

Special Service Area #61
SSA Board of Commissioners Minutes
Tuesday, December 14, 2021
Virtual Meeting

Present: Greg Guttman, Angie Marks, Charles Newsome, James Nurss, Mary Rogel, George Rumsey, Wendy Williams

Absent: Anthony Beach, Shaka Mitchell, Nancy Stanek, Eric Thompson,

Also Present: Diane Burnham (SSA Program Manager, Interim), Sue Freehling (SECC), Wallace Goode (HPCC), Isaac Greene (Accountant), Jared Kelly (CEI Media Group), Mike McGarry, and Rev. Charlene Hill

A quorum being present, Chairman Rumsey called the meeting of SSA #61 to order at 11:07 a.m. Pursuant to the applicable law and his determination that attendance by remote means is necessary because an in-person meeting is not practical nor prudent due to the declared public health disaster cause by COVID-19, this meeting was conducted by videoconference. The meeting was recorded and is available at <http://www.downtownhydeparkchicago.com/> and on YouTube.

Reading/Approval of the Minutes:

The minutes for the October 26th SSA meeting were accepted as circulated.

Questions and Comments from Guests (*per the city should occur at beginning of meetings 3-minute limit*). None

SSA Financials w/Budget Tracker – D. Burnham/G. Rumsey/I. Greene

The SSA has funds on hand totaling \$87,605 and assets total \$369,021. All liabilities have been paid down and the program has a net surplus. Budget vs. Actual – another \$20,000 in expenses are expected for December. Ninety three percent of the budget has been spent (\$254,432.50) against the levy of \$273,421.

Hyde Park Chamber News – W. Goode

The Chamber has had 10 new business join as of November 2021. The Chamber wants to continue to be supportive of the SSA program and the questions and comments at the forefront are:

1. How can we be of service to the SSA #61?
2. Developing a Hyde Park Discover Center: Focal and Accessible area
3. “Crossroad”; audience? – shoppers, foodies, etc.

4. Residents – more involved; needs more staffing
5. Calendar of Events – series of ads; up-to-the-minute promotional
6. 4th on 53rd & NPAC – HPCC is interested in taking the lead on organizing the parade event only. The other two activities – Summer Concert Series and Park Activities – should be separate events.
7. Security – Partner with SSA to place cameras in all the businesses along 53rd Street. The cost would be \$100 per business. In addition, incorporate security foot patrols in the security plan.

Major points are security, the discovery center, 4th on 53rd and what would SSA 61 like for the Chamber to do? In response to the presentation and the ask, Chairman Rumsey has asked the Chamber to provide the SSA with a shareable document detailing the concepts. Commissioner Williams inquired as to the estimated cost for some of these initiatives. Mr. Goode responded there wasn't a cost out currently available.

Program Committee Updates – D. Burnham, M. Rogel and C. Newsome

- Branding – The RFP application is open.

Program Manager RFP – D. Burnham

There are increased submissions, many from LinkedIn. Updated information to include the salary. The first round of interviews will be conducted within the next 2 weeks.

Election of Officers (2 terms of 2 years) – Chairman Rumsey

Chairman Rumsey's term concludes on 12/31/2021. The following Commissioners are designated beginning for 2022-2023:

Greg Guttman – Chairman (elected)

Eric Thompson – Secretary (remain)

Nancy Stanek – Treasurer (remain)

Several questions were raised in relation to Commissioner Guttman being elected Chairman, one being his affiliation with MAC Properties and their position on the functions of the SSA. Commissioner Guttman informed the body that MAC Properties puts \$100,000 into the SSA and the company is pro SSA despite what has been said and what people may have heard.

A motion was made to accept the slate of officers as presented. It moved and properly seconded by Commissioners Rogel and Newsome respectfully.

Questions and Comments from Commissioners

Chairman Newsome – Congratulated Commissioner Guttman on his appointment and told him he has “pretty big shoes to fill”. Also gave kudos to SECC for their work.

Chairman Rumsey – Thanked the commissioners and the SECC board of directors for their support over the past 8 years.

Diane – Thanked Chairman Rumsey for his work within and support of SSA #61.

The meeting was adjourned 12:16pm.

Respectfully submitted,
Raymonde Vance, Secretary, SSA 61