



Neighbors working together in Chicago's West Town community

Chicago Bowl frames development plans

Brooklyn Bowl founder Peter Shapiro provided this description of a bowling alley under development on the northeast corner of Chicago and Wolcott. The developers will ask the East Village Association for a vote Nov. 1 on its application for a live-performance license.

Located in a 23,000-square-foot warehouse at 1850 W. Chicago Ave., Chicago Bowl will be a state-of-the-art bowling alley / restaurant / performance space.

The heart of the Chicago Bowl project is the restoration and refurbishment of a dilapidated former auto parts warehouse that has 200 feet of frontage on Chicago Avenue.

The building's construction and design will seek to achieve LEED green certification and will highlight the building's natural history, rehabilitating the beautiful aesthetic of this 80-year-old industrial warehouses.

Led by architect Scott Hindsley of Chicago-based architectural firm Archideas, a team of local contractors and craftsman will transform a building that currently is empty and has minimal electricity, plumbing, and infrastructure into one of the city's most exciting spaces. From restoring the original all-wood bow-truss beams to adding new wide-plank wood floors, the venue will be a powerful combination of old and new.

Chicago Bowl will be a sister venue to Brooklyn Bowl, which opened in July 2009 in Williamsburg, Brooklyn. Brooklyn Bowl has been ranked by Zagat as the #1 bowling alley in New York City and the #1 venue of any kind in the borough of



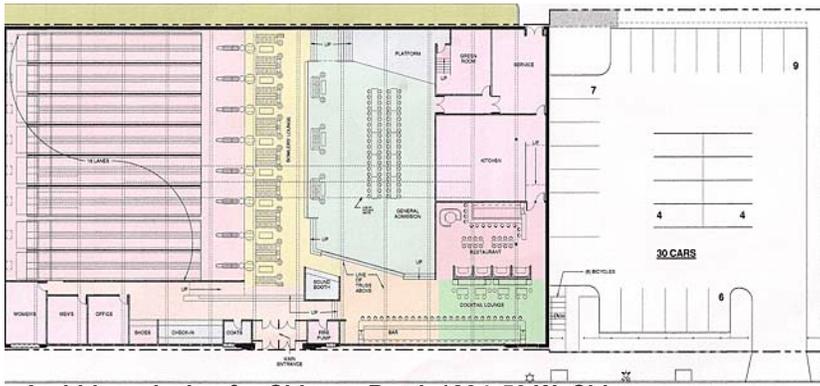
Brooklyn Bowl, 61 Wythe Ave., New York

Brooklyn. Like Brooklyn Bowl, Chicago Bowl will feature a kitchen and menu designed and overseen by the award-winning Blue Ribbon Restaurants group. Filled with comfort food classics all priced under \$20, the food blog Serious Eats says, "As a standalone restaurant, the Bowl's menu would be totally in the pocket."

Brooklyn Bowl has hosted a wide range of events and fund-raisers and has been a resource in NYC for a wide range of civic individuals and organizations, from Mayor Michael Bloomberg to Martha Stewart, the Clinton Foundation to the Brooklyn Public Library, Conde Nast to the NYC Public Schools and Bike For A Cure to name a few. Chicago Bowl will continue this tradition and will work with local schools, community centers and Commercial Park to

Continued on next page

The East Village Association's educational and civic role is exercised during our monthly general meetings, where we learn and talk about what's going on in our neighborhood. This forum is invaluable for understanding the important and sometimes controversial issues the community faces. EVA is committed to ensuring that our meetings are a place where these discussions can occur in an honest and respectful manner.



Archideas design for Chicago Bowl, 1834-50 W. Chicago.

Chicago Bowl frames development plans

Continued from front page

maintain a leadership role in the community.

Chicago Bowl will be open seven days a week. On weekends, hours will be from noon-3am. From noon-6pm, families with children of all ages will be permitted in. Specials will be available for families that live in the East Village geographic district. On weekdays, Chicago Bowl will open from 6pm-2am and will have a 21+ door policy. The 21+ door policy is an effective way to maintain a clientele that is mature, responsible and considerate of Chicago Bowl's neighbors.

