



## Howard Street Special Service Area #19

### Minutes

Attending: Linda Szarkowski, Chair; Cally Raduenzel, Commissioner; Amona Buechler, Commissioner; Charlotte Walters-Rezzo, Commissioner; Dave Skora, Community Member; Nick Jassewsk, Community Member; Sandi Price, RPBA Executive Director; Carolina Juarez, RPBA Staff

#### 1. Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 8:08 a.m.

#### 2. Review and Approval of October 2013 Minutes

The commission reviewed the October 2013 minutes. Motion to approve the October 2013 minutes as presented. (Walters-Rezzo/Raduenzel) Unanimously approved.

#### 3. Review and Approval of November 2013 Minutes

The commission reviewed the November 2013 minutes. Motion to approve the November 2013 minutes as presented. (Raduenzel/Walters-Rezzo) Unanimously approved.

#### 4. Review and Approval of November 2013 Financials

The commission reviewed the financials. Sandi explained that December financials take longer than the rest, because it is the end of the year. She confirmed that money not used in previous year will carry over to the next. Motion to approve the November 2013 financials as presented. (Raduenzel/Walters-Rezzo) Unanimously approved.

#### 5. Programs and Projects

##### a. Peterson Garden Project Sign

Sandi reported that RPBA has not heard from LaManda from the Peterson Garden Project (PGP) with approval to move forward with sign. Commission agreed to move forward with sign as is, even if RPBA has not heard from LaManda. The commission would like the sign to be up right away. They are interested in advertising/promoting Hello! Howard Garden as much as possible. RPBA will ask Sparkfactor to expedite process. RPBA will send final version of sign before printing/production. Commission asked to send a press release out to Newstar, local publication. Dave Skora can help with this.

Sandi went over PGP timeline for Hello! Howard Community Garden.

Commission asked that location of community interest meeting be confirmed as well as opening date. And asked to find out how PGP usually promotes this meeting. RPBA will confirm. Commission asked that interest meeting flyers be passed out via mailing or flyering the community. Commission asked to inform Gale School of PGP plans. Also to purchase plots to offer to the school as a way of involving local community.

##### b. Say Hello to Howard

Commission discussed plan to place Say Hello to Howard marketing banners in vacant storefronts. Discussion involved the content of banners:

- i. Use images with business owner photos
  - ii. Include information/description of SSA (Group of local owners participating in betterment of Howard Street community)
  - iii. Size of banners; big enough that it is legible to driving traffic)
  - iv. Additional banners should include list of annual events sponsored by SSA 19
  - v. Additional banners should include demographical facts as a way to attract potential business owners (may pull from "Open For Business" pamphlet printed by RPBA). Dave Skora will send suggested "facts" to RPBA.
  - vi. Include web address. This led to a conversation about a website. Commission decided to create a website because they felt Facebook is not functioning as intended. On this website there should be a directory of businesses somewhere in the Home page. Cally will coordinate this process and follow up with quote for commission.
  - vii. Make sure to get windows cleaned once these banners are up.
- c. Art on Howard  
Carolina reported that owner at 1448 Howard who had agreed to give access to place Art inside property is no longer available because he has rented the space. Commission suggested she contact more than one property owner.
- d. IIT Advisory Committee  
Sandi reported on IIT advisory committee's first meeting. This committee is working on proposals for development on Howard and Paulina lot.

## 6. Old Business

- a. Dominicks Vacancy Update  
Sandi reported that there are no news about a new lease at the old Dominicks location. She reminded commission about list of current grocery stores in Rogers Park. Commission would like to know what the lease amount is and what the sales were when Domicks was open. Sandi will look into this. Commission discussed other options for potential grocery stores.
- b. Commission would like to make sure there is a sign at Howard and Greenview about Bike Fix-it Station.
- c. Commission would like to make sure Snow Removal contractor is using "pet-friendly" ice melting salt.

## 7. New Business

Schedule Meetings for the year

Commission will continue to meet monthly on the 3<sup>rd</sup> Thursday of every month. Next meeting will be on Thursday, February 20, 2014.

## 8. Community Input

None.



Commission Meeting, Thursday, January 30, 2014, 8 a.m.  
Sol Café 1615 W. Howard

Meeting adjourned at 9:52 a.m.