



Mayfair Messenger

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

April 2022
Volume 25, Issue 2

Spring MCA Meetings

Meetings in April and May focus on Zoning & Development and Mayfair Park. Details on the topics covered during the April and May meetings will be provided in the June issue of this newsletter. Meeting attendance details will be sent out to our email list before each meeting. To join our email list, visit <https://groups.google.com/forum/#!forum/mayfair-civic>.



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Letter from the President

Ron Duplack

Our March meeting focused on the Lawrence Avenue beautification project approved through Alderman Nugent's participatory budgeting program. It awards \$50,000 in PB funding for installation of bike racks, community identifier repairs, and bump-out garden and fencing repairs from Pulaski to Kilpatrick. This will be complemented by SSA funding from PEBA's new SSA service area along Pulaski, Elston, and Lawrence. We may expect to see some work to begin later this year.

We covered Zoning and Development during the April meeting and shared information on current activity in Mayfair. This included discussion of proposals to work with Alderman Nugent's office and PEBA to enhance street appearance through utility box painting. We also discussed a proposal to work with Mayfair Park Advisory Council and Chicago Sculpture International to install the sculpture "Mother Earth" in Mayfair Park (see photo on next page) and to sponsor a second dance performance in Mayfair Park later in the Summer as part of Chicago's Year of Dance. Congressman Quigley also attended and gave us an update on Washington. Details on the April and May meetings will be provided in the June issue of this newsletter.

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2022 MCA Meetings

Membership meetings are generally held on the second Thursday of every month. No meetings are held in January, July, or August. These are the remaining dates for 2022. These are *suggested* meeting dates and topics, subject to any comments you may provide, but will be followed in the absence of alternative suggestions. Our Board generally meets during the intervening months.

May 12
Mayfair Park
June 9
TBA

September 8
Traffic & Parking
October 13
Elections

November 10
Annual Holiday Planning
December 8
Holiday Party

Letter from the President



“Mother Earth” sculpture, proposed for installation in Mayfair Park.

Membership Meetings

Here are some details from the February and March meetings of the Mayfair Civic Association.

Congressman Quigley’s office discusses omnibus bill passage and the return of earmarks

Dana Fritz from Congressman Quigley’s office mentioned the work that the Congressman is doing to support Ukraine, as well as on the passing of President Biden’s omnibus spending bill. He highlighted the return of earmarks in the bill, including reforms called “Community Project Funding”. This time, instead of the money going to companies and corporations, it’s going to non-profits and municipalities to cover things like infrastructure and police equipment to improve communication with the FBI, the Night Ministry bus for health outreach, and renovations to the Lincoln Park Zoo.

Fritz said that the earmarks are necessary because of the difficulties in getting things done in Washington. The earmarks provide an incentive for negotiations by including things of direct value to representatives’ districts. “When people have skin in the game, it helps to get the ball rolling”, Fritz said. Congressman Quigley is happy with the process and would like to see it continue. Fiscal Year 2023 will start soon, and there are a number

of proposals that have already been submitted to the Congressman’s office.

Useful links:

- <https://quigley.house.gov/>
- Omnibus spending bill: <https://rules.house.gov/sites/democrats.rules.house.gov/files/BILLS-117HR2471SA-RCP-117-35.pdf>
- Chicago Sun Times on earmarks: <https://chicago.suntimes.com/columnists/2022/3/13/22976144/congressional-earmarks-back-illinois-delegation-except-one-member-hauls-federal-cash>

CAPS Meetings (Beat 1722)

CAPS meetings for Beat 1722 are back in-person, and there is no Zoom or hybrid option. Meetings are held on the 3rd Wednesday of each month. The meetings for beats 1722 and 1723 are combined. The next meeting is on **April 20** at 6:30pm in the Community Room of the 17th District Police Department at 4650 N Pulaski Rd.

For upcoming meeting info, or 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>.

Membership Meetings

Mayfair Civic Association Treasurer Wanted!

The previous MCA treasurer is moving out of town, and will no longer be able to fulfill the duties of the role. If you or anyone you know has accounting skills, is a retired CPA, or similar, and are interested in the role, please contact MCA President Ron Duplack at rduplack@rieckcrotty.com.

Updates from the Alderman

Alderman Samantha Nugent was in attendance at the March membership meeting and talked about some of the winning projects in Mayfair from Cycle 3 of Participatory Budgeting. She also gave an update on the newly-formed Pulaski/Elston SSA #79, created in January.

Mayfair will be getting \$50,000 through Cycle 3 of Participatory Budgeting for beautification projects on Lawrence Ave. These projects include things like repairs to traffic bollards and leaning or missing pillars that surround the community identifiers, replacement of metal fencing to 21 bump-out gardens. Additional improvements include 4 new black horseshoe-shaped bike racks.

