



SSA#34 – Advisory Commission Meeting
March 31, 2009, 3:30 pm
Combined Insurance, 1st Floor
5050 N. Broadway, Chicago, Illinois

Minutes

Commissioners Present:

Terry Tuohy (President), David Rettker (Treasurer), Margaret Haywood (Secretary), Tom Cameron, Eric Cheng, Chuck Lawrence, Jenny Martin

Commissioners Absent:

Steve Milford (Vice President), Chip Long, Mitch Schneider, Warren Preis

Others in attendance:

Joyce Dugan, President/CEO, Uptown United
Wally Rozak, SSA #34 Administrator, Uptown United
Noreen Keeney, resident & nominee for SSA #34 commissioner
Lucy Moy-Bartosik, Commander, 20th District, Chicago Police Department
Norman Kwang, Sgt., Community Relations, 20th District, Chicago Police Department
Joel Derstine, resident, business owner, and Board Member of Uptown Business Partners

Meeting called to order at 3:38 pm.

I. Public Input:

Non-Commissioners in attendance were asked to introduce themselves: SSA Commissioner nominee Noreen Keeney; Chamber Board member Joel Derstine; and Police officers from the 20th District.

II. Review of Minutes: from the February 17, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously. Moved J. Martin, seconded by C. Lawrence.

Minutes from March 10, 2008 were approved unanimously. Moved T. Cameron, seconded by J. Martin.

III. Program Updates:

- a.** Snow removal – Rozak described a close call from previous weekend. Uptown United staff reviewed the weather forecast, received some input from SSA Executive Committee members & decided not to have Cleanslate go out to plow

snow under extended coverage for \$2,400 per occurrence of snow over 2 inches until May 1.

- b. Litter Removal – Of all bags collected, Cleanslate is reporting that 80% are of recyclables. They are putting more effort into emptying trash receptacles on the weekends, and removing signs posted on public property.
- c. Public Safety – Safety Vendor Expo (co-sponsored with Business Partners and SSA#34) is scheduled for April 30 at the Aragon Ballroom, from 1-4pm. Officer Ron Rufo will be speaking on business crime prevention techniques.
- d. Commander Moy from the 20th District shared some information:
 - Anti-trespassing signage via Allstate Grants, two per business owner, for pick-up so that way district can collect all contact info from businesses. Signs should be available in 6-8 weeks.
 - Car break-ins – crime peaks in warmer weather & when economy is down.
 - Sgt. Kwong shared info about the Chicago Office of Emergency Management and Communications (OEMC) program to link into private security cameras that focus onto the public way.
 - Related info on recent meeting with Ald. Smith and the Somerset Place to discuss various issues of security of their building at Sheridan/Argyle.

IV. Finance Update: Reconciled financial statements (Profit & Loss and Balance Sheet) through end of February were distributed.

- a. The first installment of property tax payments expected in 2009 started coming in during March. Actual amount of revenue expected in first quarter 2009 was about what was expected.
- b. Audit of 2008 is underway with Eilts CPA.
- c. Draft Budget/Workplan for Submission to Dept. of Community Development Terry Tuohy, David Rettker, Marco Morales, Joyce Dugan and Wally Rozak met to discuss the current budget and draft budget for 2010 due into the City April 1st.

Rozak stated the desire expressed by the Commissioners to keep the multiplier for the taxes as low as possible. The Commission may want to have a larger carryover into next year, to accommodate the possibility of getting less money due to the economy & other factors.

Rozak also noted that the vast majority of the budget is in litter and snow removal. Dugan noted that since streetscape is not taken place this year but rather in 2010, expenses for amenities would make sense to carry over to 2010.

Dugan pointed out that if we want to have more in for safety, then we will have to drop something from street maintenance. Dugan suggested that the Department of Transportation should come into do a presentation about the proposed streetscaping on Broadway at the next Commission meeting on April 21.

As an example, with holiday decorations, Tuohy noted that we need to pull together a task force/committee to look at different ways of providing more meaningful decorations. For instance, perhaps a greater impact would be made through

decorations tailored for specific areas within Uptown (e.g. New Year for Argyle, smaller size within Buena Park, etc.)

Tuohy emphasized the need to get the program subcommittees active this spring so that creative ideas can be developed and budgeted for within the final 2010 budget/plan submission in July.

No vote needed on draft 2010 budget/workplan. City will review it and ask for clarifications or changes. Commissioners will provide more consideration/planning for final 2010 budget due in July 2009.

V. Old Business:

- a. Question re: multiyear contracts with SSA vendors. City officials indicated that yes, it is possible to have multiyear contracts but there should be language incorporated into contracts to protect Uptown United as the Sole Service Provider.
- b. Summit meeting of leaders from the various Boards will take place at Wild Pug on Weds. April 1. Initial plan to invite all SSA Commissioners to participate was scaled back to include Commission officers only. United staff asked guidance of City Ethics Board. They indicated that having most Commissioners in attendance would mean we would not be in compliance with the Open Meetings Act. One objective of the Summit is enhanced communications among all the different entities of Uptown United.

VI. New Business:

- a. Cmdr. Moy noted that the Community Prosecutions Unit will be reinstated in May with fulltime felony and misdemeanor prosecutors. The office will support prosecution activities for the 19th, 20th, and 23rd Districts.
- b. C. Lawrence asked about timetable for Wilson Yard and Target. Construction on the housing aspects of the development is underway. Target only opens stores twice a year: July and October. Target is slated to open at Wilson Yard in October 2010. Tuohy noted that Peter Holsten, former Commissioner & developer at Wilson Yard could be invited back to update the Commission on the progress.
- c. Rozak is coordinating a project for the Spring Mayor's Clean & Green Day April 25th. Will get mulch from City, and work with several Cleanslate interns, and volunteers from the Truman Square block club to mulch tree pits on the commercial parkways.
- d. Dog waste bags dispensers were received to be placed at various locations within the SSA boundaries.
- e. The Cleanslate program will be featured on news segment filmed for ABC 7 to be aired in mid-April.

VII. Adjournment:

- a. Rettker moved to adjourn, seconded by C. Lawrence, and passed unanimously at 4:30pm.

Minutes approved at 4/21/09 Meeting