



The 95th Street Bulletin

WINTER
2011

A Publication of the 95th Street Business Association

Board Looks Ahead to New Year

At its first meeting of 2011, 95th Street Business Association Board members discussed the effectiveness of last year's programs and projects. Sidewalk sweeping, snowplowing and seasonal decorations will remain in place in the coming year and the Association will expand its beautification projects as more flower boxes are installed and improvements are made to 95th Street sidewalks.

Streetscape issues remain

a major focus for 2011.

Alderman Ginger Rugai stopped by the meeting with updated information regarding the streetscape project. She had just received word from Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) officials that the bidding and acceptance process will begin immediately with construction to commence in early summer. Construction should be completed for Phase I before Thanksgiving.

This was welcome news for Association members who have supported these improvements for many years and lobbied for funds to make the plan a reality. The Camiros Business District Improvement Plan was the catalyst for the design. CDOT refined and updated the Camiros design with materials and plantings more suited to the harsh weather and traffic conditions on 95th Street.

95th Street Tax Increment

Financing (TIF) funds were allocated to construct these new "streetscape" elements (new sidewalks, curbs, decorative lights, trees and flower planters) as far as the dollars allow. The Association and Alderman Rugai are pursuing alternative sources of funds to continue the improvements.

The Association anxiously awaits the arrival of the first bulldozer to begin work on this important project for the business community.

LET IT SNOW ...

Notices have been distributed throughout the City reminding homeowners and commercial property owners that shoveling the sidewalk is the "neighborly thing to do" AND it's also the law.

Chicago Department of Transportation (CDOT) asks property owners to keep Chicago safe for everyone by clearing snow and ice from the public sidewalk in front of your property.

Everyone is a pedestrian at some point during the day, whether walking to the bus, to a car or to a neighborhood store. Without a wide, clear path, snow and ice on the sidewalk make it difficult for everyone, especially people with disabilities, seniors and children, to walk safely.

Chicago Municipal Code, sections 4-4-



310 and 10-8-180, specify that both homes and businesses must clear snow from sidewalks next to their property.

The Association assists businesses in complying with the Municipal code by plowing a 6 foot wide path down the middle of the sidewalk when snow reaches a depth of 2 inches or more. It is each business owner's responsibility to clear close to the door and out to the street. In 2010, the Association spent \$4500 on snowplowing. Sidewalks were plowed eight times in December alone. That service certainly is worth your \$25 dues. There are several months of winter still ahead.

Board of Directors for 2011

The following business people have agreed to serve on the 95th Street Business Association Board of Directors for 2011:

Oliver Banks*	State Farm Insurance 2024 West 95th Street
Peter Coccaro*	Beverly Hills Garage 2043 West 95th Street
Robbie Craig	Citibank 9449 South Western Avenue
Linda Ellis	LeTresor 1861 West 95th Street
Mike Geary	Standard Bank 2400 West 95th Street
Monica Hayes	Harris Bank 1620 West 95th Street
Dennis Heywood*	Erickson Management
Eleanor Hollander	Complus 9500 South Vanderpoel Avenue
Otto Kaiserauer	Beverly Hills Gallery 2133 West 95th Street
Emil Mahler*	Southtown Health Foods 2100 West 95th Street
Jill Neish	Kingston's Jerk Chicken 2037 West 95th Street
Victoria Nolan	Shear Soul, Inc. 1763 West 95th Street
Beverly Packnett	Plaques, Trophies and Gifts by Perci 2138 West 95th
Gail Page*	Order My Steps Dancewear 1848 West 95th Street
Vince Sheridan	Sheridan Chicago Co.
Marcia Walsh	BAPA 11107 S. Longwood Drive
Peter Coccaro, President,	Oliver Banks, Vice President
Dennis Heywood, Vice President	Gail Page, Secretary
Emil Mahler, Treasurer (President Emeritus)	

Board of Directors Meeting Schedule

Meetings of the 95th Street Beverly Hills Business Association's Board of Directors are held on the fourth Tuesday of each month. Members are encouraged to attend.

Please put these dates on your calendar and plan to attend:

Tuesday
February 22, 2011

Tuesday
March 21, 2011

Tuesday
April 26, 2011

Tuesday
May 24, 2011

Tuesday
June 28, 2011

Tuesday
July 26, 2011

August – No meeting

Tuesday
September 27, 2011

Tuesday
October 25, 2011

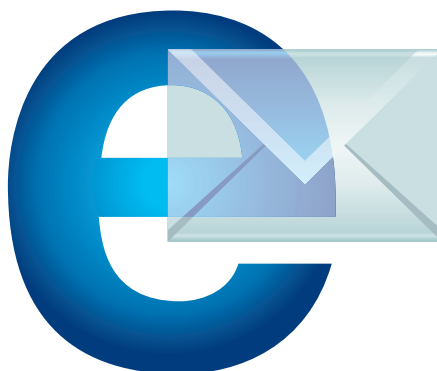
Tuesday
November 22, 2011

December – No meeting

Association Goes Green

... as much as possible.

In 2009 the Association's Board voted to go "paperless" whenever possible. It forwards its quarterly Newsletter via email to all those businesses with email addresses on file. The Association distributes items of information, such as Business Affairs and Consumer Protection (BACP) FREE Workshop schedules, Merchant Alert flyers, and other priority information all via email. The savings in



printing costs, postage and paper is remarkable.

If you are currently receiving the Association's Bulletin in the mail, but would like to receive it via email, please email the Association at beverly95@sbcglobal.net and your address will be added to its database.

The Association thanks you and the "trees" thank you.

MEMBERSHIP ... What's in it for you?

95TH STREET BEVERLY HILLS BUSINESS ASSOCIATION SELLING 95TH STREET AND YOU!