The Alderman said that the next step in the process for the Lawrence Ave beautification project is to form a committee for community input with representatives from local organizations, including the Mayfair Civic Association, North Mayfair Improvement Association, and the Pulaski/Elston Business Association. Another attendee at the meeting proposed that the bump-out garden fencing be removed instead of replaced, due to the likelihood that it would get damaged again over time, and wasn't providing much value over the concrete boundaries. Similar ideas can be raised through the committee for community input that will be formed. If you have ideas, reach out to MCA President Ron Duplack at rduplack@rieckcrotty.com. (cont.)

The Pulaski/Elston SSA #79 was created in January, and will provide \$280,000 per year to the service area. The Pulaski/Elston Business Association will be the service provider. SSA members can decide how to spend the money. SSA funds are typically used for things like snow removal as well as maintenance and beautification projects.

Between Participatory Budgeting and the SSA, over \$300,000 will be going into the area. The Alderman is rightly proud of this accomplishment, and we thank her for the role she's played in helping to bring these resources to the neighborhood.

Useful links:

- Participatory Budgeting: <https://aldermannugent.com/participatory-budgeting/>
- Pulaski/Elston SSA #79: <https://www.pebachamber.org/ssa-79>

New grocery delivery businesses in Mayfair

Ron Duplack highlighted some new businesses in the neighborhood: Getir and HarvesTrolly. Getir is a scooter-based delivery service, specializing in "ultrafast" last-mile delivery of over 2,000 everyday items. The company will deliver items from a small fulfillment location at 4740 N Pulaski to Mayfair and surrounding area. HarvesTrolly recently opened a warehouse at 4949 N Elston, serving the surrounding area. The company offers groceries and everyday items, available either in-store or delivery. The HarvesTrolly stores are trolleys the size of a 20-seat bus. For more information on these businesses, please refer to the following links:

- Getir website: <https://getir.com/us/>
- Getir one-pager: <http://www.mayfaircivic.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Getir-One-Pager.pdf>
- Getir at a glance: <http://www.mayfaircivic.org/wp-content/uploads/2022/02/Chicago-Getir-1.pdf>
- Block Club article on Getir: <https://blockclubchicago.org/2021/11/16/getir-turkish-grocery-delivery-business-debuts-united-states-andersonville-storefront>
- HarvesTrolly website: <https://harvestrolley.com/>
- Nadig article on HarvesTrolly: <http://nadignewspapers.com/2021/04/05/trolley-filled-with-groceries-allows-you-to-shop-in-front-of-your-home-harvestrolley-opens-warehouse-in-mayfair/>

Membership Meetings

Mayfair PAC is back in business

Jon Litwin, President of the Mayfair Park Advisory Council, attended the February membership meeting and provided some updates about the park. The PAC had some open positions that put it out of commission for a while, but those positions have now been filled and they've started planning for the year. There will be an Earth Day event on April 23rd and a movie and/or concert in the park in August. They're also applying for a grant for new dugouts in the baseball field, and are looking to resurface the basketball court.

The basketball court in the park used to have four hoops but currently only has two, due to issues with park a single group of park attendees using the full court and preventing another group from using the second set of hoops. Before the pandemic, the PAC was in the early stages of resurfacing the court, and was considering options for what to do about the hoops. They've decided to replace the two hoops on the outside of the court with four hoops in the center in a clover shape, to prevent a single group from using the full court.

The PAC has also been trying to think of ways to make the park appeal to older kids. The current setup seems to work quite well for younger children but there isn't a lot for older kids, and they want it to appeal to all ages.

If you have questions or thoughts about the park, you can send them to mayfairpac@gmail.com. For more information, visit <https://www.mayfairpac.org>.

Reports of rat problems following the opening of new Park 593

We were excited about the official opening of the new Park 593 at the corner of Wilson and Kedvale last year on November 13. It's since been getting regular use from members of the neighborhood, and kids seem to really be enjoying the nature play space in the park. Unfortunately, we have heard reports of an increase in rat activity as a result of the park's opening, and suspect that perhaps the lot may have previously housed the rats, and they have now started looking for new homes. If you or anyone you know lives near the park and are having rat problems following the park's opening, please contact MCA President Ron

Duplack at rduplack@rieckcrotty.com, and submit a 311 request to do a sweep of the area, and/or contact rodent control at 312-746-5232 or 212-746-5233.

Large trucks getting stuck near Mayfair Park

An attendee mentioned that large 18-wheel trucks, most-likely coming off of the I-94, are turning east on Wilson and then south on Kenton, getting stuck near Mayfair Park due to insufficient room to maneuver. These trucks are very large, and it is thought that they're attempting this route because of height restrictions on the Cicero underpass. Such a vehicle got stuck in late 2021, and it took them 2 hours with the aid of police to get around the corner and on Sunnyside and going west. There is an ordinance that prohibits this activity, but it's happening regardless.

