



**Uptown Special Service Area (SSA#34)
Advisory Commission Meeting
May 19, 2009, 3:30 pm
Combined Insurance, 1st Floor
5050 N. Broadway, Chicago, Illinois**

MINUTES (approved at July 8, 2009 Meeting)

Commissioners Present:

Terry Tuohy (Chair), David Rettker (Treasurer), Margaret Haywood (Secretary), Tom Cameron, Eric Cheng, Chip Long, Jenny Martin, Mitch Schneider

Commissioners Absent:

Steve Milford (Vice Chair), Chuck Lawrence, Warren Preis

Others in attendance:

Joyce Dugan, President/CEO, Uptown United
Wally Rozak, SSA #34 Administrator, Uptown United

Meeting called to order at 3:39 pm.

I. Public Input:

None

II. Review of Minutes: from the July 21, 2008 meeting were approved unanimously.
Moved by Rettker, seconded by J. Martin.

Minutes reviewed from the April 21, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously.
Moved by Long, seconded by Rettker.

III. Program Updates:

a. Safety

The Business Safety Fair & Expo was held on April 30 in the lobby of the Aragon Ballroom. In spite of downpour of rain, about 60 people from various businesses & organizations in attendance, 15 vendors were represented, and three presentations concerning business safety tactics, common sense approaches, personal defense tactics for employees, etc.

A public meeting on safety issues (as a follow-up to last year's large meetings) was held last Monday at Truman College. A variety of organizations – including Uptown United – were on hand to share info with attendees.

Rozak will invite additional SSA reps to the Uptown Business Partners Safety Committee next week to talk about the proposed rebate program and come up with a proposal for the entire Commission to consider and approve.

J. Martin asked re: signage for Asian Village parking lot. Rozak will follow-up to see when the 20th District has “no trespassing/loitering” signs on hand for distribution.

Long noted recent arrest activity at Lawrence/Sheridan. Attendees noted the recently installed Chicago Police camera at that intersection.

b. Beautification/Holiday Decorations

Meeting last week held with members of the Business Partners Board & staff, Chip Long, & Tuohy, and United staff.

Various ideas were discussed in within the context of cost, efficiency, and community involvement.

One recommendation was to develop a wreath program that would involve different organizations, school groups, and the like to decorate wreaths that would then be distributed to/adopted by businesses in the SSA. This would provide a visual continuity and could be tied-in with contests and events, thereby generating goodwill and marketing opportunities for businesses.

Another recommendation is to decorate key intersections or nodes using larger planters. These larger, yet movable types of planters, could be redistributed within the SSA at other times of the year.

Tuohy will start working on proposals for consideration by the committee and Commissioners.

c. Cleanliness Update

United submitted proposal to Public Allies for 2009-10 Litter Free. Public Allies is reviewing the proposals and they will look for appropriate candidates for our program.

There was discussion about multiyear contracts particularly regarding litter removal and also number of bids to seek.

After discussion, Rettker moved that for all vendors, the sole service provider must issue an open bid the first time a service is needed. If the chosen vendor works out, the sol service provider can pursue a multi-year contract with that

vendor on behalf of the SSA. Motion seconded by Schneider & approved unanimously by voice vote.

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

- a. Proposal to open a second SSA account to ensure monies are fully FDIC insured – a recommendation of the audit. This had been discussed by Commissioners last year when the FDIC cap was \$100K. United staff recommended American Metro Bank as it's a community-based bank and also a Chamber member. United had already moved funds to Northside Community Federal Credit Union.

Cameron moved to transfer \$100,000 from Bridgeview Bank account to an interest-bearing Money Market account at American Metro Bank in Uptown. Seconded by Long. Approved unanimously by voice vote.

V. Old Business:

- a. Poop Bag Dispensers are up. Very good response. Asked businesses & neighbors nearby to keep an eye on them. Worked to place them for maximum dog walking traffic and near libraries and schools.

VI. New Business:

- a. Rozak requested that the June 16th meeting be moved to two weeks later on June 30th in order to accommodate committee meetings. Rettker moved to revised meeting date, seconded by Schneider, and passed unanimously by voice vote.

Committee meeting with UBP Safety Committee on Wednesday, May 27th at 4pm. A reminder will be sent.

VII. Adjournment:

- a. Next meetings are scheduled for Tuesday, June 30, 3:30pm and Tuesday, August 18, 3:30pm.
- b. Rettker moved to adjourn, seconded by Schneider, and passed unanimously at 4:17pm.