



Devon SSA #43 Commission Meeting

Monday, July 9, 2018 2:30pm 2949 W. Devon Ave., Chicago

Commissioners Present: Sanhita Agnihotri, Irshad Khan, Jayesh Shewakramani, Pete Valavanis

Commissioners Absent: Mohammad Yaqoob, Maura Levit

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

Public Officials Present: Alderman Debra Silverstein

Guests: Rebeca Vasquez, India Insurance

- I. **Call to Order.** Call to order at 3:10pm.

- II. **Public Input.** Rebeca asked about Monday City garbage pick-up because sidewalk trash receptacles are overflowing. Ald. Silverstein will look into the Department of Streets and Sanitation's schedule for frequency. Irshad mentioned the dumpsters behind the meat stores at Devon and Artesian have a noxious smell in the summer. The City can issue citations for the trash receptacles outside.

- III. **Review and approve draft June 2018 Meeting Minutes.** Motion to approve the June minutes by Peter with a second by Jay. APPROVED.

- IV. **Financials**
 - a. **Approve 2019 Work Plan/Budget and Service Provider.** Sandi and Gina presented the 2019 work plan and budget. Overall the budget is the same as 2018; the tax rate does not need to be increased because there are sufficient funds to cover programs.
 1. Irshad asked about what the Graffiti Removal line item covers – and it covers what the City's program does not.
 2. RPBA staff will update the SSA one-pager to include Graffiti Removal and other programs we fund.
 3. Bike Racks funding was decreased in part because there are alternative routes for bicycles in the area.
 4. RPBA will create a highlighted list of items on the agenda that we are not spending money on so we can either further promote the item or remove it.
 5. Pete asked if there is a way to track vacancies. RPBA will work on a scope/cost for tracking vacancies. Talk with Sparkfactor about commercial attraction posters for vacancies. The district needs a coffee place.



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- ii. Motion to approve the 2019 Work Plan, Budget and Rogers Park Business Alliance as the Sole Service Provider by Peter with a second by Jay.

APPROVED

V. Programs & Services

a. BIP, Sign Removal and Security Camera Rebate Programs

- i. Irshad asked if he can suggest vendors for applicants to get bids. He can provided he has to recuse himself from voting. Ask the West Ridge Chamber help find and suggest vendors.

b. Public Way Beautification

- i. **Landscaping Update.** Alderman Stated the trees were trimmed and can provide the list of which trees were trimmed.
- ii. **Streetscape Update** – status of completion. Benches getting installed in September.
- iii. **Power Washing Update**
 - 1. Irshad has the gum removal spray; the vendor can come by Irshad's office to pick it up.

c. Customer Attraction

i. Advertising & Promotion:

- 1. Light Pole Banners -the Commission liked the final round of banner designs and wanted to confirm including the merchant with carpets and one with just desserts. Motion to approve the banner designs by Pete with a second by Jay. APPROVED
- 2. Tribune Article – the Commission liked the article published July 8th and likes the idea of leveraging it to get attention by hotel concierges and for tourists.
- 3. The Commission wants RPBA to explore doing a Concierge Tour.

ii. Special Events

- 1. **Movie Night & Streetscape Ribbon Cutting August 15th** The bank has a popcorn machine and RPBA will bring the popcorn. The Commission discussed the movie option. The Commission likes the idea of showing a Bollywood dance video then then Jumanji.
- 2. **India Independence Day Parade sponsorship** - Sanhita
 - a. SSA Commission offered a \$1,000 sponsorship and the event staff will distribute merchandize (10,000 pieces) and post an On Devon banner at all three events. The Commission likes the idea of getting pens, key chains and/or sunglasses. The Commission also wants one standing roller and two 6 foot horizontal banners. Pete and Irshad volunteered to staff a table from Noon to 2pm.



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Motion to approve \$15,000 by Jay with a second by Pete.

APPROVED

- b. Sanhita left the room and recused herself of the vote.
- d. Quarterly SSA Open Houses – August 8th and October 17th

VI. SSA Commission

- a. Engagement, Renewals and Open Seats. There are three vacant seats, two of which are getting filled by Rebeca and Avi. Irshad will pursue Mohammed or another candidate from the eastern part of the district.
- b. Next meeting: Monday August 20, 3:00pm

VII. Old & New Business

- a. Opened / Closed Businesses – tabled.

VIII. Adjournment – motion to adjourn by Peter with a second by Jay APPROVED