Help needed maintaining gardens

The beautification committee has maintained the garden boxes around the neighborhood for years, which add some beautiful color to the area, but it's getting harder for the group to do the work on their own, and it's also been hard to keep a reliable number of volunteers to help. It was suggested that perhaps some arrangement could be made with local gardening companies in the neighborhood. If you or anyone you know would like to help maintain the gardens in the meantime, or have other ideas on how we could continue to maintain them, contact Thomas Keating at keatingj@gmail.com.

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

In the Neighborhood



9/11 Day of Remembrance

by Thomas Keating

The Mayfair War Memorial at 4200 West Lawrence Avenue had its 20th Anniversary on September 11, 2021. The weather cooperated again this year, as it has for 19 of the 20 years Mayfair has presented This Special Day of Remembrance. In the only year the program was moved indoors, Marie's Restaurant opened the doors for us. There was a good turnout again this year.

Roger McGill from the Mayfair Veterans Committee, with the help and support of Alderman Samantha Nugent and her staff were able to put together an excellent program, even with all the current health issues that are occurring. Posting of Colors was done by Boy Scout Troop 904, and Cub Scout Troop 3904. Dr. Jennifer Dixon, Principal of Palmer Elementary School sang the Star Spangled Banner. Ms. Shirley Bacus-Carlson led Palmer Students in a Patriotic Song Medley. Some of the students read letters to the Veterans. Recognition was made to the Chicago Police and Fire Departments, they always participate in the program. Benediction was led by Rev. Delores Rogers from Mayfair Presbyterian Church.



In November we also had a Grand Opening for the new playlot at Wilson and Kasson Avenues. This playlot was put on a very unique piece of triangular shaped land that is located in an area of Mayfair that is also



triangular. The property looked like a small farm with a single home, a shed, and a large garden. About fifty years ago that property was put for sale, and it looked like a perfect location for a much needed playlot, because people with children living in this part of Mayfair had to cross busy streets to get to play areas. A request was made at that time for a playlot, but the Alderman at the time said the city could not afford the cost. He did find a small lot on a busy street that faced the area so it was a help. This time the property went up for sale a lot of people in the area signed petitions to turn the lot into a playlot. With the help of the Alderman, the Chicago Park District, and donations from people and businesses the park was built. A very sincere thank you to all who brought this project to completion. A small lonely tree was temporarily wired to the water pump over the Holidays with a sign added for people to add decorations to it. A number of people have joined in this activity. We look forward to more interesting activities in the future.

Updates from the Alderman

Samantha Nugent, 39th Ward

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

Participatory Budgeting Cycle 3 Results



I am excited to announce the community-selected infrastructure improvements that will be funded through the third cycle of

Participatory Budgeting (PB) in the 39th Ward.

Over 1,000 residents, age 14 and over, voted on how to spend \$500,000 to improve their communities. Of the 16 projects on the ballot, 8 projects will be funded. Planning for implementation began in March and construction for some projects could begin as soon as summer 2022. To see the winning projects, please visit

<https://aldermannugent.com/participatory-budgeting>.

Thank you to the Participatory Budgeting Committee for their work and dedication to the process, and thank you to all the community members who submitted project proposals and ideas for improvements across the ward.

State of the Ward Address

On Friday, March 4, I delivered my annual State of the Ward Address at the 39th Ward Business Luncheon. Thank you to the local Chambers of Commerce for hosting this event.

16,500 service requests were submitted to the city in 2021 from the 39th Ward. 91% of these requests have been completed or closed out. Half of those remaining open tickets are tree trim requests. In last year's budget, I fought for more funding for Forestry because of those open requests. I'm happy to share that because of this advocacy, the city is doubling the amount of tree trimming crews to clear up this backlog and to keep up with the demand.

Overall, 1,100 garbage carts were delivered, 1,318 potholes were filled and nearly 700 calls about sewer cleanings, stormwater backup, and flooded basements were answered.

Forty residential streets were paved, as were Montrose, Pulaski, and Lawrence. I continue to prioritize infrastructure investments and quality of life issues like these.

Last year, I secured funding for an expansion project at Sauganash School Elementary. This year, I am excited to share that the project is underway and is expected to be completed by the summer of 2023. This project will address overcrowding with more classrooms, labs, and a new gymnasium.

Economic growth and development continue to spread across the ward. 78 new business licenses were issued in the past year. In the past 6 months, we have welcomed IL-TACO - makers of the famous pizza puff and Compass Transportation - a leading school bus company in Chicago to the industrial corridor just south of Peterson Avenue. The fact that businesses are moving to the 39th Ward in this economy is a testament to our reputation of collegiality, advocating for the neighborhood, and being open to new opportunities.

