

# JEFFERSON PARK Neighborhood Association

*Newsletter for Winter 2015-16*



## Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association

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www.jpna.net



### Upcoming Events

#### General meetings:

- Jan. 27** – Adam Corona, from Streets and Sanitation, will speak on snow removal.
- Feb. 24** – State Senator Mulroe and State Rep. Martwick
- March 30** – Animal Rescue Operations

All general meetings are free and open to the public and are held at the **Jefferson Park Congregational Church, 5320 W. Giddings**, in the basement auditorium at **7 pm on the last Wednesday of each month**. Refreshments are provided.

### Volunteers needed!

**Farmers Winter Market** – if interested, contact Merrill at [merrillynnmiller@zoho.com](mailto:merrillynnmiller@zoho.com)

**Education Task Group** – if interested contact Lotty at [BCarlotty@yahoo.com](mailto:BCarlotty@yahoo.com) or 773-736-1702

**TIF Zoning Task Group** – if interested send us a note at [JPNA@jpna.net](mailto:JPNA@jpna.net)

Visit the **Winter Farmer's Market**,  
Jan. 31, 2016, March 20, 2016, and April 24, 2016 at  
Fischman Liquors Annex, 4780 N. Milwaukee Avenue, 10:00 am 'til  
2:00pm

As the newly elected President of the Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association (JPNA), and on behalf of the Board, I would like to wish all of you Happy Holidays, Merry Christmas and a Happy New Year. I also want to thank outgoing President, Judy Skotzko, and outgoing Board Members, Merrill Miller (Merrill was also a three term President!) and Dennis Davis. Welcome new Board Members, Liz Jurkacek, and Peter Insley.

I would like to reflect on some of the accomplishments of the Jefferson Park Neighborhood Association over the years since our beginning in 2001.

In 2001, the JPNA held its first meeting, in the auditorium of the Jefferson Park Fieldhouse under the watchful eyes of Thomas Jefferson, from his portrait that proudly hangs on the wall there. Here, nearly one-hundred residents answered the call which was posted in the Nadig Northwest-Side Press neighborhood newspaper.

Many proposals and ideas were put forth that first day, one included starting a Jefferson Park Historical Committee. From idea to reality, the Jefferson Park Historical Committee was so successful, that it became its own independent organization, the Jefferson Park Historical Society. The society soon found itself inundated with interests from neighboring communities and became the all-encompassing Northwest Chicago Historical Society (NWCHS).

The JPNA collaborated with Metra in 2002, on renovations to make the Metra train station head-house more aesthetically pleasing, and having the overhang extended to better protect commuters from the weather.

In 2003, the JPNA brought us the first 45th Ward Aldermanic Debate, at least the first one anyone could recall, and it has become an election-time tradition ever since.

Also in 2003, tragedy struck our local community when 29 year old Dunkin Donuts employee, Sukhdev Dave was shot to death by a disgruntled customer at Dunkin Donuts, 4867 N. Milwaukee. The JPNA raised over \$3000.00 as well as buying disposable diapers and clothing for his pregnant wife. The funds were later merged with another collection started by Alderman Levar's office and the Jefferson Park Chamber of Commerce', Parkway Bank.

The JPNA made it possible to start the Garden for the Hungry, getting the State of Illinois to give permission to Boy Scout Troop

840, to work the State owned parcel of land at Ainslie and Laramie Avenues. Fresh vegetables for an area food pantry are raised in the garden. The JPNA continues to be a big supporter of the garden by providing volunteers and helping with fundraising activities. Maybe you've seen us on TV. The JPNA has also brought ten or more members to volunteer for Channel 11, WTTW at their annual Pledge Drive.

In 2009-10, the first JPNA Cook Book was published. It was so popular, that another cookbook was published for 2013-14 with many current and former area residents contributing their recipes. Since the summer of 2011, the JPNA along with the Copernicus Foundation and the Chamber of Commerce brought back a farmer's market to the neighborhood, with fresh fruits, vegetables, jams, honey, meats and more, from Midwest farms. Jefferson Park Sunday Market has proven to be a popular event every other Sunday, from late June thru October. And now, a Winter Market has been added! The JPNA Education Committee has held a high school "open house" in the Jefferson Park fieldhouse, judged local school science fairs, and recently adopted Beaubien School, to help teachers obtain needed classroom supplies. The JPNA has also been a financial supporter of some of the Roberts Square Park Summer activities. Our monthly meetings are a place where neighborhood concerns are shared, and there is often an interesting guest speaker. As ever, the JPNA has been a watchdog on zoning exploitation and unfair taxing schemes, holding developers to build within the zoning code, and shining a light on, and grinding to a halt, the implementation of the unfair SSA extra-property tax proposal. The SSA extra-property tax would have unfairly taxed residential property owners to pay for banners, flower planters and luncheons for the business district, all on top of the highest property tax increase in Chicago's history. The JPNA sticks up for you, and by you I mean us; join JPNA today!

Sincerely, Robert Bank  
Bob Bank  
JPNA President

**Slingshots**  
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**Bob Anderson**  
Director

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### **Remember to get your JPNA member discounts at these area businesses**

*Delightful Pastries* 773-545-7215 10% discount on \$10 or over

*House of Hair* 773-282-9050 \$5 off any service.

*Nadig Press* 773-286-6100, \$5 off on any Garage Sale or Used Car ad; free email subscriptions also available.

*Today's Hair* 773-545-9160 \$2 off Haircut.

*Theresa II* 773-283-0184 15% discount on \$10 or over.

*Valbona's Beauty Salon* 773-545-0206 10% discount on any service \$10 or over.

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