



Mayfair Messenger

A publication of the Mayfair Civic Association
Neighbors making a difference since 1945

September 2020
Volume 23, Issue 4

Monthly meeting on September 10 – Participatory Budgeting

Our next meeting will be **held via Zoom at 6:30pm** on September 10. We hope to identify potential funding targets for the next round of Alderman Nugent’s Participatory Budgeting Program (your input requested!), and address recent damage to the planter on the southeast corner of Elston & Kennicott, among other things. We will be sending out Zoom meeting attendance details to our email list; to join, visit <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/mayfair-civic>.



Civic Association Officers

- President:** Ron Duplack,
rduplack@rieckcrotty.com
- Vice President:** Tom Keating,
keatingtj@gmail.com
- Vice President, Community Relations:** Walter Eliassen,
wjebde@aol.com
- Treasurer:** Gavin Chase,
gavinmargie@yahoo.com

Committee Heads

- Zoning/Development:** Christopher Lambesis, chris@lambesis.net
- Membership:** Darlene McDermott,
darlene_mcdermott@hotmail.com
- Beautification:** Tom Keating,
keatingj@gmail.com

In This Issue

Letter from the President.....1
 Around the Neighborhood.....2
 Updates from the Alderman.....3
 Beautification.....4
 St Edward School & Parish.....5
 Credits.....6

Letter from the President

Ron Duplack

We hope you have all been safe and protected from the challenges of dealing with a pandemic, social unrest, remote working (or NOT working), and 24/7 time with stay at home kids. In September, we normally welcome everyone back from vacation and activities, but few of us have had much chance for a vacation or for normal summer activities this year. Hopefully better times await.

It’s hard to believe that we held a Triangle Park (aka “Park 593”) ribbon cutting almost exactly one year ago. The Park District is still reeling from closures and cutbacks, but it has been able to maintain the Park and even have light standards onsite and ready for installation.

Many neighborhood stores and venues remain closed or are operating at substantially reduced levels. Meta Wine had to postpone limited tours in August and an actual opening date is still unknown. Several other new businesses were sidelined when city stay-at-home rules were imposed. Nevertheless, there have been some positive actions in Mayfair and surrounding communities.

The conservation easement at North Park Village has been converted to a perpetual easement, ensuring that the Nature Center and related programming will be always be available. Lawrence and Montrose Avenues have been undergoing substantial and much needed repairs. The Montrose overpass and ramp work will greatly enhance traffic and commuting to and from Mayfair. New cross walks have been installed and marked on Lawrence.

2020 MCA Meetings

Membership meetings are generally held on the second Thursday of every month at 7:30 p.m. at the Irish American Heritage Center, 4626 N. Knox Ave. No meetings are held in January, July, or August. These are the rest of the dates scheduled for 2020, with proposed discussion topics.

September 10
October 8

November 12
December 10

Our Board generally meets during the intervening months.

Letter from the President

Ron Duplack

Alderman Nugent was fully engaged in these efforts and is continuing her Participatory Budgeting Program regarding use of her available discretionary funding. The last round of PB funding resulted in pollinator programming at Sauganash Park and Volta Elementary School, and improvements to Peterson School and Eugene Field. We hope to identify potential funding targets for this cycle and encourage your input at our next meeting. We also hope to

address recent damage to the planter on the southeast corner of Elston & Kennicott caused by utility work in the area, as well as all those scooters that showed up unannounced throughout the neighborhood.

Our meeting will be held via Zoom at 6:30pm on Thursday, September 10. See attendance information in the notice at the top of this newsletter. Hang in there: we're all in this together and together we will make it through!

Around the Neighborhood

E-scooters Considered a Nuisance by Some Residents



You may have noticed a number of people riding motorized scooters and bicycles around the neighborhood suddenly, over the past weeks, and wondered what was going on and where they came from. My family doesn't leave the house much these days, and it was certainly new to us when we took a recent weekend drive. People are starting to take notice, and some have criticisms.

