



For Immediate Release: 01.28.09

From: David Powers
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Village Clerk
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Candidates certified for local April election

Oak Park Village Clerk Sandra Sokol has filed with Cook County the unofficial certification of the petitions of candidates seeking election in April to the boards of the Village, the Oak Park Public Library and the Oak Park Park District. Official certification does not occur until after a formal objection period.

Seven candidates filed petitions to be candidates for three seats on the Oak Park Village Board, two filed petitions seeking the board presidency and two candidates are seeking the Office of Village Clerk. Five candidates filed to run as trustees for the Library Board and four filed to be Park District commissioners.

Among the Oak Park Village Board candidate petitions certified is an independent candidate who claims on his documents to be homeless and listed a U.S. Post Office box in Oak Park as his address. While state law requires a candidate for municipal office to be a resident of the jurisdiction for at least one year prior to seeking office, Sokol said the law does not speak to the issue of a homeless candidate.

"After careful consideration of the situation, I am not convinced that Oak Park should become a test case for the right of the homeless to seek elective office," Sokol said. "Rather than challenging a candidate's eligibility under such uncertain circumstances, I believe it is in the best interest of the community to let the voters decide."

Even though the Village Clerk certifies the petitions, challenges to candidate nominating petitions may be filed by any interested party through Feb. 2. Formal objections launch a review process that impanels an electoral board that includes the Village Clerk, Village President and the senior most member of the Village Board of Trustees, who rule on the validity of the objections.

For more information on local elections, call 708.358.5670, e-mail clerk@oak-park.us or visit www.oak-park.us/villageclerk.

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(Editor: List of candidates is attached)

Village President, Trustee and Clerk Candidates Consolidated Election 4-7-09

Citizens For Responsible Leadership

(4 Year Term)

President

David Pope
525 S. Lombard
Oak Park, IL 60304

Trustee

Glen Brewer
1140 Home
Oak Park, IL 60304

John Hedges
320 S. Scoville
Oak Park, IL 60302

Colette Lueck
307 S. Taylor
Oak Park, IL 60302

Clerk

Teresa Powell
700 S. Lombard
Oak Park, IL 60304

It Takes A Village

(4 Year Term)

President

Gary Schwab
316 N. Oak Park
Oak Park, IL 60302

Trustee

John Franklin
128 Washington Blvd, #2N
Oak Park, IL 60302

Kathryn Jonas
124 S. East Ave.
Oak Park, IL 60302

Julie Samuels
613 S. Lombard
Oak Park, IL 60304

Clerk

Sharon Patchak-Layman
612 S. Lyman
Oak Park, IL 60304

Independent

(4 Year Term)

Trustee

Daniel E. Fore
P.O. Box 1104
Oak Park, IL 60304

2009 CONSOLIDATED ELECTION CANDIDATES FOR LIBRARY AND PARK DISTRICT

LIBRARY TRUSTEE CANDIDATES

Matthew Fruth
800 Wasington Blvd., #203
Oak Park, IL 60302

Gary Johnson
124 S. East Ave.
Oak Park, IL 60302

Bruce Samuels
613 S. Lombard
Oak Park, IL 60304

Mila Tellez
223 S. Grove
Oak Park, IL 60302

Cheryl G. Weiss
114 S. Maple, #A-2
Oak Park, IL 60302

PARK DISTRICT COMMISSIONER CANDIDATES

Martin J. Bracco
128 S. Cuyler
Oak Park, IL 60302

Christine Graves
1171 S. Kenilworth
Oak Park, IL 60304

Naomi Hildner
907 N. Lombard
Oak Park, IL 60302

Gregg J. Kuenster
1009 Wisconsin
Oak Park, IL 60304