



Devon SSA #43 Commission Meeting

Monday, November 19, 2018 3:00pm 2949 W. Devon Ave., Chicago

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Avi Bereliani, Irshad Khan, Jayesh Shewakramani, Rebeca Vaasquez
Commissioners Absent: Sanhita Agnihotri, Mohammad Yaqoob, Pete Valavanis, Maura Levit
Commissioner Candidates Absent: Mohammad Bozai
Service Provider Staff Present: Sandi Price, Gina Caruso (Rogers Park Business Alliance)
Public Officials Present: Alderman Debra Silverstein
Guests: Robert Taylor, Edin Seferovic West Ridge Chamber of Commerce; Anthony Haymer and Sedrick Murphy, Cleanstreet; Alyssa Callaghan, Chicago Children's Choir
NO QUORUM

I. Call to Order at 3:15pm

II. Public Input

- a. Robert said they are moving forward Sept/Oct 2019 for a food festival. Andersonville Chamber has been helpful on ideas. Can do something for \$20 - \$25,000 at the Republic Bank parking lot and half a block closed off. Goal is to break even. Next step is talking with business owners and talking with a blogger and people buy the bank it will effect. Will have music, food, alcohol. Around the World on Devon fest.
- b. Alyssa Callaghan of the Chicago Children's Choir introduced herself and said the Choir is interested in fostering relationships and learning what is happening in the community.

III. Review and approve draft October 2018 Meeting Minutes – review and tentative approval.

IV. Financials – reviewed; \$50,000 less in revenues is likely due to appeals and people not paying taxes

V. Programs & Services

- a. BIP, Sign Removal and Security Camera Rebate Programs
 - i. SSA Funded Public Way Camera RFP Proposals – Gina reported we received 6 proposals and is researching the optimal hardware and software solutions.
 - ii. SSA Camera Rebate Program Revision – The Commission agreed to pay 100% for outside cameras rather than 50% up to \$1,500.



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- b. Public Way Beautification
 - i. Snow Removal Strategy – Anthony from Cleanstreet discussed their strategy for snow removal in the Devon SSA district. Will start at Western then spread out from there. Main part is Wester to Kedzie on Devon and will focus on the south side of the street because it does not get the sun for melting. Shovelers are behind the bikes so they get what the bike misses. They clear a path at the crosswalks only. Use two ATVs, one on each side. The crew goes over area twice, sometimes three times, and salt with a spreader. Avi said they crew is not doing the Kedzie portion of the SSA by Devon and should make sure they cover this area.
 - ii. Dumpster – Wait until spring to get a new dumpster.
 - iii. Streetscape Update - none
 - iv. Holiday Decorations Update – Starting installation Monday 11/26/18.
- c. Landscaping - none
- d. Customer Attraction
 - i. Banners – missing banners are on order.
 - ii. Advertising – look at airport advertising and billboards; get other quotes for design – like Sparkfactor; Coschedule (sign up for \$20/mo and tells you what times are the best to post in social media)
 - iii. Special Events - Devon's Got Talent November 11th - overall a good event considering the hurdles; had approx. 100 people attend; the Commission was concerned about how the event went and wants Big Buzz Idea Group to attend the next meeting.
- e. Quarterly SSA Open Houses Strategy – location is key – has to be in the middle can call people, stop in stores and say there is free food. Do a couple in 2019. Need to let people know day before and day of will help with attendance.
- f. Economic Development: Mapping – will present at December meeting

VI. SSA Commission



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- a. Engagement, Renewals, Open Seats, Treasurer – Discussion of Mohammad Yaqoob’s absence.
 - b. Next meetings Monday 3:00pm 12/17/18
 - c. 2019 Draft Meeting Schedule -reviewed and tabled to December meeting
- VII. Old & New Business
- a. Opened / Closed Businesses Tabled
 - b. 6411 N Rockwell parking garage. Alderman will reach out to the attorney to find out who the current owner is; elevator never worked, not knocking the garage down; anyone not paying rent was evicted.
- VIII. Adjournment 4:50pm