



Devon SSA #43 Commission Meeting

Monday, February 11, 2019 2:30pm - 4:30pm 2949 W. Devon Ave., Chicago

MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Irshad Khan, Sanhita Agnihotri, Jayesh Shewakramani, Rebeca Vasquez

Commissioners Absent: Avi Bereliani, Maura Nemes, Pete Valavanis

Commissioner Candidates Absent: Mohammad Bozai

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

Public Officials Present: Alderman Debra Silverstein

Guests: Robert Taylor, Edin Seferovic West Ridge Chamber of Commerce (WRCC); Bonnie Tawse, Bonnie Tawse Consulting

- I. Call to Order at 2:38pm
- II. Public Input – Robert introduced Bonnie Tawse who will be managing the Chamber’s special event Labor Day weekend. She presented the draft scope and budget for the event. Gina asked about proposed sources of income. Bonnie went over options, such as food/drink tickets, sponsorship, and beer sales as the main sources of income. Robert said the Chamber’s proposal is the SSA pays half and the Chamber pays half. The SSA Commission was open to this arrangement.

The Commission and Chamber discussed that sponsorship would offset the cost for both the SSA and Chamber, but otherwise the Chamber and SSA would commit to a set amount to pay for the event. The Commission discussed the SSA’s financial input and agreed to sponsor a portion of the event. Chamber will get a budget amount to approve by the Commission before the March 18 meeting so it can be discussed at this meeting.

Motion to partner with the Chamber on this event. Jay Rebeca APPROVED.

- III. Review and approve draft January 2019 Meeting Minutes – Motion to approve the minutes by Jay with a second by Sanhita. APPROVED

IV. Financials

V. Programs & Services

- a. BIP & Sign Removal Rebates – no updates
- b. Public Way Security Camera Program Update – Ald. Silverstein discussed the new CPD SDCS (Strategic Decision Support Center) Room. Sandi



Devon SSA #43 Commission Meeting

reported that she toured the room and asked questions about cameras at the DAC meeting. The CPD/DAC referred her to OEMC and the standard OEMC private camera program, so RPBA will refine the latest estimates for cameras with the vendors and target having a vendor approved at the March SSA meeting.

c. Public Way Beautification

i. Streetscape Update – Gina reported that their research into companies that are qualified to perform light pole painting are extremely limited and recommended retaining Pressure Washing Unlimited to do the project. Motion to approve Pressure Washing Unlimited by Sanhita with a second by Rebeca. APPROVED

ii. Holiday Decorations Update

1. Out lights – CDOT is coordinating involved parties to resolve the out light issue
2. Out light audit – Illuminight is doing an audit this week of out lights.
3. Color/program change will take place in March and coordinate with the On Devon promotion campaign
4. Mandalas – Illuminight is targeting end of this month to have the prototype installed on Western Ave.
5. Ribbon removal – occurring before February 20

iii. Public Art – status as a priority in 2019 – The Commission agreed to target doing two murals in 2019 and target Western Ave. and Devon/California

d. Public Way Maintenance

i. Snow Removal update – The Commission understands they are getting the level of service they paid for; however, the removal occurs too late 0 businesses have mostly cleaned up the snow by the time the crew arrives. Sandi will send the Commission the contract and RFP to review it – the SSA can either pay for the level of service they expect or not offer the service. Sheridan SSA has a different vendor. See how they are performing.

ii. Pressure Washing priorities – The Commission wants to do an RFP for entire SSA area with gum removal and include an estimate for doing just corners

e. Landscaping - no updates – on target to do spring planting



Devon SSA #43 Commission Meeting

- f. Customer Attraction
 - i. PR Progress Report – Silverman Group is working on launching an On Devon promotion campaign and prepared an email and survey to send to businesses. Gina edited both and will send out this week. Tony and Irshad along with other SSA Commissioners can conduct surveys with businesses in their zones.
 - ii. Special Events
 - 1. Devon's Got Talent -Irshad will know this week if Bombay Hall can be ADA accessible. The Commission changed the date to Sunday, November 10th.
 - 2. Movie Night – The Commission wants a Movie Night on June 23 and invite the Chicago Children's Choir to perform.
- g. SSA Open Houses – 2019 Dates & Locations Spring -The Commission wants to schedule a Rebate Program Clinic and invite vendors to attend so businesses can complete applications on the spot. Schedule for Wednesday April 17 in an area where facades are most needed and rebates are mostly done –consider hosting at Ajwaah Sweets.
- h. Economic Development
 - i. Public data in the Devon SSA map- the Commission wants to add leasing info to the map. Tony to check scope.

VI. SSA Commission

- a. New Candidate Recruitment – Irshad and Sanhita Report – Irshad said Mohammad Bozai will commit to attending starting in March. Sanhita spoke with Natasha Sudhir at Devon/California.– Jay invited Junaid Butt from Sabri Nihiri to attend meetings and consider applying.
- b. Next meeting: March 18, 2019 2:30pm – 4:30pm

VII. Old & New Business

- a. Opened / Closed Businesses
- b. Parking – parking issue – Omni and Republic Banks offered their lots for valet parking. Ald. Silverstein will look into how many businesses –look at map – and see how many need to sign to add metered parking on Sunday. Sandi said SSA cannot do anything with parking.

VIII. Adjournment Motion to adjourn at 4:20pm by Sanhita with a second by Rebeca. APPROVED