

Subject: [DPNeBlast] More candidates named, going to Isaac Fox, CN Derails in Buffalo Grove

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Conversation: More candidates named, going to Isaac Fox, CN Derails in Buffalo Grove

host_name

Greetings, Neighbors,

VODP BOT Meeting, Monday, Jan. 19 (President's Day), 7pm, at The Barn.

See our front page at <http://deerparkneighbors.com> for links to the Agenda for Monday as well as November's approved minutes. As we go to "send," the Administrator's memo is NOT posted. We hope to see that terrific document, which gives context to the Agenda items. Remember, the packet for Monday's meeting, that is those documents that the trustees read before they hope (at least, they're supposed to!) can be reviewed at Village Hall or at the meeting. By the way, some people do tend to hog the agenda packet in the audience. However, in the past, nominees have been provided their own copy of the packet, as an electoral courtesy as they prepare to serve upon victory. But while we used to have at least two copies for the audience at public meetings, lately, we've found only one! So get there a few minutes early, and if you are done reading about your special interest, please pass the packet along or divide it up among attendees.

Note especially on the agenda that Trustee Kellermann will be presenting the 10 and 15 year Road Plan, later in the meeting under his report. Why is this significant? The amounts are huge, and the funding is not there. According to the news story (see below), President Gifford is now interested in finding funding other than a sales tax referendum. Of course, the defeat of his referendum effort in 2008 was a 59% "NO" vote. Was that also a vote of "no confidence" for the Gifford administration? Will President Gifford bring his new ideas into the board deliberations right now, or is his rhetoric only political? Trustee Kellermann, on the other hand, currently administers the Road Program—and indeed many of you comment that Bob actually comes out, answers your calls and emails, and keeps you up to date. So the question comes down to this. We know that more than \$12 million is required in the next 10 years. Whence cometh the cash? That question is sure to be one of the top three in this election:

- Funding village infrastructure
- Recovering \$1,000,000 re the Barn project

- The vision for this village: Once the roads are fixed, what lies ahead for the Deer Park family of residents and business owners.

This should be an interesting meeting, if only for the fact that President Gifford and Trustee Kellermann, in addition to their duties, are also rivals for the top chair. And so the fun begins.

ELECTION NEWS

Well, the battle is joined, and confirmed from a number of sources. There will be two candidates running with President Gifford, two gentlemen who have been serving as appointed officials. Bill Koutsis of the Planning Commission since 2004 and Bill Michael of the Zoning Board of Appeals since 2006. Both were Gifford appointees. Full story:

<http://www.pioneerlocal.com/lakezurich/news/1377373,lz-giffordrun-011309-s1.article>

We hope to be able to name the other candidates running for the 3 Trustee seats. In any case, Deer Park Neighbors will be at Village Hall Monday morning, 9AM, the first day of nominee packet submissions. Remember, those at the door first Monday as well as packets that arrive by mail during the day Monday will have their names placed into a lottery to determine the order on the ballot. But ballot order is rarely significant in a small town like ours. After all, we're supposed to know each other by more than name, but by reputation and by friendship.

CN DERAILS IN BUFFALO GROVE—for more information, see below and see <http://fightrailcongestion.com> and

<http://www.chicagobreakingnews.com/2009/01/metra-north-central-train-service-canceled.html>

TRAC makes the following statement in response to today's derailment of a CN train carrying hazardous materials in Buffalo Grove, IL:

"Canadian National's safety record continues to be deplorable. Today's derailment in Buffalo Grove underscores a recent report by the Canadian Government where Canadian National Railway received the lowest grade possible on implementing safety management systems designed to offset accidents and other safety hazards.

The U.S. government ignored these facts and approved a deal allowing Canadian

National to increase rail traffic 400% in dozens of communities throughout Chicagoland. The frightening reality is that if a derailment similar to the one today, occurred along the EJ, it would paralyze our towns. The monster trains Canadian National plans to run through our residential areas would block many, and in some cases, all crossings in a community."

DISTRICT 95 BOUNDARY

Thank you to Sara Guarisco, Neighbor and Parent, who has been following the boundary deliberations. Sara writes, "Well, it's confirmed, it looks like the district 95 rezoning will FINALLY send all of our kids to the same grade school!!! We're set for Isaac Fox in BOTH recommended final decisions."

<http://www.lz95.org/lzboe/boundary.htm>

Sara has long been a proponent of the ability to walk or bike to school with our kids, something that was impossible when they had to cross Rand Road and go great distances. Parents will still have the challenge of no sidewalks to speak of; that's a matter for another time. Should the one of the recommended solutions be finalized, we believe that a great wound within the village will be healed. There's always been a psychological division within the village; this was one of the souces. Those of us who have already raised our families know how important the relationships developed among families during "schools days" can be.