The City of Chicago has granted permission to three shared e-scooter companies to operate in the 2020 e-

scooter pilot: Bird, Lime and Spin. The 2020 pilot will run four months from mid-August to mid-December. Each company will deploy up to 3,333 scooters throughout the City of Chicago for a total of 10,000 scooters citywide. Alderman Nugent has mentioned this program in her email newsletters a couple of times.

Long-time neighborhood resident Walter Eliassen had this to say about the scooters: "They are attached to stop signs, light poles, in bus stop areas, etc. Some are even hanging partly into the roadway. In other words, they are anywhere and everywhere. There do not seem to be any rules for placement that citizens would have to follow, if they were locking up their bikes, etc. The people (company) who are placing (throwing) them do not seem to have any regard for our neighborhood safety or appearance."

The city has information on the e-scooter pilot program available online at <https://bit.ly/2YNv8If>. It includes guidance on how to properly and safely use the equipment, and also provides a link to provide feedback. For some background on this latest program and what preceded it, there is some good information in the Chicago Tribune article at <https://bit.ly/31CNldu>.

Updates from the Alderman

Samantha Nugent, 39th Ward

Here are some selections from the Alderman's recent newsletters and communications.

39th Ward Participatory Budgeting Cycle II



Participatory Budgeting Cycle II in the 39th Ward is now open. Participatory Budgeting is a

democratic process in which community members directly decide how to spend part of a public budget. Residents will decide how to spend \$500,000 of the 39th Ward Infrastructure Improvement Funds for 2021.

39th Ward residents can now submit infrastructure project ideas and sign-up to serve as community representatives.

How Participatory Budgeting Works

Participatory budgeting is a three-step process:

1. **Idea Collection** - Residents can submit infrastructure project ideas that they would like to be funded with the 39th Ward's Infrastructure Improvement Funds in 2021. **Project ideas will be accepted until October 2nd, 2020.**
2. **Review of Infrastructure Project Ideas** - Community Representatives will review infrastructure project ideas and determine what projects will be on the community ballot. **Sign-up to serve as a community representative will close August 27th, 2020.**
3. **Community Vote** - 39th Ward residents, age 14 years and older, can vote on the community ballot. The infrastructure projects that receive the most votes, which add up to \$500,000, will receive funding from the 2021 Infrastructure Funds. **The community vote will occur in early winter.**

Submit Your Project Ideas

Click here to submit project ideas: <https://bit.ly/2QDvkW9>

Examples of infrastructure improvement projects include:

- Streetscaping: Install Benches and Trash Cans along a Main Street
- Park Improvements: Build a Tennis Court
- Public Way Improvements: Repave a Sidewalk

Idea collection will end on October 2nd, 2020.

If you have questions on Participatory Budgeting, please contact my office at 773-738-5594 or at Ward39@CityOfChicago.org.

Community Conversation over Concerns Regarding Neighborhood Violence



Many of you have reached out to my office to express your concerns regarding the violence in our neighborhood and in our city. I value your input.

I continue to work with and talk to organizers, community partners, and my fellow elected officials on ways to improve how we police in Chicago. On **September 8th from 6:00-7:30pm**, I will host the Chicago Office of Police Accountability (COPA) and Deborah Witzburg, the Deputy Inspector General (IG) for Public Safety for an online community conversation. To sign up, visit <https://bit.ly/3lStmj9>.

Visit and Subscribe!

Visit <https://aldermannugent.com/> to subscribe to Alderman Nugent's newsletter and learn about what she's doing for the 39th Ward. You can also visit her office at 4200 W Lawrence Ave Mondays from 9am-8pm and Tuesday-Friday from 9am-5pm.