Unlike typical bars and venues, Chicago Bowl's multifunctionality will minimize mass exiting and entry to and from the venue at one time. Because some people will bowl while others eat in the restaurant and still others sit at the bar or watch the various projection screens it will be rare for people to exit the venue at one time, reducing pressure on the immediate street.

To ensure that any sounds created inside Chicago Bowl stay inside Chicago Bowl, Richard Talaske has been hired to consult on sound and acoustical issues. A plan has already been created to put a new, second roof on top of the building's original roof, eliminating sound leakage.

Chicago Bowl is being developed and run by an experienced management team who has owned and operated multiple celebrated and respected establishments. The team also has been involved with notable ventures in the intersection of cutting-edge technology and entertainment, an element that will be a focal point at Chicago Bowl. Each member of the management / ownership team has direct roots in Chicago. More than 100 employees will be hired with an emphasis to hire from within the East Village and local community.

Chicago Bowl does not require any zoning changes or variances and will have its own dedicated parking lot on-site, meeting the city's required amount of parking spots. Additional parking (by valet) will also be made available in Alcalá's dedicated parking lot one block east. The architectural team will place an emphasis on making sure that the exterior of the building adds a pleasing visual look to the streetscape on Chicago Avenue.

Chicago Bowl is seeking a Public Place of Amusement license, as the City of Chicago requires that all bowling alleys have a PPA license. Chicago Bowl also will seek an incidental liquor license.

Web comments

At [facebook.com/eastvillagechicago](https://www.facebook.com/eastvillagechicago):

Eric Matthews: I'm excited about this development. It seems perfect for the neighborhood and the site. If it can't go forward without the lot, I still want it to go forward, especially considering how tough that site is to re-develop. I just think we s...ould always push back as hard as reasonably possible against turning buildings into parking. One place cities can't compete with suburbs is in the area of tons of cheap parking. If we try, it makes cities worse--because we lose what makes us cities--and the parking will still suck. Chicago isn't going to make the same mistake as Buffalo or St. Louis (bit.ly/dly6xi), in permitting half of it's built area to be turned into parking lots, but it can still happen to *parts* of Chicago. See More

Mike Senner: It's going to be a great use! welcome!

At news.eastvillagechicago.org:

MVD: The bowling alley is GREAT news -- that building has been vacant too long and, judging by the site for the Brooklyn location, it would be a perfect addition to the neighborhood.

TheLetterAHyphenTheNumberOne: It sounds like a great use for the building and a positive for the area. BUT, I really don't like the idea of tearing down a building for a parking lot on Chicago Ave. We simply shouldn't have any more parking lots facing major urban streets. IF a business needs lots of surface parking, it probably shouldn't be located in a dense urban area. It destroys the fabric of the neighborhood and is anti-urban.

There has to be a better solution. Think about how crummy those surface lots look by the McDonalds and Taco Bell at Addison and Clark, or the Walgreens on Chicago west of Western. Think about Western Ave in general. Those lots are anti-urban and anti-pedestrian and shouldn't be permitted in Berwyn, much less East Village.

MVD: I agree in concept, but I think it's a little lofty to worry about that as it applies to this project in this neighborhood. It's a huge bowling alley replacing an empty warehouse, on a street with a LOT of empty storefronts. I'd rather let them have their parking and establish an anchor for the neighborhood (and hopefully fill up some of those empty storefronts) even if the parking lot might be less than ideal.

Meagan: I agree with you MVD. Very exciting to have this entertainment venue moving in to this part of town. I've been watching Brooklyn Bowl for a while because I work for an upscale bowling alley, but not as upscale as BB. So bring it!