We have posted other regarding the Analysis of the realignment of elementary and middle school boundaries. Please visit our web site, <http://deerparkneighbors.com/pages/education.html>. The dates for upcoming community forums regarding the superintendent's recommendate follow. All are at 7-8:30pm:

- January 28, 2009 - May Whitney School Gymnasium
- February 3, 2009 - Middle School South Gymnasium
- February 9, 2009 - Middle School North Cafetorium

FROM FIGHT RAIL CONGESTION

The United States Court of Appeals for the District of Columbia has responded to the Village of Barrington's court challenge stay position on the Surface Transportation Board's (STB) decision approving Canadian National's takeover of the Elgin, Joliet and Eastern (EJ) Railway.

In a ruling issued Tuesday, the court set a timetable for reviewing the Barrington Coalition's Stay request. Respondents must file comments by Friday, January

16th. The court has then given Barrington the opportunity to reply to any filed comments before a deadline of Wednesday, January 21st. This means that the court is acting on a timetable that could stay the STB decision before its effective date.

"We are very pleased that the courts have quickly moved to address our concerns in a timely manner. We will continue to challenge the Surface Transportation Board's ruling on behalf of the thousands of area residents who will be negatively impacted if Canadian National's misguided plan is allowed to continue," said Karen Darch, Barrington Village President and spokesperson For Barrington Communities Against CN Rail Congestion.

Barrington officials charge that the STB acted incorrectly when it approved the highly controversial takeover. The stay petition notes that the STB did not take into account numerous problems previously identified by opponents to the transaction during the environmental impact statement process.

According to the stay petition, the draft and final versions of the Environmental Impact Statement (which were adopted as part of the Board's Christmas Eve-issued decision) contained numerous violations of the National Environmental Policy Act (NEPA). Barrington officials are charging that the STB failed to analyze all reasonable alternatives to the transaction and the reasonably foreseeable effects of additional track construction on the lines to be acquired.

Since CN announced its intention to purchase the EJ railroad in 2007, dozens of communities from Illinois and Indiana, transportation planning groups, and elected leaders in Washington have raised serious concerns about the short and long term negative ramifications stemming from this purchase.

The Village of Barrington is a member of Barrington Communities Against CN Rail Congestion and The Regional Answer to Canadian National (TRAC) which represent dozens of communities in Illinois and Indiana. This bipartisan coalition was organized out of concern that significant issues related to public safety, environment, traffic gridlock, emergency response times and economic losses were not being adequately dealt with by Canadian National Railway (CN). For more information visit <http://fightrailcongestion.com>.

SNOW

We've had several reports of Ela Township snow plows out in our neighborhoods, even though the "fired" our village as their customer for snow clearing. Supposedly, their equipment wasn't right-sized for our cul-de-sacs. But our new

plowing service, Cuba Township, seems to have had to call in the troops during the big snows. Well, it was a great deal of snow, and we all have to work together—because together, we are stronger.

Having a problem with the snow plowing? Yes, there's a web site for that, too! "Fill out this form and submit for general questions or requests for winter related road service such as plowing and or salting. During snow and Ice removal operations we will check submissions regularly during this period" Here ya go!
<http://www.cubaroads.com/winter/>

If you would like to see a nice newsletter come out with an overview of the issues, profiles of the candidates, their platform and planks, and photos, too—a real newsletter, in print, something you can hold and share, well, two things have to happen. First, the candidates will have to agree to be interviewed by Deer Park Neighbors. We hope that work we've done and the credibility we've built will give them the confidence to be covered fairly and completely. In other words, output rather than input. Their prepared statements are helpful, to a point, but we would like to ask direct questions that cover all areas of village governance. Health, Finance, Parks, Zoning, Public Safety, Roads.

The second part of our plan involves YOU. We simply need more of your to take out a paid subscription. Any amount is appreciated, and let us reiterate. NOT ONE PENNY WILL BE GIVEN TO ANY CANDIDATE, nor used for any partisan purpose. Rather, we use subscriptions and advertising dollars to pay for web hosting, camera equipment and—for printed materials—reproduction and postage.

We will also use our voice to urge unregistered adults to register to vote AND turn out in April. It takes 5 minutes to cast your ballot. It takes four years to regret the outcome. This election, where a simply majority—1 president and 3 trustees—could completely transform the direction of this village. Or keep it going the way it is. It's up to you, but if you don't vote, a) you don't affect the outcome, and B) when undervoting occurs, you have an administration without a clear or credible mandate.

Keep warm, and don't forget, no matter how short the errand, have gloves, a hat and warm boots or shoes in your car. Ya never know when bad weather can bring you to an unexpected delay.

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