Beautification

Gabby Lambesis

Lawrence Avenue Community Bump Outs



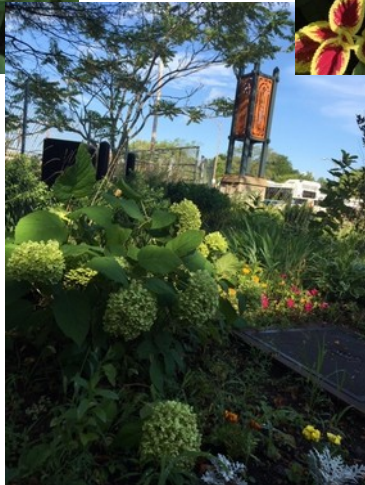
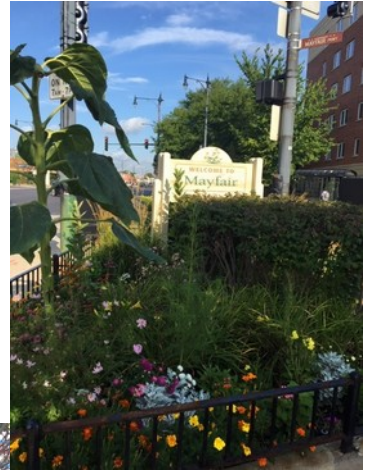
We are still enjoying the long days of summer and hope you are relishing the floral beauty of our blooming garden bump outs.

Thanks to the Mayfair Beautification Committee's garden volunteers, the bump out gardens along Lawrence Avenue looks amazing! Our volunteers' contribution and time in maintaining these garden bump outs is always greatly appreciated. Our gratitude goes out to: Gavin and Margie Chase, Lillie Ashbury and KarenLynn Augustyn, Kathy Payne, Tom Keating, Darlene McDermott, Pam and Ray Sanders, Wally and Bea Eliassen, Eric Skotmyr, Tom Danahy, and St. Edward Cub Scout Pack 3904.

We would also like to thank the following businesses that sponsored the garden bump outs: [Laborers International Union – Local #6](#), [Clark Street Sports](#), [Garcia Mufflers Corporation](#), [Halogen Supply Company, Inc.](#), [Yemen Restaurant](#), [Hala In Restaurant](#), [We Wash Car Care Center](#), Brian J. Grienenberger from www.bjgproperties.com, [Alderman Samantha Nugent](#), [State Representative John D'Amico 15th District](#), [Easy Breezy](#)

[Laundry & Dry Cleaner](#), and [Dispatch Taxi Affiliation](#). Thank you for your continued support!

In the next issue of the newsletter, we will feature our garden planters along Elston Avenue. For more information on garden sponsorship and volunteering please contact Gabby Lambesis at gabsterlamb@gmail.com or call 773-593-3093.



St Edward School & Parish 4343 W Sunnyside Avenue

Jenny Dreyer

St. Edward School welcomed our students and staff back for the 2020-2021 school year! The safety and well-being of our students and school employees is our primary concern and we will do what we must so everyone in our school feels safe. Our large classroom spaces, small class sizes, multiple entrances, temperature checks and hand washing provide optimum safety for our students and staff. The campus is sanitized daily through extra intensive cleanings.

The individual classroom operates under a “cohort” model in which students and staff are grouped by homeroom. To ensure that our students' learning is prioritized, we will test students at the beginning of the school year to assess the needs of each student individually and focus on the core subjects of reading, math, religion, English, science and social studies. Special content classes (art, music, Spanish, PE, and STEM) come to the students. You can read the full reopening plan on the St. Edward School website.

The 2020-2021 school year also introduced some new faces and a new program. Several new teachers have been welcomed to the school community. We wish them a successful first year at St. Edward!

Also new this year is the introduction of a STEM learning program for all grades. Mr. Enrile, our current junior high science teacher, has transitioned our current technology program and developed the STEM program for preschool through 8th grade. STEM promotes critical and

creative thinking through the collaboration of science, technology, engineering, and math.

Community Event - Take the night off from cooking and benefit St. Ed's!