Bowling alley pins success to live music

Board meeting minutes for Sept. 14, 2010
submitted by Dana Palmer

Attendance: Board Members Greg Nagel, Neal McKnight, Dana Palmer, Scott Rappe, Stephen Rynkiewicz, Aaron Bilton and Tom Tomek; Non-Board Members: Rich Anselmo, Carol Mrowka, Kenan Obaid, Jason Maras and Pete Shapiro (with his two business partners). Meeting commenced: 6:29 p.m.

Chicago Bowl

Pete Shapiro presented plans to open a bowling alley at 1850 W. Chicago Ave. Shapiro currently has a successful bowling alley in Brooklyn, New York, that offers food from Blue Ribbon Restaurants and live performances. The current property is 23,000 square feet, the same size as the Brooklyn bowling alley. His plans are to mimic the Brooklyn space with 16 lanes of bowling and a restaurant with an area for live performances.

Shapiro plans to tear down the red brick building to the side of the main property for on-site parking, and is working with Alcalá's for additional parking at night. Shapiro is planning LEED certification for the main building, adding a second roof as a sound barrier.

Questions were raised by the group about curb cuts and the appeal of this to the neighborhood. Shapiro went on to explain that he does not plan any sidewalk use, is opting for an incidental liquor license that allows service until 2 a.m. weekdays and 3 a.m. weekends.

Chicago Bowl would employ about 100 new employees from the neighborhood and surrounding area, and serve only local beers. Hours of operation would be 6 p.m. until 2 a.m. on weekdays and 12 p.m. until 3 a.m. on weekends. The facility would be 21 and older after 6 p.m. and would have a door fee and no arcade or pool, in order to deter a younger crowd in the evenings. Shapiro stated that he needs a Public Place of Amusement license for the bowling alley and asks the group to support the license.

Polish Triangle

The board discussed ways of having a food or coffee vendor placed in the Triangle to improve the area. Scott Rappe will discuss this request with Ald. Joe Moreno.

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Dog waste cleanup

This issue was raised by resident Andre Kinaci at the last membership meeting. Ideas on how to alleviate dog nuisance were raised, such as posting signs from the Streets and Sanitation department, making signs to place in parkways and having waste bag dispensers throughout the neighborhood.

Scott Rappe agreed to speak with the alderman about obtaining waste bag dispensers. Dana Palmer agreed to make signs to post throughout the neighborhood and Greg Nagel agreed to a \$50 budget for the signs.

Augusta parking meters

Arguments were made that meters placed on Augusta from Winchester to Wolcott are unnecessary, and is reducing available parking on the Wolcott block where there is no zoned parking or permit parking. Scott Rappe agreed to discuss this issue with the alderman.

Summer barbecue

Greg Nagel reported that he obtained \$200 in Dominick's gift cards.

October membership meeting

Daniel Sirko with Birchwood Kitchen, 2211 W. North Ave., has agreed to do the business minute. Nicole Aquino with LaSalle II has agreed to be the guest speaker. Greg Nagel will be absent for this meeting and Neal McKnight has agreed to lead.

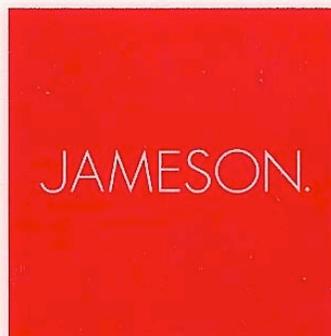
November membership meeting

Greg Nagel stated that he would e-mail Dan Nehm about being a guest speaker regarding energy-efficient windows. Rich Anselmo agreed to contact Bend yoga studio about possibly doing the business minute.

Treasurer report

Greg Nagel received an e-mail from treasurer Nicole Semple. She was able to fill out paperwork for a forwarding address; all funds were deposited in the bank and the new address was given to the bank. Meeting adjourned: 7:55 p.m.

Next membership meeting: October 4, 2010.



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West Town library: New Goldblatt's chapter

By M. Isaacson

An overflow crowd of dignitaries and library supporters attended a Sept. 11 ribbon-cutting ceremony for the newest Chicago Public Library facility.

The West Town branch opened on Sept. 7, and the following Saturday marked the dedication of this long-anticipated community resource.