*The 95th Street Beverly Hills Business Association,
Founded In 1958, Strives To Maintain A Safe,
Attractive And Economically Viable Business District
On 95th Street From Ashland To Western.*

MEMBERSHIP

Annual dues are \$25 per year.

MONTHLY MEETINGS:

These meetings are an opportunity to meet and network with other business owners.

QUARTERLY BULLETIN:

95th Street's quarterly newsletter provides pertinent information for business owners.

95TH STREET DIRECTORY:

The Directory is a handy tool for accessing important information.

ANNUAL MEETING:

Board of Directors is elected at this open meeting each year.

MERCHANT ALERT:

Community and City information is dispensed through email and fax.

BEAUTIFICATION and MAINTENANCE:

Sidewalk sweeping, litter pick-up, weed eradication and more.

SEASONAL and HOLIDAY DECORATIONS:

Banners and flags, wreaths, garland and illuminated trees all enhance the business district.

SNOWPLOWING:

Sidewalks are plowed when snow reaches 2" or more.

PROMOTIONS:

Quarterly group ads encourage residents and business owners to shop locally.

SEMINARS/WORKSHOPS:

Topics of interest to 95th business owners presented by professionals.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT:

Community Economic Development Task Force works to strengthen the commercial strip, redevelop problem properties and attract quality businesses.

TECHNICAL ASSISTANCE:

A City of Chicago Grant provides technical assistance and promotes City of Chicago strategies for 95th Street.

SPECIAL SERVICE AREA:

City of Chicago SSA # 4 seeks to improve the business climate on 95th Street.

ASSOCIATION WEB SITE:

www.95thstreetba.org , link your Web site and grow your business.

2011 APPLICATION FOR MEMBERSHIP

Name: _____ Owner [] Manager []
Business: _____
Address: _____
Phone # _____ Fax # _____
Email _____
Website _____ Own or Lease _____

Mail \$25 check to:
95th Street Beverly Hills Business Association
2100 West 95th Street
Chicago, IL 60643

For further information
call 773-238-4094 or
e-mail: beverly95@sbcglobal.net

BUSINESS EDUCATION WORKSHOPS

• FEBRUARY 2011 •

Date

2/2

*TALK TO CITY INSPECTORS, ASK QUESTIONS GET ANSWERS 3:00pm to 4:30pm

Presented by the City of Chicago

To operate a successful business in Chicago you must know the requirements. Talk to inspectors from five City departments who will provide insight to operate safely, stay compliant, help prepare for inspections and point out the do's and don'ts of operating your business. Don't miss this workshop.

2/4

POWER MARKETING, DIGITAL STYLE! 9:30am to 11:00am

Presented by Roderick Sawyer, Teffex Web Design

Your website is up, you're on social media sites and you've submitted your site to all of the search engines- so why aren't you seeing more customers? Digital advertising is not just about hits, it's also about scoring runs as you build your online audience. This workshop will discuss many facets of online marketing designed to get the most from your efforts.

2/9

HOW TO OBTAIN AND RENEW YOUR SIDEWALK CAFÉ PERMIT 2:00pm to 4:30pm

Presented by Department of Business Affairs & Consumer Protection (BACP)

A sidewalk café adds to the vibrancy of any business. Did you know that sidewalk café season starts in March but your application must be submitted a minimum of 30 days before you can operate? This workshop will teach you the rules to operating a sidewalk café and the steps to obtain and renew your permit.

2/11

NO WORKSHOP SCHEDULED Due to Lincoln's Birthday

Date

2/16

CITY CONTRACTING 101: HOW TO RESPOND TO A REQUEST FOR PROPOSAL (RFP) 2:00pm to 4:00pm

Presented by the Chicago Department of Procurement Services (DPS)

This workshop is a must for small businesses interested in completing a City of Chicago Request for Proposal (RFP). Learn best practices on responding to a City RFP, what evaluators look for in RFPs, common mistakes and helpful tips to navigate the RFP specification.

2/18

HOW TO START YOUR BUSINESS PLAN 9:30am to 11:00am

Presented by Illinois Hispanic Chamber of Commerce (IHCC)

Discover the basic elements necessary to complete a Business Plan for a new or existing small business. Find out why it's needed, where to start, what it should contain, what's most important and how to use it.

2/23

*HOW TO BECOME CERTIFIED DOING BUSINESS WITH THE CITY OF CHICAGO 3:15 to 4:30pm

Presented by the Office of Compliance and the Department of Procurement Services (DPS)

Are you interested in doing business with or being a certified vendor with the City of Chicago? You don't want to miss this workshop. Come learn about the different types of procurement opportunities as well as the City's contract monitoring and compliance standards.

2/25

UNDERSTANDING EMPLOYMENT LAW 9:30am to 11:00am

Presented by Charles A. Krugel

Plan on hiring staff for your business? This workshop will teach you the importance of hiring the right people, what is appropriate to ask candidates, state and federal employment laws and employment related disputes.



All workshops are FREE and are located at the
City of Chicago Department of Business Affairs and Consumer Protection
City Hall, 121 N. LaSalle St., Room 805

Space is limited. Please reserve your attendance by calling 312.744.5344
To learn more about BACP's workshops, visit www.cityofchicago.org/bacp

Tax Information of Note:

The 2011 employee tax for Social Security was reduced from 6.2% to 4.2% (amount withheld); however, the employer tax rate for Social	Security remains 6.2% for a 10.4% total.
	The 2011 employee and employer tax rate for Medicare remains 1.45% for 2011.

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The Bulletin is a quarterly publication of the 95th Street Beverly Hills Business Association. Please submit your news to the Association's Executive Director and Bulletin Editor:
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