

Devon SSA 43 Commission Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 18, 2017 4:00pm

Office of 50th Ward Ald. Silverstein 2949 W. Devon Avenue

Commissioners Present: Sanhita Agnihotri, Irshad Khan, Maura Levit, Bhavesh Patel, Pete Valavanis

Service Provider Staff Present: Sandi Price, Gina Caruso, Kimberly Bares (Rogers Park Business Alliance)

Public Officials & Staff Present: 50th Ward Alderman Debra Silverstein; Mike Hain, 50th Ward Department of Streets and Sanitation Supervisor

Public Present: Robert Taylor, Edin Seferovic (West Ridge Chamber of Commerce)

1. **Call to Order:** Irshad called the meeting to order at 4:07pm.
2. **April 2017 Minutes:** Motion by Maura with a second by Pete to approve the minutes.
APPROVED
3. **Financial Report:** Sandi reviewed the financials. She stated we should monitor expenditures because the tax levy distributed this year is less than what was anticipated, based on the first tax payment.
4. **Programs & Services**
 - a. **Business Improvement Program (BIP):** An application by The Music House, 2925-2927 W. Devon was presented for a new awning and channel sign by TFA Signs estimated at \$13,775.00. Motion by Maura with a second by Bavesh to approve a 50% rebate. APPROVED
 - b. **Security Camera Rebate Program:** An application by The Music House, 2925-2927 W. Devon was presented for outside security cameras by Alarm Detection Systems, Inc. estimated at \$2,060. There was discussion that the applicant find out what the monthly service fee is for and what happens if it is not paid. There was also discussion for the Service Provider to revisit the camera specs standard to ensure cameras are meeting a certain standard. Approved deferred until the applicant has addressed these issues.
 - c. **Public Way Beautification**
 - i. **Sidewalk Cleaning Update:** Mike Hain, the 50th Ward Dept. of Streets and Sanitation Supervisor discussed his recommendations for trash in the SSA. He stated that ultimately Bigbelly's are not the best solution for trash in the SSA as many of them are broken or not used for their intended use as an incidental trash receptacle; people are using them to throw out their household trash. Mike stated that more trash receptacles can generate more trash so it's best to keep to the streetscape plan of 2-3 trash receptacles per intersection. Motion by Pete with a second by Sanhita to remove all Bigbelly's from Devon Ave., store them in the 50th Ward Streets and Sanitation Ward Yard, notify other SSA Service Providers of a window of time they can pick up Bigbelly's then dispose of the remaining Bigbelly's after that.
APPROVED
 - ii. When asked by the Commission about trash "hot spots" Mike stated East of Rockwell to Leavitt on Devon is a problem area in part to the streetscape. Tea cups are a big issue. The Commission wants to ensure the maintenance crew does not use private dumpsters. Irshad suggested that the Commissioners identify dumpsters that are ok for the crew to use. Identify

Rockwell to Oakley property owners willing to have a dumpster used by CleanStreet.

- iii. **Pressure Washing Bids:** The Commission reviewed two bids for pressure washing - Pressure washing Systems and Pressure Washing Unlimited. Motion by Bavesch with a second by Pete to approve Pressure Washing Systems and change the scope to just be key corners completed before July. APPROVED
- iv. **Landscaping Update.** Gina reported that she, Sandi, Brandon and Brightview staff walked the SSA to evaluate the planter beds. Brightveiw is helping save money by charging by the plant rather than per square foot of plants. Gina forwarded the vendor information about new planters in the streetscape zone so the vendor can coordinate planting there.
- v. **Streetscape Update.** Mike from Streets and Sanitation is ensuring the Bigbelly's within the streetscape construction zone are getting removed. No other discussion about streetscape.
- vi. **Public Art.** Gina presented a mural proposal by The Music House. Motion by Peter with a second by Sanhita to approve \$1,900, which is 50% of the cost estimated at \$3,800 provided the design is reworked to focus on a musical and/or "Welcome to Devon Ave" theme and the Music House name is made smaller and at the edge along with Devon SSA. APPROVED. The Service Provider offered to do a ribbon cutting event for the mural.
- d. **Commercial Attraction.** The Commission will entertain bids for commercial attraction services funded in the 2017 budget after selecting the branding vendor.
- e. **Business Support.** No updates at this time.
- f. **Customer Attraction.**
 - i. **Branding and Communications Guidelines RFP:** The Commission reviewed bids from the branding RFP by Sparkfactor, Sparc, A5 and Pivot Design. The commission decided to invite Sparkfactor and A5 to the next meeting to present to the Commission.
 - ii. **Sidewalk Sale:** The Commission discussed how to include food based businesses in the sidewalk sale planned for July 9th. The recommendation is to encourage food businesses to have packaged or "grab and go" items inside their store as an "inside sidewalk sale" item. The Commission also wants to have businesses sign up in advance to participate.

5. **SSA Commission Seats.** Alderman Silverstein reported that Mohammad and Tariq's applications passed City Council's Finance Committee and will proceed to City Council for appointment.

6. **Old & New Business.** None

7. **Public Input.** Edin reported the West Ridge Chamber is doing several food crawls throughout 2017.

8. **Adjournment.** Motion by Peter with a second by Maura to adjourn. APPROVED