

Devon SSA #43 Commission Meeting Minutes

Monday, April 16, 2018 3:00pm 2949 W. Devon Ave., Chicago

Commissioners Present: Irshad Khan, Maura Levit, Jayesh Shewakramani, Mohammad Yaqoob, Pete Valavanis

Commissioners Absent: Sanhita Agnihotri

Commissioner Candidates Present: Avi Bereliani

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

Public Officials Present: Alderman Debra Silverstein

Guests: Robert Taylor, Republic Bank Edin Seferovic, West Ridge Chamber of Commerce

I. Call to Order at 3:10pm

II. Public Input

- a. Rebeca Vazquez from Asia Insurance introduced herself and wanted to learn more about the SSA.
- b. Robert Taylor and Edin Seferovic were invited by the Commission to discuss the relationship between the Chamber and SSA. The goal for the Chamber is to have support of and work with the SSA to benefit the Devon SSA business community. Irshad said he'd like to see more events and want more people to know what the organizations do for the SSA community. The Commission likes the idea of working together with the Chamber on special events and sense of support and community. The Chamber is open to being a vendor for the SSA and to different model. The Commission likes the idea of offering businesses a go-to place for businesses to get help, which is part of the Chamber's delegate agency contract.

III. Review and approve draft Meeting Minutes. Pete motioned to approve the arch 2018 meeting minutes with a second by Maura. APPROVED

IV. 2017 Audit- Sandi reviewed the 2017 SSA #43 audit with the commissioners: page 2 is boilerplate; page 3 financial statement shows there is sufficient cash in the bank; pages 4-5 shows detail of money spent; pages 6-7 boilerplate; page 8 just shows that property taxes are paid; page 9 summary of findings shows the standard finding that the SSA was overspent in certain line items, which is common in most SSA audits and is accounted for through administrative shifts within categories. Motion to approve the 2017 Audit by Peter with a second by Maura. APPROVED

V. Programs & Services

- a. BIP, Sign Removal and Security Camera Rebate Programs
 - i. Gina reported the signs for Money Dart 2551 W Devon and Data Darber 2306 W Devon are in process.

- ii. Tony updated the Commission on adding security cameras to intersection and most intersections will need cameras. Irshad suggested calling Sgt Quadri who works with burglaries. Tony is finalizing a document that shows each intersection for a façade mounted camera. The commission suggested doing prime intersections first.
- b. Public Way Beautification
- i. Snow Removal Update - no questions or updates to due inactivity with snow. Gina reported a 2018 RFP will be done. The Commission requested a report on snow removal costs for the 2017/2018 season.
 - ii. Sidewalk Cleaning Update – Irshad will meet with CleanSlate to confirm the location of a second dumpster.
 - iii. Landscaping Update- Gina reported the spring planting is on target to occur in April.
 - iv. Streetscape Update –Ald. Silverstein will check to see if all benches are installed. The streetscape is almost completely done.
 - v. Holiday Decorations – The RFP will be issued before the end of April.
 - vi. Power Washing Update The Commission would like to same company that did the power washing to provide the service this year and to take before/after shots of their work.
- c. Customer Attraction
- i. Branding & Website Update – Gina reported that Sparkfactor’s work scope is concluded. One of the final deliverables was On Devon design guidelines. Next step is for RPBA to work with the Commission to prioritize and implement marketing initiatives.
 - ii. Marketing Plan – RPBA has a marketing plan completed that outlines process and timeline for On Devon marketing.
 - iii. Special Event Concepts
 1. The Commission discussed special events and after discussion decided to stay with trying a Movie Night and International Night in 2018. The Commission updated the Movie Night date to Monday or Wednesday August 6,8,13, or 15 and Robert Taylor said Republic Bank would be happy to participate. The Chamber may do a restaurant crawl before the movie to help drive customer traffic. The Commission likes the idea of a superhero, cartoon, or Bollywood movie. The Commission also likes the idea of incorporating the streetscape ribbon cutting and inviting the CPD. Next step is to talk with Chamber about a possible scope to support the Movie Night.
 2. International Night- The Commission wants to proceed with an International Night on November 11 or 18 2pm-7m. Possible venues include Northshore Banquet Hall, Bombay Hall, and the

Croatian Cultural Center. RPBA will get special event bids before next meeting.

3. The Commission likes the idea of a Back to School event perhaps to try next year in August at the Republic Bank parking lot

d. 2018 Initiatives

- i. Streetscape Ribbon Cutting Event (see Special Events above)
- ii. Quarterly SSA Open Houses – The Commission changed the Open House to Wednesday, May 9th at Sabri Nihari 2502 W Devon.

VI. SSA Commission

a. Engagement, Renewals and Open Seats

- i. Avi Bereliani introduced himself. He owns Great Chicago Food & Beverage Co. Avi is a former commissioner who is applying to become a Commissioner again.

VII. Old & New Business – None.

VIII. Adjournment at 4:25pm. Motion by Maura with a second by Pete. APPROVED