

# COMMUNITY TOWN MEETING

---

43rd Ward Alderman Michele Smith presided over the meeting at the St. Vincent DePaul Center, 2145 North Halsted, on Monday, September 26 at 6:00 pm. 12th District State Representative Sara Feigenholtz addressed some sensitive issues needing transparency... an update on the Illinois State budget proceedings as well as the issue of pension and politics in the forefront of recent news and editorials. Scheduled speaker, Senate President John Cullerton, the only member of the 10-member committee on the pension legislation in 1991 still serving, was not present at the meeting.

In a lighter moment, Rep. Feigenholtz told the audience her age, 55, and that she had no intention of ever retiring. Serving constituents keeps her young, she says. Today she's third in seniority in the House with nine terms and Chairs the House Human Services Appropriations and the Adoption Reform Committee. Other guest speakers that evening: First term 11th District State Rep. Ann Williams and 10th District State Rep. Derrick Smith; also, first full term 9th District State Rep. Art Turner and State Senator, Annazette Collins, former 10th District State Representative.

A community town hall meeting is a great way to have a one-on-one with officials who represent our wards and districts. Those elected need and want to hear our concerns and positions... individually and collectively our voice can make a difference! With the avalanche of issues before city and state government today, it will require the input of a community to get us back on track and correct past actions. To receive notice of future community meetings, sign up to receive email notification on the websites of 43rd Ward Alderman Michele Smith, 42nd Ward Alderman Brendan Reilly and State Representative Sara Feigenholtz.