

Special Service Area #61
SSA Board of Commissioners Minutes
Tuesday, May 25, 2021
Virtual Meeting

Present: Greg Guttman, Angie Marks, Charles Newsome, Mary Rogel, George Rumsey, Eric Thompson and Wendy Williams

Absent: Anthony Beach and Nancy Stanek

Also Present: Brandon Evans (SSA Program Administrator), Diane Burnham (SECC), Stephanie Franklin (Nichols Park Advisory Council), Aaron Gettinger (Herald Newspaper), Isaac Greene (Accountant), Rev. Charlene Hill (United Church of Hyde Park), Carol Moy, James Nurss (First Aid Comics), and David White (Nichols Park Advisory Council)

A quorum being present, Chairman Rumsey called the meeting of SSA #61 to order at 11:05 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/>

Reading/Approval of the Minutes:

The minutes for the April 27 SSA meeting were accepted as circulated. In addition, minutes for the two special meetings on May 10 to approve the annual audit were also accepted as circulated.

Questions and Comments from Guests (*per the city should occur at beginning of meetings. 3 minute limit*)

C. Moy – In relation to the TIF/SBIF application, where can the application be found? Looked on the city website and didn't find what I was looking for. ***Diane will follow up with Carol directly.***

SSA Financials – I. Greene

For the 'Due to SECC' line-item Chairman Rumsey asked for clarification. Isaac stated the expense has been paid this month (May) and the payment will be reflected in next month's financials.

Budget Tracker – B. Evans

The tracker is up to date. Commissioner Rogel – (1) Who power washed the viaducts? ***Diane has been in contact with CDOT and they more than likely performed the clean up.***

Audit Update – B. Evans

The audit is complete, corrections were made, and the audit has been uploaded to the city of Chicago portal SharePoint.

2022 Budget Review – B. Evans

The budget will be submitted for review/approval by June 4th. A discussion was held about using “other categories” of the budget (such as the art category) as place holders. The Commission is not currently looking to do an art initiative but we might consider funding fresh artwork to replace the existing art (metal curtains) in the viaducts. Are there other such projects we might consider? Chairman Rumsey suggested sending ideas to George, Diane, and Brandon so those ideas can be shared with the aldermen.

Commissioner Newsome asked if the TIF funds being shared with the SSA or is the SSA going to work in conjunctions with the TIF? *The SSA has not received any TIF funds to date. Still in talks with the aldermen.*

Program Updates – B. Evans

- HPFM Update – B. Evans - Farmers Market Banners – some will be replaced or swapped out. The SSA has contributed \$7,500 (\$5,000 general operations; \$2,500 marketing/banner replacement).
- 4th on 53rd – D. White - Due to the pandemic, there will be no parade this year. However, there will be activities for children in Nichols Park and NPAC applied for a city permit for 300 attendees but to date haven't heard back from the city. Some proponents feel the committee has aimed too low in planning for this year's event. They feel the committee should bring back the Sunday Concert Series. Funds were low so planning was scaled back. Commissioner Rogel shared that the city 2022 concerts have already been scheduled.
- Aldermanic meetings – Chairman Rumsey stated the Aldermen's meeting on the 53rd Street TIF was well attended and informative.

Program Committee – M. Rogel and D. Burnham

The first committee is on Tuesday, June 1st, 10am and anyone who is interested in participating on the committee including Commissioner Guttman and Brandon are to contact Commissioner Rogel. The committee is for oversight/involvement.

Questions and Comments from Commissioners

None

The meeting was adjourned 11:50am. The next regular meeting is for Tuesday June 22nd at 11:00am, Zoom Virtual Meeting Chicago, IL.

Respectfully submitted,
Raymonde Vance, Secretary, SSA 61