MEETING MINUTES

Commissioners Present: Irshad Khan, Sanhita Agnihotri, Maura Levit, Jay Shewakramani, Pete Valavanis

Others Present: Sandi Price & Cindy Plante, RPBA; Marlene Raddatz - 50th Ward office; Ellen Doppelt - JNDC; Veton Hasku - Chief of staff, State Sen. Ram Villivallam

I. Call to order
Meeting was called to order at 2:37 pm
Due to COVID-19, this meeting is conducted by videoconference.

II. Public comment
Veton Hasku from Senator Villivallam’s office introduced himself - he’s here to listen and learn more about what’s going on in the neighborhood.

III. Approval of the minutes from February
Pete moved approval, Maura Seconded.
APPROVED.

IV. TukTuk Event Updates
Cindy provided an update on planning for the TukTuk event and some outstanding questions for commissioners, the first of which is how long do we want to leave the 10 tuk tuks out on the street?
Pete suggested putting them in storage for the winter/holiday season. Others agreed.
The next question from Cindy is what we want to do with the tuk tuks after this event.
The general consensus was to hang onto them for future events and promotions.
Cindy asked commissioners if there was a strong preference for the signup form for businesses to be an online form or a paper copy. Pete prefers an online form but nobody else shared strong feelings on this.
Pete suggested including Candace Johnson as one of the artists to reach out to for decorating Tuk Tuks - she’s doing some work at Cary’s and has an exhibit up at Jarvis Square Tavern now. Pete also wants to be included in the list for hosting/sponsoring a tuk tuk.

V. Landscaping
Cindy shared an update about the expanded planters and spring plantings, and also shared information about the possibility of adding hanging planters to street poles as discussed at the last meeting.
Pete asked if there was a count as to how many poles could have planters.
Cindy doesn’t have a number, but shared that the city doesn’t allow them at intersections - only mid-block locations.

Service Provider: Rogers Park Business Alliance 1448 W. Morse Ave. Chicago, IL 60626
Office: 773.508.5885 ssa43@rpba.org
Sanhita doesn’t want to pursue hanging baskets because of the difficulty of maintenance.
Pete agrees, and asked about banner options.
Cindy said we could either replace the damaged and missing ones with the same designs, or commission new designs and replace all the banners.
Sanhita asked about flags - Lincolnwood has these on Lincoln Ave.
Irshad likes the banners on Pulaski, which are actually metal with decorative cutouts. Sauganash has something similar.
Cindy will look into this. Any other items or concerns on landscaping or outdoor beautification?
Pete wants the litter contractor to do a better job clearing litter and debris out from under and around trash can liners.
Irshad asked about intersection stamps - the one at Pulaski and Montrose looks really nice.
Marlene says there isn’t any street resurfacing work planned for Devon in the near future.

VI. Pigeons
Cindy is awaiting quotes for the pigeon abatement signage - planning on 24 yard signs for the in-ground planting areas on Devon and 100 cardstock ones for distribution to businesses for placement in windows. Also looking into whether there’s a need or interest in exterminator services for the upcoming season.
Irshad wants to continue with one of his buildings, and Pete suggested including the building where Karachi Chat House is for this year.

VII. Lighting
Cindy shared that lighting has been ordered but we don’t have a timeline yet on when we can expect to receive it. We’re hoping to get the new lights up ahead of summer events.

VIII. Adjournment
Sanhita asked about getting the OnDevon logo printed on collateral to hand out to businesses and event attendees. Suggested refrigerator magnets.
Cindy will look into it and get quotes.
Meeting adjourned at 3:04pm

Next Meeting: April 18, 2022, 2:30 pm