



Southeast Side
COMMUNITY
Business District
Special Service Area 5

SSA 5 Regular Commission Meeting Minutes

April 27, 2023

PRESENT

Alex Alemis
Bonnie Dinell-Diamond
Laurentino Ramirez
Angela Hurlock

ABSENT

Laura Shallow
Dorothy Hudson

SERVICE PROVIDER

Tom Schell, Executive Director
Crystal Vance-Guerra, Program Manager

GUESTS

Liliana Busto, 10th Ward Office
Jessica Smith, Plates on Purpose
Captain Kevin Salmon, AGB Investigative Services
Mikael David, Claretian Associates
Monique Thurman, Claretian Associates
Peter Chico, 10th Ward Alderman Elect
Zack Ramsey, Special Events Committee Member

Angela Hurlock welcomed our guests. At this time, our guests, commissioners and services provider staff introduced themselves.

At this time, a quorum was not present, the meeting began with the security report at 2:03 p.m.

Captain Kevin Salmon introduced himself and provided details regarding his company, AGB Investigations and what security services they provide for SSA 5. Captain Salmon explained AGB relationship with the 4th District police and how they work together during their patrol hours. Captain Salmon presented security report for the month of March.

Captain Salmon identified the types of crimes that happened during the patrol hours and those that happened outside of the patrol hours as well as the days and times during the patrol hours. Crystal Vance–Guerra provided a summary of her meetings with 4th District representatives. After the presentation, Captain Salmon entertained questions from the commissioners, guests and service provider staff regarding the report.

Program Report

Crystal Vance-Guerra reported on the Thrift and Thrive that will held on 89th and Commercial Avenue. Ms. Vance-Guerra stated that at this event there will be a trash pick-up drive happening on Commercial Avenue and there will be a prize given to the individual with the most trash picked up. The Thrift and Thrive will take place on both sides of the street, the last Sunday of each month on 89th and Commercial Avenue from 11:00a.m. - 3p.m.

Crystal Vance-Guerra reported that South Chicago Parents and Friends, Inc. (SCPF) received a grant from the City of Chicago to plan out murals and other art projects along Commercial Avenue. The grant will enable SCPF to provide the City of Chicago with short term and long term art projects. Meetings with community member will take place in the coming months. A brief discussion occurred regarding the current murals on Commercial Avenue.

Crystal Vance-Guerra provided additional information on the Spend Some Get Some holiday promotion. Ms. Vance-Guerra identified the business that had the most sales during the promotion.

Crystal Vance-Guerra stated that the business meeting have been occurring for the past couple of months. Ms. Vance-Guerra reported that she assisted four businesses with their applications for the Commercial Avenue SBIF grant. The SBIF grant is still open until May 1, 2023.

At this time, a quorum was present, the meeting was called to order at 2:26 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-Dimond, seconded by Alex Alemis. Motion carried.

2. Approval of the Minutes

Minutes from the March 23, 2023 were reviewed. There being no corrections nor additions to the minutes, a motion to approve the March 23, 2023 meeting minutes as presented was made by Alex Alemis, seconded by Bonnie Dinell-Dimond. Motion carried.

3. Financial Report

Financial Reports for the month ending March 31, 2023, were reviewed and discussed. Mr. Schell reviewed the financial position statement as well as the revenues and expenses for the month of March. After further discussion regarding the Financial Reports, a motion to approve the March 31, 2023 Financial Reports was made by Laurentino Ramirez, seconded by Bonnie Dinell-Dimond. Motion carried.

4. Cash Flow / Receivables

Tom Schell provided the commissioners with a copy of the March bank reconciliation. A brief discussion occurred regarding the outstanding checks and the monthly deposits. After further discussion and explanation, a motion to accept the February bank reconciliation was made by Bonnie Dinell-Dimond, seconded by Alex Alemis. Motion carried.

5. Items for Approval

Tom Schell presented the March and April invoices for payment approval. After further discussion regarding the invoices, a motion to approve the March and April invoices for payment was made by Laurentino Ramirez, seconded by Bonnie Dinell-Dimond. Motion carried.

6. Program Report (Additional)

Tom Schell and Crystal Vance-Guerra provided a brief update on the Commercial Avenue streetscape. Mr. Schell reported that the project has started. Mr. Schell reported that the company that has been hired for this project has an office in the US Bank building. Meetings on Microsoft teams will be held weekly with status updates.

Tom Schell reported that with the streetscape project, Commercial Avenue will be getting all new planters. Mr. Schell stated that the street crew is going to try and move some of the planters onto east 91st street. After a brief discussion, the commissioners agreed to allow businesses and/or churches in the district to have the planters if they are able to remove them. Mr. Schell reported that in the fall we would have to move the Alfresco stalls, planters and art stacks on 89th street.

Laurentino Ramirez inquired about any potential façade and security rebate applications. Crystal Vance-Guerra provided an update on potential applicants.

Angela Hurlock reported that Claretian Associates will be hosting a Career Fair on May 4, 2023 from 10-2p.m. at the Salud Center. Additionally, on the same day, Galleria 89 is having a bidders fair for local contractors from 10-2p.m. at the Salud Center.

Laurentino Ramirez reported that the Spanish Coalition for Housing is assisting with rental and mortgage assistance to individuals who qualify.

Adjournment

There being no additional business, a motion to adjourn the meeting at 3:23 p.m. was made by Bonnie Dinell-Diamond, seconded by Laurentino Ramirez. Motion carried.

Next Scheduled Meeting – May 25, 2023 at 2:00 p.m.