Pothole Request Form

Our office has introduced a new process for pothole requests. Fill out the request form at <https://bit.ly/3u3zU15> and we will issue your request with 311. Help us get our streets in good shape for the spring!

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. My office is open Mondays from 9am to 7pm, Tuesdays, Wednesdays, and Thursdays from 9am to 5pm and Fridays from 9am to 3pm. While the office is open for walk-ins, appointments are encouraged. We ask that everyone, regardless of vaccination status, wear a mask and maintain social distancing. Please reach out should you have any questions, comments, or concerns at 773-736-5594 or via email at Ward39@CityOfChicago.Org.

Quilt Show, Boutique, & Raffle



Quilt Connection

Quilt Show,
Boutique & Raffle

Saturday, April 23
10 AM - 5 PM

Includes Silent Auction
& Bake Sale!

Mayfair Presbyterian Church
4358 W Ainslie in Chicago

Admission \$5 / ~~Donation \$10~~

www.quiltconnection.org

St Edward School & Parish 4343 W Sunnyside Avenue

Jenny Dreyer



Easter Egg Hunt!

Save the date for our first Easter egg hunt for children ages 2 – 8! Open to current and prospective families, the fun is scheduled for **Saturday, April 16 at 11:15am** at 4350 W Sunnyside Ave. Each child

should bring a basket. **Please register for the event at <https://stedwardchicago.org/easter-egg-hunt.html>.** One or two eggs contain a \$250 voucher for the upcoming 2022 – 23 school year!

Congrats to our talented ensemble of students that put on an outstanding two-day performance of **Aladdin KIDS!** Thank you to the Sullivan Chicago Studio of Performing Arts for producing this magical show with St. Edward School Theatre!

Mark your calendar for this upcoming **Community Event** that benefits St. Ed's and gives you a night off from cooking! Thank you for your support!

La Villa, Wednesday, April 27, 5pm – 8pm
3638 N. Pulaski Ave., Chicago
Mention St. Edward School when dining in!

Looking for a new Pre-K – 8th grade school for the 2022-2023 school year? Link to register for more information and take a campus tour on our website, stedwardschool.com. St. Edward School celebrates 112 years of providing a Catholic education to children in grades PK3 – 8th grade. You can contact office@stedwardschool.com to schedule an in-person tour or individual Zoom tour with our principal. St. Edward School is a 2017 National Blue Ribbon Exemplary High Performing School. For more information, please visit our website at www.stedwardschool.com or call the office at 773-736-9133 to learn more about our outstanding academic programs and extended care.

FREE EVENT!

EASTER EGG HUNT

AGES 2-8

APRIL 16, 2022 - 11:15 START
4350 W. SUNNYSIDE AVE.
EACH CHILD SHOULD BRING A BASKET.
REGISTER ONLINE AT STEDWARDSCHOOL.COM

BONUS FIND → ONE OR TWO EGGS CONTAIN
A \$250 TUITION VOUCHER
FOR THE UPCOMING 2022-23 SCHOOL YEAR!

 St. Edward School
4343 W. Sunnyside Ave.
www.stedwardschool.com

Around the Neighborhood

The Buckthorn Stops Here!!

A volunteer initiative of the NPV Nature Center Park Advisory Council

**WE NEED YOUR HELP
PURCHASING BRUSH CUTTERS
TO FIGHT THE BUCKTHORN INVASION!**

Thanks to the generous donations we've received so far, we've already raised enough to purchase one heavy-duty, low emission Stihl brush cutter to remove the buckthorn trees and shrubs rapidly overtaking and killing the native plants within the Nature Center. Your gift will go towards the remaining \$1,500 cost of a much-needed second brush cutter.

Buckthorn is a very weedy, non-native plant that is the #1 bully of the Nature Center. After an area is cleared of buckthorn, it will be reseeded with native wildflowers and grasses to improve the biodiversity and beauty of the grounds.

If you have questions, please email the NPV Nature Center Park Advisory Council at naturecenteradvisorycouncil@gmail.com.



From cutting buckthorn by hand with loppers ... to using the Stihl FS Brush Cutter

DONATE BY CREDIT CARD at <https://bit.ly/3G2CF9z> or scan the QR Code with your smart phone:



PAY BY CHECK to **Chicago Parks Foundation** with “NPV Nature Center PAC” written in the memo. Mail it to Chicago Parks Foundation, Attn: Sonia Horvath, 541 N. Fairbanks Court, Chicago, IL 60611.

Thank you for your generosity!

Mayfair Messenger

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/g/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