



**Village of Oak Park Board of Trustees  
January 3, 2010**

*Cathy Sweitzer, Observer*

The meeting convened at 7:35 with all members of the Board present. Deputy Manager Lisa Shelley sat in for Village Manager Tom Barwin.

Cavalcade of Pride winners received their awards from the Community Design Commission and Village President David Pope. The awards recognized outstanding examples of beautification and maintenance of homes, apartments and commercial properties. “Best block” and “best sign” also received awards.

Public Health Director Margaret Provost-Fyfe updated the Board on H1N1 vaccinations. Almost 8,000 inoculations have been successfully administered. Some 700 more are scheduled. Enough vaccine is on hand to now offer it to the general public. Director Provost-Fyfe urges villagers of all ages to be vaccinated to deter the spread of the disease, which seems to have abated at the moment but may surge again in spring. She especially reminded parents with young children to make an appointment for the second round of vaccination recommended for kids under 10.

Villager George Lazewski offered a public comment concerning the recently approved budget figures for police pension funds. (He also supplied the Board with documents that this observer does not have on hand.) He noted that the budget figures allotted were lower than either those recommended by the State or by the Village accountant. He is concerned about the unfunded liability of the pension fund. Investments are not living up to the anticipated 8% growth. He requested a meeting of the Pension Fund Board and the Village Board. President Pope said that such a meeting is already in the works for later in January or February.

A number of Board Members expressed their delight at the recent announcement from the Illinois Department of Transportation that Oak Park will receive \$7 million in state and federal funds for the improvement of the Roosevelt Road corridor between Austin Boulevard and Harlem Avenue. Board members thanked President Pope for his steadfast commitment to the project and the process. Pope in turn praised the cooperation of the three communities involved: Berwyn, Cicero and Oak Park. The improvements will feature a pedestrian-friendly streetscape, resurfaced roadways, and bike path signage, among other things. Work will begin in summer 2010.

Village Clerk Teresa Powell reminded everyone that January 5 would be the last day to officially register to vote for the February elections. Both Village Hall and the Township Office offered registration opportunities. Clerk Powell also suggested that those who miss this last registration opportunity may still register during the “grace period” from January 6-24 at the County Clerk’s Office downtown or at several suburban courthouses. Those who do so, should be prepared to vote an

absentee ballot on the same day. More information on the grace period and absentee voting is available at County Clerk David Orr's Website: <http://www.cookcountyclerk.com>.

Clerk Powell also reminded the group of the need for census takers, noting that her office handles applications for this position. Trustee Colette Lueck added a pitch for thinking of new ways to attract villagers to volunteer for local board and commission openings. She praised the important work these villagers do for the community.

Trustee Ray Johnson expressed the hope for an informal meeting with the public to answer questions about the Lake and Forest development project, after the Planning Commission finalizes its report. He is concerned that misconceptions still abound. He also hopes that Oak Park will join the city of Chicago in issuing a resolution in support of Park National Bank.

The meeting adjourned with wishes for a Happy New Year from all at 8:30 p.m.

<http://www.oak-park.us/Agendas/index.htm>