



**Uptown Special Service Area (SSA#34)
Advisory Commission Meeting
July 8, 2009, 3:30 pm
Combined Insurance, 1st Fl., 5050 N. Broadway, Chicago, IL**

Minutes

Commissioners Present:

Terry Tuohy (Chair), Steve Milford (Vice Chair), Margaret Haywood (Secretary), Eric Cheng, Kelly Cheng, Chip Long, Marco Morales, Warren Preis, Mitch Schneider

Commissioners Absent:

David Rettker (Treasurer), Tom Cameron, Noreen Keeney, Jenny Martin

Others in attendance:

Joyce Dugan, President/CEO, Uptown United
Wally Rozak, SSA #34 Administrator, Uptown United
Nick Dorado, Resident of 1300 block of W. Wilson Ave.
Kate Anthony, Resident, 4700 block of N. Winthrop Ave.
Hon. Helen Shiller, Alderman, 46th Ward
Maggie Marystone, Aide to Ald. Shiller

Meeting called to order at 3:35 pm.

I. Public Input/Announcements:

- Introduction of resident Nick Dorado. Introduction of two new newly Commissioners in attendance: Kelly Cheng and Marco Morales. A third, Noreen Keeney, was unable to attend this meeting.
- Alderman Helen Shiller of the 46th Ward asked to be added to the agenda to discuss some proposed changes to the Wilson Yard Tax Increment Financing (TIF) agreement. Ald. Shiller is expected to arrive at around 4:00pm.

II. Review of Minutes: from the May 19, 2009 meeting were approved unanimously. Moved, Warren Preis, seconded Chip Long.

III. Review of Mid-Year Assessment:

Rozak presented the Mid-Year Assessment document required by the City to demonstrate progress on/adjustment to the annual workplan. Highlighted were:

- The addition of a coordinator dedicated to development of the anti-litter campaign in the schools through Public Allies (the program will fully launch in September).
- Security rebate program will also be added. The amount of the rebate and the procedures for application and receipt of it have yet to be determined.

Corresponding 2009 Budget Reallocations

The 2009 budget was distributed with some draft reallocations:

- 2.04 – Liability/Property Insurance: reduced to \$4,000 due to savings on different carrier & policy
- 2.05 – Sidewalk Cleaning: Increased to \$250,000 to account for actual final cost of contract.
- 2.10 – Supplies: \$1,000 added from carry over for materials for dog poop bag dispensers and supplies
- 2.14 – Direct Services/Public Ally Stipend: \$8,000 added from carry over for September - December stipend for coordinator of anti-litter pilot program in selected Uptown schools.
- 7.02 – Security Rebate Program: Increased to \$10,000 for pilot rebate program starting in 2009.
- 7.06 – Security Seminars: Reduced to \$3,000.
- 7.08 – Court & CAPS Community Service: Reduced to \$1,000.
- 8.00 – District Planning: Reduced to \$1,000.

MOTION: Kelly Cheng moved to accept the 2009 Mid-Year Assessment and the Revised 2009 Budget as presented. The motion was seconded by Preis and passed unanimously.

IV. 2010 Draft Budget and Workplan:

Rozak explained that the biggest changes to the draft 2010 budget & workplan submitted in April were for a Public Ally and for dog waste bags. Tuohy explained that the Public Ally will be developing an anti-litter, pro-recycling program with Goudy, Stewart and Uplift Schools as well as Truman College. Interviewing of Public Allies candidates will take place in July.

MOTION: Milford moved to accept both the draft budget and workplan for 2010. Long seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

MOTION: Preis moved to accept Uptown United as the Sole Service Provider for 2010. Marco seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

In regards to presented financial statements for the first half of 2009, Rozak stated that approximate 45% of expected tax revenues from 2008 have been received thus far. This figure is reasonable. The Profit & Loss shows that money was taken back from previous years, as people filed appeals and received refunds on property taxes. \$100,000 was moved into an interest-bearing account at American Metro Bank.

V. Old Business:

Public Safety

Rozak described the work done in conjunction with Uptown Business Partners in targeting hotspots to work with and strengthen the informal network of businesses that

exists in smaller sub-areas of the larger community. Analogous to a business block club or business CAPS meeting. A meeting was held on July 7 with various businesses and institutional reps from the area around Sheridan & Lawrence to discuss crime & safety issues. Both Commanders from the 20th and 23rd Districts were in attendance. This collaboration between SSA Administrator and Business Partners Public Safety Committee will be planning similar meetings in other “hotspot areas” like Argyle and certain sections of Wilson Ave.

Some discussion re: Wilson west of the El tracks re: litter, flydumping, police response, loitering.

VI. New Business:

- a. Meeting adjourned at 4:03pm for a break until the arrival of Ald. Shiller at about 4:00pm. Milford moved to adjourn, Preis seconded and it was passed unanimously.
- b. Meeting reconvened at 4:14pm without quorum for informational presentation by Alderman Shiller of the 46th Ward. Local resident Kate Anthony and 46th Ward staff Maggie Marystone were also in attendance for the presentation.
- c. Ald. Shiller presented on proposed amendment to Wilson Yard TIF Agreement to:
 - Place five now-vacant properties onto the TIF acquisition map: and
 - Amend the total budget to reflect revised projected property tax revenues over the 23 year life of the TIF district.

The Alderman also proposed and discussed potential uses for the parcels after acquisition:

- Potential use of three odd-shaped, undeveloped parcels on Sheridan north of Montrose for commercial parking & installation of public alley where none currently exists.
- Potential use of the shuttered former Salvation Army center and adjacent vacant lot at Sunnyside & Broadway as a green technology center with capability for growing food on-site with first floor market geared toward locally made and grown food & products.

Alderman Shiller indicated that a meeting of the Wilson Yard Task Force will be held on July 23rd to discuss the amendment to the TIF agreement and that the SSA Commission should send a representative.

VII. Adjournment:

- a. Next meeting scheduled for Tuesday, August 18, 3:30pm.
- b. Meeting adjourned at 5:05pm.