

**Devon SSA 43 Commission Meeting Minutes**  
Thursday March 15, 2018 4:00pm  
2949 W. Devon Avenue

**Commissioners Present:** Maura Levit, Jayesh Shewakramani, Irshad Khan, Mohammad Yaqoob, Sanhita Agnihotri

**Commissioners Absent:** Pete Valavanis

**Service Provider Staff Present:** Sandi Price, Tony Pelikan, Gina Caruso (Rogers Park Business Alliance)

**Public Officials Present:** Alderman Debra Silverstein

I. Call to Order at 4:10pm

II. Public Input - none

Review and approve draft Meeting Minutes (October 2017 - February 2018). Motion to approve by Maura with a second by Sanhita APPROVED

III. Programs & Services

a. BIP, Sign Removal and Security Camera Rebate Programs

i. OEMC Camera Program –There was discussion about changing the SSA Security Camera Program and it was decided to keep program as is and have the SSA fund cameras on buildings at district intersections using the OEMC or Luma camera specs. Motion to approve by Sanhita with a second by Jayesh APPROVED

ii. Jayesh reported the CPD presence is making a difference in the district and that foot patrol and cars are helping improve safety.

iii. Police appreciation day – the CPD won't do roll call anymore but they attend events like a ribbon cutting.

b. Public Way Beautification

i. Snow Removal Update –Sandi met with Cleanslate to talk about improvements to their performance. They should show up sooner than they are and have supplies at the ready ( e.g. salt). Cleanslate may want to consider hiring workers on the north side that they can activate more quickly, buying ore ATVs, etc. RPBA will do a snow removal RFP for 2018 season.

ii. Sidewalk Cleaning Update - the crew wants second dumpster – Irshad has location close to Damen he is willing to offer.

iii. Landscaping Update –The spring landscaping is ordered and winter treatments will come out right before spring ones are installed.

iv. Streetscape Update – the are supposed to be more benches installed – Ald. Silverstein will follow up.

v. Holiday Decorations – the RFP will be release soon.

vi. Power Washing – the Commission wants to clean the corners in 2018 in May –Irshad and Jay will look at the sidewalks and see which corners need cleaning.

c. Customer Attraction

i. Branding & Website Update – the website is up and running and staff are working with Spark Factor to work out any kinks.

ii. Marketing Plan – RPBA staff prepared a marketing plan to start implementing the branding campaign.

iii. Special Event Concepts – The Commission discussed goals and ideas for special events:

1. Movie Night at Republic Bank. for international night---indoor event. Check for weekday night.
2. Dance Competition and a nice prize for the winner possible at the Republic Bank parking lot. Dance schools outreach, including engaging suburban dance schools – music/dance/food.
3. International Night indoors Sunday November 11 or 18 2pm- 7pm Croation Cultural Center or Bombay Hall.
4. Other ideas include: Sanhita suggested for Mela to do an event in June. Music House could do a performances.
5. Fireworks perhaps in the park.

d. 2018 Initiatives

i. Streetscape Ribbon Cutting Event & CPD Outdoor Roll Call – the CPD no longer does outdoor roll calls but will attend events.

ii. Quarterly SSA Open Houses – the next open house is May 16<sup>th</sup> at Sabri Nihiri 2502 W Devon.

IV. SSA Commission

- a. Engagement, Renewals and Open Seats- applications are in process for Maura (renewal), Avi Bereliani, and Mohammed.
- b. New meeting dates and times are on Mondays at 3:00pm.

V. Old & New Business

- a. West Ridge Chamber Patron Member Invitation – The Commission wants to invite Chamber to present to the Commission their proposal at the next meeting.

VI. Adjournment at 5:35pm- Motion by Maura with a second by Mohammad APPROVED