



Near North Unity Program (NNUP)  
Membership Meeting NOTES  
6:00 pm - 7:30 pm  
Monday, March 25, 2024

In Person Meeting  
Cornerstone Center, 1111 N Wells

## Welcome & Introductions

- Review Question and Answer Guidelines

## AGENDA

- **Cook County**
  - **Dennis Deer, 2nd District Commissioner**
  - **2nd District did not attend the meeting but Jasmine from the 3rd Cook County District was present.**
    - **There is a Pathways to Cook County Summit, April 9th, at UIC Forum.**
    - **Forum to help businesses work with the County.**
      - **Talk about grants and business opportunities.**
- **Illinois Attorney General Office**
  - **Sonya Tompkins, Outreach Liaison**
    - **GrandParents Scam, Some calls pretending to be your grandchild and says don't tell Mom/Dad then asks you for money. Usually asks for you to purchase gift cards, to wire money, Make sure not to give out your name otherwise then they'll use it like they know you. Hang up and call your Grandchild directly.**
    - **Sweetheart Scam, on-line dating when you connect with a person you don't know. Sometimes people feel lonely and want to connect with other Seniors. The scam artist waits and baits for 3-4 months before asking for money and usually has 4-5 people they are scamming at a time. They show pictures of their exciting life while using others' money. Victims are often embarrassed to tell others they fell victim to this scam.**
    - **Home Repair Scam is the number 1 scam. Your home is the most precious thing. Most times the scammer is the one that gives you the lowest price. Check credentials and listen to what the person is saying. Get a contract. Don't let people in your home who just appear at the door. Scammers will tell you they can give you a good price because they have material left over from another job. Try to get a referral from a neighbor or a friend. Scammers take your money and never finish the job. Report to the Police and the Illinois Attorney General. If you're over 65 you have 15 days to cancel a contract.**
    - **Bereavement scam. Scammers try to collect debts of your friend or relative that died. Debt dies with the person.**

- IRS or Social Security scam. Scammer calls and tells you they will arrest you if you don't pay money.
  - Charity scam. Scammers call and say they represent a charity and ask you for money. You can check with the Illinois Attorney General list to see if the charity is listed as reputable before giving money.
  - Mortgage scam. Someone calls you and says they have a deal on mortgages. You should never talk about mortgages with someone who called you that you do not know.
  - FreeTrial or Work at Home scams. Scammers will call you. Don't give out personal information. Always check credentials.
  - Consumer protection the Illinois Attorney General can help. They have 500 free attorneys. If you need help, call or go on-line.
    - You can do a credit freeze.
    - Do not Call Registry has to be renewed every 6 months.
    - Don't say anything if you answer and don't know the person asking questions. Hang up.
    - Everytime you enter your email somewhere it's a chance for someone to have access to your information. Unsubscribe.
  - Crime Victim Services if you are a Victim of Violent Crimes you can receive up to 27,000 dollars for medical costs and services.
  - The Movie "I Care A lot" is a good movie to see for Seniors.
- Art House Presentation (All of Mankind mural and building)
  - 617 W Evergreen
    - Merk Elliston, Entrepreneur
    - Presentation about the process and vision to restore and reuse 617 W Evergreen.
    - Merk is a Former resident of Cabrini Green and successful Entrepreneur along with his Partner Sh'Don are working to create the Cabrini Art house at 617 W Evergreen. 617 W Evergreen is the former Strangers home Baptist church and has white washed murals from William Walker inside and outside. Including the "All of Mankind" mural.
      - Merk and his company have already done 4 creative spaces where there's shared work and art spaces.
      - Marc Borz owns the building now. Trying to purchase from him. Looking to see if somehow Mr. Borz could donate the building or do a lease/purchase for property.
      - Talked about grant opportunities and how those from the community could help the effort. There is a lot of history about Cabrini Green to share and this building is one of the last standing structures from the demolition of the high rise buildings on Evergreen.
- March 30th there is a 27th Ward Affordable Housing Forum. Alderman Burnett gives details and answers questions about the event.
- Easter Egg Hunt
  - 18th District/Seward Park March 30th

- **March 27 - Mather Senior Meeting, St Matthew, 1000 N Orleans, 10am**
- **April 11 - Seward PAC meeting, 375 W Elm, 6 pm**
- **April 16 - Stanton Park PAC meeting, via Zoom, 6 pm**
- **April 25 - CHA Resident Event, Seward Park, 1-5 pm**
- **April 29 - NNUP Monthly meeting, 1111 N Wells, 6 pm**