



Southeast Side
COMMUNITY
Business District
Special Service Area 5

SSA 5 Regular Commission Meeting Minutes

February 25, 2021

PRESENT

Laurentino Ramirez
Dorothy Hudson
Bonnie Dinell-Diamond
Angela Hurlock
Alex J. Alemis

ABSENT

Albert Garcia

SERVICE PROVIDER

Tom Schell
Dave Price
Diane Abbott
Erika Rodriguez

GUEST

Latisha Jordan and Captain Salmon, AGB Investigative
Karen Forte, City of Chicago
Torrance Booker
Curtrice Bush, House of Mercy and Grace

The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m.

1. Approval of the Agenda

There being no corrections or additions to the agenda, a motion to approve the agenda was made by Bonnie Dinell-Diamond, seconded by Laurentino Ramirez. Motion carried.

Public Comments

Curtrice Bush, House of Mercy and Grace gave follow up comments regarding the business proposal for her organization.

Ms. Bush took questions and informed that the organization has looked at another building in hopes of acquiring it. Ms. Bush stated that she has secured some funding but looking to secure the remainder needed to staff and begin services. It was suggested that Ms. Bush and her organization seek out other organizations in the South Shore area to network with and expand the support for her offerings.

Election of the Chairperson and Vice-Chairperson (2 year term)

Mr. Schell stated that the Chairperson, Angela Hurlock and Vice-Chairperson, Dorothy Hudson were up for re-election of their two year terms. Ms. Bonnie Dinell-Diamond suggested keeping the same leadership if both of the commissioners were willing. Bonnie Dinell-Diamond motioned that current slate of officers stay the same for the next two year term, seconded by Laurentino Ramirez. Motion carried.

2. Approval of the Minutes

There being one correction to the minutes, Angela Hurlock named misspelled within the minutes. There being no other additions, a motion to approve the January 28, 2021, meeting minutes was made by Laurentino Ramirez, seconded by Dorothy Hudson. Motion carried.

3. Financial Report

Financial Reports for the month ending January 31, 2021, were reviewed and discussed. Tom Schell reviewed the revenues and expenses for the month of January. After further discussion regarding the Financial Reports, a motion to approve the January 31, 2021 Financial Reports was made by Dorothy Hudson, seconded by Laurentino Ramirez. Motion carried.

4. Cash Flow / Receivables

Tom Schell provided the commissioners with a copy of the January, 2021 bank reconciliation. After a discussion and explanation, a motion to accept the January bank reconciliation was made by Dorothy Hudson, seconded by Laurentino Ramirez. Motion carried.

5. Items for Approval

Tom Schell presented the January and February invoices for payment approval.

After a brief discussion regarding the invoices, a motion to approve the January and February invoices was made by Laurentino Ramirez, seconded by Bonnie Dinell-Diamond. Motion carried.

6. 2020 Budget Reconciliation

Mr. Schell presented the budget reconciliation that had been approved via email but now must be brought to an official vote. A motion to accept the 2020 Budget reconciliation was made by Dorothy Hudson, seconded by Laurentino Ramirez. Motion carried.

7. Program Manager Report

Dave Price presented the security committee report. The 4th District brought data regarding the two persistent issues within the SSA 5. Mr. Price said that the new owner of McDonalds is open to discussion. It was suggested that the owner be invited to the security meeting as well as the SSA 5 public monthly meeting. Captain Salmon suggested the need to have two officers on the security detail as the incidents warrant this type of coverage. Mr. Price asked for specific data regarding the time frame and days of increased incidents in order to determine the hours of a second officer. Mr. Price feels that the committee will be able to provide detailed metrics and data to see if crime has increased or decreased.

Dave Price provided a report on the Holiday Gift Card Program results. Dave Price said redemption went down overall. A couple of businesses were not able to reopen after the civil unrest last summer. There were more receipts for grocery stores and restaurants. Mr. Price feels that there was a broader impact even with less receipts redeemed. Mr. Price said a total of 132 gift cards totaling \$6,600. were redeemed.

Dave Price reported that the event committee is hopeful in their planning efforts and has events planned that would keep groups of people from congregating. Dave Price said all the events would be outdoor events. Mr. Price stated the main idea is to do a "welcome back" type of event, welcoming people back to the Commercial Avenue district. Dave Price said the committee wants to expand on the Halloween activities as well as the "Santa on Commercial" activities.

Dave Price updated on the progress of the Invest Southwest Corridor project. Dave Price introduced Erika Rodriguez as the Corridor Manager. Dave Price stated he and Erika Rodriguez will complete, refine and implement the work plan goals as well as the metrics for how to evaluate and measure success for this project.

8. Items for Discussion/Approval

Mr. Schell asked Alex J. Alemis to review the façade rebate application that Family Dental Care has submitted. The application was distributed and presented at the meeting in January but did not have a quorum at the time of presentation, so no vote could occur. Mr. Alex J. Alemis presented the application proposal and a discussion occurred. Ms. Angela Hurlock recused herself from the vote, as her agency rents space within the building in the proposal. At this time, Ms. Bonnie Dinell-Dimond requested a closed conversation discussion. Mr. Alex J. Alemis left the video conference call. After a brief discussion, it was determined that the entire commission would need to be re-sent the complete rebate application. Ms. Angela Hurlock stated that this approval would need to wait until the commissioners had a chance to review the documents. No vote was taken.

Adjournment

There being no additional business, a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:57 p.m. was made by Bonnie Dinell-Dimond, seconded by Laurentino Ramirez. Motion carried.

Next Regular Scheduled Meeting – March 25, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.