

WPB (SSA #33) Commission

Minutes

Tuesday, July 14, 2009

St. Paul's Community Center, 2215 W. North Avenue, Chicago, IL

Present: Commissioners Payton Chung, David Ginople, Larry Griffin, Joe Hall, Dan Kuruna, Sheila Kailus, Jessica Peterson (chair), Wayne Janik, Claudia Skylar, Laura Weathered; WPB Program Manager Jamie Simone; WPB Contracts Coordinator Jason Giarmo; Alderman Scott Waguespack and approximately eight audience members.

Ms. Peterson called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

Mr. Kuruna moved to approve June 2009 draft minutes. Ms. Kailus seconded. Motion carried unanimously.

Aldermanic report by Ald. Waguespack.

Ald. Waguespack reported on new development within the SSA boundaries, including status of proposed projects at 1608 N. Milwaukee, 1611 N. Damen, and 1601 N. Milwaukee. Ald. Waguespack also discussed the expansion/addition of parking meters within the district and steps his office is taking to address parking-meter related issues.

Financial report by Mr. Sundry.

Mr. Sundry reported revenue of \$3,368.50, expenditures of approximately \$39,129.40, and approximately \$593,976.70 in the WPB's bank accounts.

Program Manager report by Ms. Simone.

Ms. Simone discussed the status of various projects, including:

- Installation of hitches park/lock bikes (to replace lost parking meters); CDOT is interested in a pilot program on Division St. where WPB would purchase hitches and CDOT would install. Ms. Simone also discussed city's interest in installation of permanent bike racks in parking spots; such a project would take place over long term.
- Reviewed success of bike-to-work commuter station at Polish Triangle; photos are available on Flickr. www.flickr.com/people/wearewpb
- Discussed distribution of free bicycle lights with WPB logo. Program has already been completed in 32d Ward; similar program will take place on Polish Triangle (1st Ward) in September.
- Provided update on loading zone audit. Project was delayed by fall out from installation of parking meters. New plan is to focus on loading zones on Milwaukee, between Division St. and North Ave. (highly congested area).
- Discussed proposed study of modes of transportation used to travel to and within WPB; Active Transportation Alliance would conduct such study, which would involve interviews with pedestrians, shoppers, etc. in and around businesses within the WPB boundaries.
- Provided updated on RedPost/bus tracker sign project; need to identify additional local businesses to host signs.
- Update on Futurity project status.

Ms. Simone also read a written report submitted by the Wicker Park/Bucktown Chamber of Commerce regarding Wicker Park Fest.

Contract Coordinator report by Mr. Giarmo.

Mr. Giarmo discussed his efforts to canvas local business to promote façade improvement rebate program. He also reviewed the recent WPB-sponsored paper shred event, which attracted 28 participants and disposed of 1 ton of paper.

Executive Committee report by Ms. Peterson.

Motion: Ms. Peterson moved to change the support level for the administrative assistance position from 15% to 65% provided the SSA has full hiring and supervisory control of this position. The actual amount will be estimated once a person is hired and salary determined. Mr. Janik seconded. Discussion was had regarding salary ranges, job responsibilities, advantages of proposed motion. The motion passed unanimously.

Ms. Peterson also discussed the recent acquisition of furniture for the new offices. WPB will not request any reimbursement or contribution from the Chamber of Commerce for the furniture.

Guide Development Committee report by Mr. Griffin.

Motion: Mr. Griffin moved to approve John Paige and Kirsten Hull as voting members of the Guide Development committee. Mr. Chung seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Mr. Griffin reported on the most recent meeting of the Guide Development committee, including (1) promotion of façade improvement rebate program, (2) plans to market vacant spaces and strategic development sites within neighborhood, and (3) researching potential approaches to a policy/stance for WPB on density of neighborhood development.

Peds and Passengers Committee report by Ms. Kailus.

Motion: Ms. Kailus moved to approve the expenditure of an additional \$5,000 (for a total of \$12,000) from line item 8.01 SSA Work Plans to conduct a more thorough analysis of how shoppers arrive at destinations within SSA#33. Mr. Ginople seconded. (See Program Manager Report for additional details.) After discussion, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Ms. Kailus moved to approve the expenditure of \$6,000 from line item 6.10 Public Transit Enhancements to use for creating conceptual plans for 3 art installations within the CTA stations located within SSA #33. Mr. Sundry seconded. The purpose of the funds are for artists to develop preliminary designs. Discussion was had regarding input from Promote: The Arts committee, selection of projects to be funded. With Mr. Hall abstaining, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Ms. Kailus moved to approve the expenditure of \$1,500 from 3.05 Streetscape Elements to hire interns to walk the sidewalks and prepare an inventory of unsafe sidewalks within SSA #33. Mr. Janik seconded. With Mr. Hall abstaining, the motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Ms. Kailus moved to approve the expenditure of up to \$8,000 from Line Item 6.10 to fund the RedPost/bus tracker sign program. Mr. Janik seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Bikes Committee report by Mr. Chung.

