in the zone, it will be reviewed, and the Alderman may then write a letter to the Clerk asking for an exception to extend the option to buy the pass. It will be up to the Clerk's office to issue the sticker and update their records.
 - This also can be addressed by allocating limited timing into the new proposed Zones – i.e. restricting Zoning to Mornings only – again this will need to be determined by the community via the block captains
 - Board solicited Block Captains volunteers – 9 residents have signed up to volunteer
 - If you are interested in becoming a Block Captain, contact Bill Farmer via WEARorg@gmail.com
 - Bill will be coordinating Block Captains meetings and next steps.
 - Meeting adjourned 8:40PM