

**Uptown Special Service Area (SSA#34)
Advisory Commission Meeting
February 16, 2010, 3:30 pm
Sun Wah BBQ Restaurant
5039-41 N. Broadway, Chicago, IL**

Minutes

Commissioners Present:

Terry Tuohy (Chair), Steve Milford (Vice Chair), David Rettker (Treasurer), Margaret Haywood (Secretary), Tom Cameron, Kelly Cheng, Chip Long, Jenny Martin

Commissioners Unable to Attend:

Noreen Keeney, Marco Morales, Warren Preis, Mitch Schneider

Others in Attendance:

Wally Rozak, SSA #34 Administrator, Uptown United

Meeting called to order at 3:34 pm.

I. Public Input: None

II. Review of Minutes: from the January 2010 meeting were approved unanimously. Moved, Rettker, seconded Martin.

III. Financial Report: Rozak noted that the Cook County Treasurer included an insert with the notice of first installment due of 2009 property tax. It noted that date of the second tax bill for this year is still undetermined and could be very late in the year or even into 2011. This impacts budgeting, when it is unknown when tax receipts will actually be received by Uptown United for the SSA. He also noted that Cleanslate is the biggest expense, by far.

IV. Officers for 2010: Typically officers of the Commission are affirmed early in the calendar year. Rettker suggested that the slating be done by the nominating committee.

V. Security Rebate Pilot Program Update:

Rozak stated that there had been five applications for rebates to date. Three have been approved: Jay Bomberg (Wilson Windsor Building), Jim Stoller, (Lorelei) and Andy Lam. The condo building on the north side of Leland, just east of the train tracks and Warren Preis have also submitted applications. The Institute for Cultural Affairs has expressed interest, but as yet has not submitted an application. Touhy asked when the businesses get their rebate checks and Rozak replied that it is only after all the work is completed.

VI. RFPs:

- a. There were only two responses to the RFP for the 2009 audit: One from our Eilts & Associates for \$2,000 and one from the Reznick Group for \$5,000. Several other

accounting firms were approached, but declined to respond to the RFP. Rettker moved to accept the bid from our accountant. Long seconded and the motion passed unanimously.

- b. Rozak also discussed the RFP to update the research PINs in the SSA. Martin asked how it is decided who pays into the SSA. Rozak responded that SSAs are focused around commercial districts but can include some residential-only properties. The SSA included the was extended up Winthrop near Argyle to include the parking lot and the school. Rozak will go over the bids with a committee to make sure that everything is comparable. Three bids were received - \$5,265 from Terra Firma, run by Brad Leibov who has helped set up several SSAs including this one; \$7,000 from Friedman & Associates; and \$8,000 from PLACE Consulting in Rogers Park.

Once we get the correct PINs for the SSA, we will check to see that we are getting money from all the properties that we should and correct any oversights with the City & County, if necessary. The research on the PINs should take two to three weeks.

The Commissioners deferred voting to accept a proposal at the next meeting after more review and discussion.

Midway through 2010, the streetscaping of Broadway from Montrose to Wilson will be complete and the SSA will take over maintenance of new planters and other items. This will need to be put out to bid soon. The Commission expects to discuss options for informational signage to help businesses during the streetscape (e.g. letting the public know that businesses remain open during construction, parking availability, etc.).

VII. Committee Meetings to Schedule

- a. **Safety** – Meeting after the SSA meeting.
- b. **Nominating** – Long, Tuohy & Michelle Feuer will meet at 1:00 on February 23.
- c. **Finance** – Will meet March 2 to start the 2011 budget.
- d. **Litter/Snow**- This committee will meet mid-March to go over the contract. The SSA is responsible for maintenance of the planters on the new Broadway streetscape mid-year.
- e. **Marketing/Communication** - Rozak would like to do a newsletter once the contact info for all property owners is in hand. He will talk to Keeney & Morales.

VIII. New Business:

- a. **Lunar New Year** - Cheng announced that the Lunar New Year parade would take place on Argyle Street at 12:30 on the upcoming Saturday
- b. **Update on Joyce Dugan's Health** - Rozak noted her recent diagnosis of a form of leukemia and that she will be out for treatment for about a month. She is good spirits and is working as much as she can via phone and email.
- c. **Wilson Yard Housing** - Brochures for the apartments at Wilson Yard were distributed.

IX. Adjournment:

Rettker moved to adjourn, Cheng seconded, and it was passed unanimously at 4:19 pm.