The 13,300-square-foot facility is located on the first floor of the historic Goldblatt's Building at 1625 W. Chicago. It replaces two smaller storefront branches to the east and west on Chicago Avenue.

The Goldblatt's building was scheduled for demolition in 1997, when the chamber of commerce and some Chicago Avenue businesses were supporting a plan to sell the land to Delray Farms, a produce market that has since closed its Chicago stores.

East Village Association and other community members fought the demolition, and convinced Mayor Daley to purchase the building to house satellite city service offices.

The library collection, valued at \$300,000, includes materials in Spanish, Polish and Ukrainian. It also offers a record 60 public access computer terminals.

The Goldblatt's building was renovated and designed with the environment in mind, and LEED certification (Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design) is being sought from the U.S. Green Buildings Council.

Chicago Public Library Commissioner Mary Dempsey was joined by Mayor Richard Daley, aldermen Joseph Moreno (1st Ward), Scott Waguespack (32nd) and Walter Burnett (26th); and Acting Chairman of the Illinois Commerce Commission Manny Flores.

Special guests included members of the Goldblatt family, who were on hand to see this reincarnation of the family store. They each received a piece of the original white marble floor, uncovered during the renovation. This marble was also reused in the entryway of the library, one of the many "green" features of the building.



Web comments

Greg Nagel: This is a great improvement to our neighborhood. I personally want to thank Aaron Bilton, former EVA President and current Board Member, for championing this project over many years.

Much ado: Can dog waste be recycled?

EcoTip | By M. Isaacson

Depositing dog waste in garbage cans like other trash is better than leaving it lay. But it's not a benign solution. The number of dogs and the volume of waste they produce is a recognized environmental problem. So how does one dispose of dog waste responsibly?

Research cited at the Stormwater Manager's Resource Center finds that "non-human waste represents a significant source of bacterial contamination in urban watersheds." Specifically, these bacteria include escherichia coli (E.Coli) and salmonella, as well as parasites such as hookworm and roundworm. These pathogens can lead to human infection.

This contamination shows up in stormwater runoff when dog waste is left in place to degrade. Wrapping waste in plastic and sending it to today's modern sanitary landfill is no better: It concentrates the disease-breeding process.

The U.S. Environmental Protection Agency concludes in a 1993 report: "This evidence points to a need for enforcement and education to raise resident awareness regarding the water quality impacts of this urban pollutant source."

But what exactly should the concerned dog owner do? On this, the EPA is not too helpful. It posits the "Long Grass Principle": Dogs are attracted to long grass for defecating. Areas that are mowed less frequently can allow feces to disintegrate naturally.

The design of such a dog park should mitigate stormwater impacts. Given the difficulty of locating any dog parks in the city means this solution is not scalable.

Governments outside of the U.S. have been addressing the dog waste problem



more aggressively. Some locales have centralized collection points for waste dropoff, and the wastes are treated as part of the area's waste management policies.

The Australian government's Department of Environment is recommending picking up the waste in bags made from water-soluble material. Then the bag is flushed down the toilet, so the dog waste can then be treated along with human waste at treatment plants before being released into the water system.

There are also doggy loos, which I've seen in England. These disposal units are installed in the ground and decomposition occurs within the unit. In Vancouver, Canada, excrement of all types is banned from landfills.

You can learn about several methods of composting dog waste at the City Farmer website, which is also a good resource for all sorts of urban agriculture information.

The concept of recycling pet waste into an alternative energy source is often discussed, but until recently has never been implemented.

In San Francisco, where dogs outnumber children, a project was proposed but

couldn't overcome concerns about safety and other opposition.

However, a poop converter called Park Spark was established in Cambridge, Mass. It produces light and reduces greenhouse gases by burning methane. The converter looks like a modern sculpture and does not smell.

So, what should you do with your dog waste?

First, don't waste your money on fancy bags that will supposedly break down as they decompose. This will never occur in a sanitary landfill.

