

Deer Park Neighbors 2009 Candidate Profile

The following information has been provided by the candidate, in his/her own words. Candidates are free to amend or update this statement at any time, reflected in the date. No alterations to the following have been made, other than to re-format for convenient online viewing. BE SURE TO SCROLL DOWN TO SEE THE ENTIRE PROFILE, WHICH MAY RUN TO ADDITIONAL PAGES. For further candidate information, please contact the candidate directly. Other inquiries: info@deerparkneighbors.com or 847-867-1867.

TODAY'S DATE

Feb. 27, 2009

RUNNING FOR:

Trustee, Village of Deer Park

[PHOTO WILL BE INSERTED HERE]

NAME (additional background appears at the end of this profile)

Keith D. Olson

AGE (OPTIONAL)

55

ADDRESS AND SUBDIVISION

205 Rue Touraine, Rue Vallee

PHONE, EMAIL AND WEB SITE

H: 847 438 2274

keithdolson@comcast.net

WHO OR WHAT INSPIRED YOU TO RUN FOR OFFICE IN 2009?

Information leading me to believe Deer Park needs the help of people like myself.

HOW HAVE YOU PREPARED TO RUN FOR THIS OFFICE?

With a group of similar minded people, who hope to provide improvements to Village leadership. Our campaign's game plan is not being made public though. Personally, I have not prepared for this specifically, but have been active in many things which helped prepare me as a qualified candidate. I am becoming more familiar with local issues since entering the campaign, but can't claim anywhere near the expertise of my running mates in such matters. Two of them were part of the group who gave Deer Park a substantial surplus and a (since neglected) road maintenance program, prior to the current administration. All three have many years of involvement in Deer Park.

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DO YOU ANTICIPATE ANY PROFESSIONAL OR PERSONAL POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH THE ACTIVITIES OF THE BOARD OF TRUSTEES?

No.

DO YOU ANTICIPATE ANY PROFESSIONAL OR PERSONAL POTENTIAL CONFLICT OF INTEREST WITH ANY CORPORATE OR NONPROFIT ORGANIZATION LOCATED IN THE VILLAGE OF DEER PARK?

No.

WHAT DO YOU SEE AS THE TOP 3 CHALLENGES IN DEER PARK IN THE NEXT 4 YEARS?

Reversing years of deficit spending and restoring some surplus for unexpected “rainy days”.
Establishing greater transparency in Village Board activities.
Keeping the roads and drainage in good condition, with improvements as scheduled, and repairs with dispatch.

And I would add a 4th item

Increasing Deer Park resident’s ability to remain in their homes in case of various emergencies.

WHAT ARE YOUR TOP 3 GOALS FOR THE NEXT 4 YEARS?

1. Help get wasteful spending down and responsiveness from government up.
2. Advance Deer Park as a model 21st century community with various alternative energy generation facilities and a variety of programs to help people do simple home improvements which can pay big dividends in case of power or gas outages. For individuals, for example, the village can at least streamline the process of applying for the installation of a gas generator, and perhaps put together volume purchase and service contracts. High efficiency stove inserts for fireplaces can be unsightly, or they can be very attractive, and they can provide enough heat to keep a typical Deer Park home inhabitable in January if there is no natural gas. People should be encouraged to do such an upgrade, and the village should be able to assist with finding a volume purchase and maintenance solution. Residents could thus obtain a more uniform level of quality in these matters, keeping our homes attractive and practical. Supplemental burning of waste wood could reduce our cumulative gas consumption, particularly if waste wood from forest preserves were made conveniently available to residents and that were publicized. Many people like having a fire, but don’t use their fireplaces because of inefficiency, and practically nobody burns wood in their old fireplaces.

I would also like to propose that we attract investors to put wind generators in some areas of the Village, which can provide many benefits. Forest preserve land could be used, ideally, to give us income, at least some degree of energy self sufficiency, and towers on which to place cameras for traffic / security use, cell phone transmitters and sirens. The amount of land needed at the base of a wind generator is not very large, damage to the woodlands would be temporary and minor during construction. This kind of infrastructure enhancement is very eco-friendly, reducing the need for nuclear or coal generator’s to burn their fuel and transmit it over

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distance. Perhaps the Obama administration could use Deer Park as a test site, providing local jobs and a great PR coup for the community. These are some “far out” personal ideas, but I’d like to see if I can generate resident’s interest and, if so, results from the ideas.

On a more pedestrian plane, I might be able to help the village make better use of some software technologies, making “dealing with the village” more efficient for everyone.

WHAT ARE THE MOST POSITIVE THINGS YOU SEE IN DEER PARK?

Great people living in a beautiful setting, with lots of opportunity to improve but much to offer today.

WHAT WOULD YOU MOST LIKE TO SEE TRANSFORMED?

Village board philosophy and decision making habits.

ADDITIONAL STATEMENT/INFORMATION.

IN WHAT WAYS ARE YOU ACCESSIBLE TO VOTERS?

Email is my preferred communication medium, but I’ve listed my home phone and will provide my cell phone on individual request.

PROFESSIONAL EXPERIENCE (BEGINNING WITH MOST RECENT)

I’m an independent consultant, working occasionally with accounting software. I’m semi retired and working on a couple of business ventures. The last corporate job I had was with Blackman Kallick LLP, where I was, among other things, responsible for helping firm clients prepare for Y2K. I have worked for Platinum Software, Reuters, Container Corp. of America and International Harvester, since graduate school. Several of my former employers effectively went bust during my tenure, but I don’t think I’m cursed.

VOLUNTEER EXPERIENCE

Treasurer, Viking Ship Restoration, 1981 to present. I contribute to various charities, but not a lot and not to any one charity regularly. I have done volunteer video work for charities on several occasions.

ADDITIONAL PERSONAL BACKGROUND

I moved around a lot as a kid, and some of the moves were to and around Europe. I spent 3 years in a Danish school and 2 in a Swedish one. I have retained my affiliation with Scandinavia and have many Danish and Swedish friends in the Chicagoland area.

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YEARS IN DEER PARK

Since August 2006.

PREVIOUS RESIDENCIES IN OTHER COMMUNITIES

Elk Grove Village, about 10 years, several apartments downtown during the 80's and 90's, a stint in Arlington Hgts, a year in Schaumburg. I moved with my jobs, or ex-fiancé, until settling in Elk Grove Village.

CURRENT MUNICIPAL EXPERIENCE (PAID, ELECTED, VOLUNTEER)

None

PREVIOUS MUNICIPAL EXPERIENCE (PAID, ELECTED OR VOLUNTEER)

None, though I have been active in politics and interested in government since my teens.

CURRENT AFFILIATIONS (MEMBERSHIPS, BOARDS, NETWORKINGS, ETC.)

Viking Ship Restoration Committee, Mid West Danish American Chamber of Commerce, North American chapter of the Danish Royal Guard Society (associate member).

ANY OTHER QUESTIONS YOU WISH WE HAD ASKED?