



Jefferson Park Forward General Meeting

July 21, 2016

Agenda

Location: Cosmic Bikes, 4641 N. Milwaukee Ave.

Time: 7:00 PM

1. Welcome
2. Special Guests
 - a. Commander William Looney, 16th District, Chicago Police Department

Commander Looney, a resident of Portage Park, spoke to us about crime in the District. Year-to-date property crimes, robberies and motor vehicles theft are up. CPD has made 70 arrests for property crime this year; 28 burglary arrests this year. National Night Out is coming at Norwood Park later this year. Beat meetings are held every other month and are listed on the JPF calendar.

Police are assigned to a district based on service calls. The 16th District is still short on police officers in the area, however, the district recently received 6 new officers. There are around 200 officers assigned to the 16th district, which is geographically the largest district in the City, stretching from Cicero on the east and Belmont on the south to the city borders.

Q/A session hit on a number of issues including the sexual assault that took place near Farnsworth School in the spring, traffic issues on Laramie Ave south of Lawrence and the blue light program, which is a way of supporting Police by displaying a blue light on your home.

- b. Representative Robert Martwick, District 19, Illinois General Assembly

Rep. Martwick addressed the group by discussing the stopgap budget that was passed last month as well as explaining budgetary math, pension funding, social services and education. There was an open Q/A session.

3. JPF Committee Updates

- a. Bylaws

Bylaws have been posted on the JPF website since June for public comment until Friday, July 22. The Bylaws Committee has received a handful of comments that it will incorporate into the final draft. The Board of Directors is expected to approve and adopt the Bylaws as the official governance document of Jefferson Park Forward at its August 4 meeting. Upon adoption of the bylaws, the leadership team of Jefferson Park Forward will be formally established. The JPF officers and board of directors is:

President – Ryan Richter
Vice President – Rolando Rodriguez
Secretary – Marie MacDonald
Treasurer – Robert Van Hook
Director – Jenny Conlon
Director – Dennis Davis
Director – Douglas Grom
Director – Susanna Ernst
Director – Heidi Osterhout

Each board member will serve a two year term, with half of the board up for elections every year. For the inaugural board, half of the board will serve a shortened one year term. General elections will be held in September 2017.

Upon adoption, JPF will also formalize the membership boundaries, which are Montrose to the south, Austin to the west, the Chicago River to the north and Cicero Avenue/Elston Avenue/Metra Milwaukee District North Line on the east.

JPF is in the process of establishing annual dues to support the organization's programs in fulfillment of its mission and vision. The treasurer will be presenting a budget, dues and membership information at the August or September general meeting.

b. Community Development

Next meeting is Tuesday, August 9 at Eden United Church of Christ. The Committee will be supporting a Yelp Drive. Look for further information on Facebook and the website.

c. Fundraising & Services

We're looking for volunteers for Jeff Fest, Shakespeare in the Park both on the weekend of July 29-31. JPF will be operating the beer tent during the evening hours of Saturday, July 30 from 6-9 PM. All tips will support JPF.

An opportunity has presented itself to work with Carpe Librum, the pop-up bookstore in Portage Park. We're coordinating with them on an August date where JPF will operate the bookstore and help raise money for an educational charity that supports CPS.

d. Livability & Attractiveness

We're looking for other areas for targeted improvement: the CVS area, a dog park, and holiday lights. The Committee is investigating adopting the Jefferson Park CTA station.

e. Social

Sunday Picnic in the Park, July 24, 12-4 PM. Also the JP Farmers Market too. The next social event will be held at Galvin's pub on Sunday, August 7 from 11-3 and will be a brunch.

4. New Business

Rock the Badges, a charity fundraiser for Chicago Police and Chicago Fire department charities, will be held at the Copernicus Center on Saturday, August 6. For more information, see <http://www.rockthebadges.com/>.

5. Next Meeting

Our next meeting will be held on Thursday, August 18 at 7:00 PM. The meeting location will be at the Windsor Tavern, 4530 N. Milwaukee Ave. Our guest speaker will be one of our own JPF members, Dan Alberti, from [buildOn](#), an educational non-profit that has been working with students in Carl Schurz High School (they helped build the hydroponic garden).