If you have space in your backyard, you can dig a deep hole with a fence-post digger. An EPA bulletin says to bury 3 to 4 inches of pet waste at the bottom, chop and mix waste into the soil with a shovel, then cover with 8 inches of soil to keep rodents and pets from digging them up. Don't try this in a vegetable garden.

There is also the Doggie Dooley, an in-ground collection container that uses enzymes to break down waste. I tried one of these, but found the hard clay soil here was an impediment to decomposition.

After researching this article, I am convinced to try again. Or maybe we can start fund-raising for our own Park Spark!

Earth Wind & Solar Energy

Interested in food, fun and green drinks? Interested in the latest green energy technology, from urban-friendly vertical axis wind turbines to sun-loving solar panels?

Stop by Earth Wind & Solar Energy's office from noon to 9 pm Friday, Oct. 15 at 2350 W. Grand to check out all of the above. Snacks, chocolates and green drinks will be on hand to fuel your body, as well as displays of renewable energy technology that can be used to fuel your home. Make sure you don't miss the fully functional solar thermal hot water system (and feel free to test it out by washing drops of chocolate off of your hands!).

The long and short of Division Street plans

Membership meeting minutes for Sept. 7, 2010 submitted by Dana Palmer

Meeting commenced at 7:10 p.m. with Business Minute presented by Wayne Janik of Janik's Cafe. The cafe at 2011 W. Division is open 7 days a week from 8 a.m.-4 p.m. serving breakfast and lunch. Breakfast is served all day. Alcohol is available as well as delivery options, catering and online ordering.

Eleanor Mayer, program assistant for Wicker Park Bucktown (WPB) Special Service Area 33, presented a report, "Placemaking at the Polish Triangle," that outlines micro, mezzo and macro plans to improve the Polish Triangle at Division, Ashland and Milwaukee.

Several micro-level plans already are taking place: volunteer cleaning crews, lights on the trees for the holiday season, public events such as a bike-light handout and a Halloween parade. Some ideas at the mezzo and macro level involve landscape improvements, vendor carts, public art and improving the appearance of the train stations.

Now that there is a tangible plan in place, Mayer said, when money is available WPB will be able to act quickly to put the plans in action.

Aaron Bilton announced that the Chicago Public Library's West Town branch is now open and has a grand opening scheduled for Sept. 11, 2010, and the Commercial Park Advisory Council is hosting a wine tasting from 7-9 Sept. 16 as a fund-raiser.

Trees on Augusta: Neal McKnight is in the process of setting a date with arborist Mark Duntemann to do a tree census of the East Village neighborhood.

Greg Nagel announced development news with a condo project at 1624 W. Division, sale of the old Mas restaurant building at 1670 W Division, and work being done for a possible restaurant. The old AAA Distributing Co. building at 1830 W. Chicago is desired as a potential bowling alley, and St. Mary of Nazareth Hospital Center is interested in doing more community development.

Paul Haase announced that he and his wife are raising funds for the re-election of Ald. Joe Moreno with an event on Oct. 21.

Andrew Kinaci raised an issue with the group about dog waste nuisance. He agreed to write an article about the effects of not



Eleanor Mayer, WPB Program Assistant, discusses the "Placemaking at the Polish Triangle" report with East Village Association member Christopher Long. Mayer said planning on the Blue Line renovations at Division is slated to start next year.

cleaning up after your dogs. The group brainstormed possible solutions such as posting signs about waste attracting rats as well as signs just reminding people to pick up the waste. Other suggestions were made such as having bag dispensers and more garbage cans in the area. This issue was agreed to be further discussed at the board meeting.

An issue was also raised about new parking meters placed on Augusta from Winchester to Wolcott. The complaint was that this is primarily a residential area and that the meters are being unused during the day due to enough parking already existing on Augusta. This issue was agreed to be further discussed at the board meeting. Meeting adjourned: 8:40 p.m.

Monday's guest speaker: Nicole Aquino, LaSalle II school

7pm at Happy Village, Wolcott & Thomas