



Howard Street Special Service Area #19
Friday, November 21, 2014

Minutes

Attending: Linda Szarkowski, Chair; Amona Buechler, Commissioner; Simone Freeman, Commissioner; Cally Raduenzel, Commissioner; Charlotte Walters, Commissioner; Dave Skora, Community Resident; Sandi Price, RPBA Executive Director; Paul Reise, RPBA Staff

1. Welcome

The meeting was called to order at 8:10 a.m.

2. Community and public input - None

3. Review and Approval of October 2014 Minutes

October 2014 minutes were not presented. October and November minutes will both be approved at the December meeting.

4. Review of Financials

The financials through October 2014 were presented and discussed. The SSA has money to spend before the end of the year.

5. Holiday Decorations

- a. Paul has not received a quote from Patch yet for the Winter Wonderland concept in the garden. He will continue to contact them. If he has no response, he will call the vendor that Cally suggested.
- b. Banners will be ordered to put on the fence, one on Howard and one on Ashland. They will read: "ENJOY HOWARD STREET WINTER WONDERLAND Brought to you by SSA #19, hellohoward.org" and "VISIT US IN THE SPRING, COMMUNITY GARDENING, ENTERTAINMENT AND CLASSES, Brought to you by SSA #19, hellohoward.org".
- c. Electrical access for the east end of Howard can be found under the cap at the top of the poles. The streetscape has not been signed off on by CDOT yet, so we may need to wait to put lights in the trees there.
- d. Paul will contact Roof to Deck to find out why some of the lights on the west end of Howard are not lit.
- e. The poles will be wrapped with a more elaborate design than last year and will stay up until 2/1/15.

6. Peterson Garden Project- Hello Howard Community Garden

Paul reported that we met with PGP. Everything went well this year and they are gearing up for next year. We may need to complete the installation of the stage as the Alderman's office hasn't been able to gather volunteers. Once set, we can program more events. Registration starts in February. Paul will find and update the flyer from last year to distribute to the community.

7. Staff Expectations:

- a. The group requested that they receive minutes within one week after the meeting.
- b. Major issue updates will be communicated through weekly bulleted emails will be sent by the SSA manager to the commissioners.
- c. SSA manager will send the commission monthly status reports.
- d. Commissioners would like to have extra meetings to focus more on planning in 2015. The first planning meeting has been scheduled for Thursday, January 15th at 6:30pm at Green Spirit.

8. Rogers Park Business Alliance retreat

Cally reviewed the progress made at the RPBA/GSM/SSA retreat. In 2015, we will work toward better communication between the entities, look at restructuring the staff and diversification.

9. Old Business – None

10. New Business

- a. Press releases – Dave Skora offered to write.
- b. Billboard on Howard Theater building – Simone is having conversations with the landlord of the Howard Theater building to determine how the SSA can pay for advertising on the building and then offer the ads to the businesses on Howard Street.
- c. After the streetscape, the Big Belly cans were both placed outside the CTA station. The one that's between the newspaper stand should be moved to Howard and Clark.
- d. Simone mentioned that she is ordering cup sleeves through a company called papersupplies.com. The SSA is paying ½ the cost of the items. We should see if we could find the cheapest company and offer to purchase paper goods for other businesses on Howard Street with the Hello Howard logo, cup sleeves, bags, etc.

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 a.m.