

**Special Service Area #61
SSA Board of Commissioners Meeting**

**Minutes, August 16, 2017
Hyde Park Bank Lobby
1525 East 53rd Street, Chicago, IL**

Present: Greg Guttman, Jim Hanson, Allison Hartman, James Hennessy, Jacqueline Jackson, Michael McGarry, Charles Newsome, Mary Rogel, George Rumsey, Brian Tijan.

Also Present: Eric Reaves, Wendy Williams, and Shirley Newsome of the SECC; and Wallace Goode and Jonathan Swain of the Hyde Park Chamber of Commerce (HPCC).

The meeting was called to order at 7:04 p.m. by Chair McGarry, who welcomed the public and thanked everyone for attending. He expressly thanked the SECC and HPCC for all they have done for the community.

The sole item on the agenda was the selection of the 2018 Service Provider for SSA #61, for which position both SECC and HPCC had submitted letters of interest. In light of this, Chair McGarry requested that the Commissioners reveal any conflicts of interest that they may have. He reported that the Hyde Park Bank supports both organizations; he himself is no longer on the HPCC Board, but an employee of the bank is. Commissioner Tijan is on the board of HPCC; he recused himself from the voting but participated in the discussion. Commissioners Guttman, Hennessy, and Newsome were on the HPCC board in the past.

Chair McGarry invited HPCC and SECC to give statements regarding their interest in being the 2018 Service Provider. Each did so and fielded questions from the Commissioners.

All present expressed gratitude for the contributions of both organizations. Noting the important role that both play for Hyde Park and its business community, the prevailing sentiment was a desire for the two organizations to continue working together, regardless of the vote outcome.

Commissioner Rumsey moved that SSA #61 retain SECC as its Service Provider for 2018. Commissioner Hartman seconded the motion. After a brief discussion, the motion carried with 7 “yes” votes (Hanson, Hartman, Hennessy, Jackson, Newsome, Rogel, Rumsey) and one abstention (Guttman). Commissioner Guttman abstained because he thought neither proposal went far enough toward making the SSA a sustainable business.

There being no other business, Chair McGarry thanked everyone and adjourned the meeting at 8:56 p.m. The next meeting will be September 20, 7:00 p.m., at Chicago Innovation Exchange/Polsky Center, 1462 E 53rd Street, Chicago, IL.

Respectfully submitted,
Mary J. Rogel, Secretary, SSA 61