Thursday, October 8th from 5pm to 8pm, Portillo's Harwood Heights, 7308 W. Lawrence Ave.

Flyer needed (retrieve on the St. Edward School website under Community Days). Thank you for your support!

St. Edward School celebrates 111 years of providing a Catholic education to children in grades PK3 – 8th grade! St. Edward School is a 2017 National Blue Ribbon Exemplary High Performing School. We are accepting 2020-2021 registrations for new families. Scholarships are available through our parish, the Archdiocese, and the government.

Take our virtual school tour at:

<https://youtu.be/cMlMJMjoO1k>. You can also arrange for an individual school tour by calling the office at 773-736-9133 to explore our campus and learn more about our outstanding academic programs and extended care.

For more information, please visit our website at www.stedwardschool.com.

CAPS Meetings (Beat 1722)

CAPS meetings for Beat 1722 are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. The next meeting is on September 16 at 6:30pm. Due to COVID-19, meetings are being held on Zoom. To attend, please email caps.017district@chicagopolice.org to RSVP, and you will receive an invite for the meeting.

If you have questions or comments, please contact the CAPS office at 312-742-4588, or email caps.017district@chicagopolice.org. Learn about the CAPS program at <https://home.chicagopolice.org/office-of-community-policing/how-caps-works>.

Problems with Trash or Rats?

If you've got problems with trash where it shouldn't be, missing trash cans, rats in your area, etc., call 311 or contact:

Chicago Division and Sanitation Offices

4808 W Wilson, 312-744-2333 or 312-744-2336

39th Ward Superintendent

312-459-7286

Rodent Control

312-746-5232 or 312-746-5233

Go Green: Get the *Mayfair Messenger* via e-mail

Reading a paper copy of this newsletter? Have access to the Internet? Please consider reading an e-mail version instead (we won't share your e-mail address with anyone else).

To receive the *Mayfair Messenger* via e-mail, please send an e-mail to mayfair-civic-newsletter@googlegroups.com.

Thanks for helping us stretch your membership dues!

A note from membership

To keep your membership current for the following year, renewals will be billed in January and July. If you joined the association between May and October, your renewal will be billed in July. If you joined between November and April, you'll be billed in January.

Thank you in advance for your understanding and cooperation!

A note from the editor

Please submit articles of interest or announcements of upcoming public and community events to mayfair-civic-newsletter@googlegroups.com (the editor reserves the right to edit submissions for space and content; items may not appear if they're past the publishing date).

Mayfair Civic Association Affiliations

Mayfair Civic Association is proudly affiliated with the following area organizations, working together for the good of the neighborhood!

- Mayfair Park Advisory Council (<https://www.mayfairpac.org/>)
- North River Commission (<https://northrivercommission.org/>)
- Northwest Arts Connection (<http://northwestartsconnection.org>)

Publication Schedule

This newsletter is published on the first Thursday of February, April, June, September, and November. You can find issues at <http://www.mayfaircivic.org/newsletter>.

Visit Us Online

To be notified when new issues of this newsletter are published, and of other neighborhood news, you can request to join our email list at <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/mayfair-civic>. If you are a paid member of the Mayfair Civic Association, you will be added to this list automatically.

Also, we have a website! It's a bit out-of-date (we're working son that), but it's there. Check it out at <http://www.mayfaircivic.org>.

Credits

This newsletter and its contents have been planned, composed, and edited by members of the Mayfair Civic Association. Special thanks to Ron Duplack, MCA president, and Carol Kroskey, the previous newsletter editor, who set the bar for quality.

If you're already a member, please pass this on to a neighbor.

Mayfair Civic Association Membership Application
\$10 per household; \$6 for senior citizens

Name _____

Address _____

City/Zip _____

Phone _____

E-mail address _____

Please fill out the above information, and return with your check to:

Mayfair Civic Association
c/o Darlene McDermott
4739 N. Kelso Ave
Chicago, IL 60630-4353