

Spring, 2019

# SOUTHEAST EVANSTON ASSOCIATION

## Chicago Avenue Development

At a 4-4-'19 Town Hall Meeting, hosted by Alderman Melissa Wynne, community members were asked to provide input on guidelines for acceptable redevelopment of the 3-parcel property on the west side of Chicago Ave. that currently houses The Autobarn and Oscar Isberian Rugs. Participants generated many good ideas, with consensus around a number of aspects, including: sidewalk width, lighting and parking/traffic patterns that provide safety for bikers and pedestrians; improved aesthetics; and inclusion of experience-based options to increase activity in the area. Design and zoning changes are yet to be determined.

No formal proposal has yet be submitted to the City of Evanston. It is hoped that these early and inclusive discussions will facilitate the development process once initiated. SEA will monitor next steps but is optimistic that the guidance provided and the intentions of the owners will result in a more beautiful and flourishing south Chicago Avenue.

## Harley Clarke Moves Ahead

Phase I: *Save Harley Clarke* was a resounding success and a fine example of grass roots citizenship in action. This beautiful historic lakefront home was saved from demolition by the dedicated actions of community members who wished to see this Evanston landmark saved and put to use for the benefit of Evanston residents.

Phase II: *Harley Clarke Community*: now the work of restoring Harley Clarke to imaginative and productive life is ongoing. Community forums have been held at the civic center and residents have had the opportunity to share their thoughts and concerns. On April 4th, residents had the opportunity to listen to and ask questions of other Illinois adaptive reuse house executive directors.

Phase III: The *RFP* is now available. The deadline for submission is February 28, 2020.



On April 20th, SEA hosted a South Beach Clean Up effort. On this beautiful sunny, albeit blustery day, neighbors picked up 23 pounds of litter. Photos were taken and will be posted to our website. Our intrepid team leader, Sheila Sullivan, did a fantastic job organizing the morning. Donuts and camaraderie were shared by all.



FOUNTAIN SQUARE 100  
YEARS AGO

## People are:

**Commenting about** the Mother's Day walk, hosted by the Evanston History Center that took place in May. This is always a fun day as generous Evanstonians open their beautiful, often historic, homes to neighbors.

**Looking forward to** SEA's upcoming wine and cheese social with guest speaker Morris "Dino" Robinson. Dino will discuss "African American Residents and Developers on the North Shore. Free to members. \$5 for non members.

**Enthusiastic about** the opportunity to tour the historic Harley Clarke mansion, Evanston's only public lakefront home. The next scheduled days for touring Harley Clarke are July 1st and 2nd.

SEA members recognize and appreciate the special benefits that living in a beautiful and culturally vibrant community like Evanston confers. To that end, SEA is mindful of issues that impact the community. SEA welcomes feedback and suggestions from the Evanston community. [info@southeastevanston.org](mailto:info@southeastevanston.org). As always SEA sends a big "thank you" to David and Holly Reynolds for allowing us to use their beautiful Inn, the Homestead, for SEA meetings.