Mr. Chung discussed the current focus of the Bikes Committee, which is on creating additional parking for bikes within the WPB boundaries. Mr. Chung reported that bike racks on at Damen El stop will soon be repaired, and that due to high demand, we anticipate that no new bike racks will be installed in our area by the city until next year.

Clean, Green & Safe Committee Report by Mr. Ginople.

Motion: Mr. Ginople moved to approve installation 361 snowflakes on light poles throughout the

district; and a 25' Christmas Tree, 6' Crescent Star, and 6' Menorah in the Polish Triangle with a fence around the decorations at a cost of \$55,000 per year. This would be a three year contract with a division of HAP Industries, for the installation of all decorations in late November and the removal of all decorations in January, cleaning and storage of all decorations. The funding for 2009-2010 will require reallocation of the following to line item 3.02 Holiday Decorations (which has \$10,500 remaining): \$34,500 from line item 3.05 Streetscape Elements, and \$10,000 from line Item 2.02 Gate/Fence Maintenance. Mr. Hall seconded the motion.

After discussion of the terms of the agreement with HAP, potential alternatives, and other topics, Mr. Sundry proposed an amendment to the motion to condition final approval on a review of potential liabilities for WPB for loss or damage to decorations. As amended, the motion carried five votes to four votes, with Mr. Griffin, Mr. Ginople, Mr. Janik, Ms. Kailus, and Mr. Sundry voting aye, and Ms. Weathered, Mr. Hall, Mr. Chung, and Ms. Skylar voting nay.

Motion: Mr. Ginople moved to approve purchase of credit card size logo tags to be placed on all gator bags to identify to the public that WPB is providing this service at a cost of \$1,500 from Line item number 3.03. Christy Weber will install the logo tags on all gator bags and will store tags with gator bags for use in the following years. Mr. Kuruna seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Mr. Ginople moved to enter into a new agreement to use CleanSlate in 2010 and 2011 for cleaning of the public wal ways. Cleaning would be done 6 days a week during the summer and 3 days a week during the winter. This would be a 2 year contract with a clause in the contract that if their service declines, WPB has the right to cancel the contract. This would be at a cost of \$140,000 from Line item number 2.05 Sidewalk Cleaning in 2010 and a cost of \$145,000 from Line item number 2.05 Sidewalk Cleaning in 2011. Mr. Kuruna seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Mr. Ginople moved to enter in to one-year contracts for snow removal and salting of sidewalks, bus stops and crosswalks with CleanSlate and Olsen starting November 15, 2009 and ending April 15, 2010 at a total cost of \$105,000 from line item number 2.07 Sidewalk Snow Plowing. \$42,000 would come from the 2009 budget and \$63,000 for the 2010 budget. CleanSlate will provide service to North Ave, Damen, Milwaukee and Ashland at a cost of \$85,000; Olsen will provide service to Division and Western at a cost of \$20,000. Mr. Kuruna seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Mr. Ginople moved to approve installation of 20 rain lids on city receptacles on Milwaukee and Ave. and North Ave. at a total cost of \$4,000, to be taken from line item 3.05 Streetscape Elements. Mr. Kuruna seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Mr. Ginople moved to approve a project to paint the tree pit fences on Division Street at a total cost of \$10,000 from line item 2.02 Gate/Fence Maintenance. Work to be performed by the contractor, Shortys LLC, will include painting, girding, and priming the 71 fences on Division Street. Mr. Kuruna seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Mr. Ginople moved to approve Judy Yin as a voting member of the Clean, Green & Safe Committee. Mr. Kuruna seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Mr. Ginople moved to approve \$750 for funding of a recycling program for the Wicker Park Fest. Mr. Chung seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Promote the Arts Committee Report by Mr. Kuruna.

Mr. Kuruna gave a brief report; no motions were proposed.

Promote WPB Report by Mr. Sundry.

Motion: Mr. Sundry moved to approve up to \$15,000 from line item 1.09 to support the last four 2009 First Fridays subject to the receipt and acceptance of their report. Mr. Ginople seconded.

The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Mr. Sundry moved to clarify allocation of funding approved last month for the Wicker Park Fest. \$7,500 will be given to the Wicker Park Bucktown Chamber of Commerce for marketing; \$7,500 will be given to Friends of Pritzker School for kids programming; and \$1,000 total will be used for sponsorship banners for both. Mr. Janik seconded. The motion passed unanimously.

Motion: Mr. Sundry moved to approve an amount not to exceed \$10,000 to fund a contract with Redmoon to host a Halloween event on Milwaukee Avenue. \$10,000 would be reallocated from 3.08 Public Arts to 1.05 Special Events. Mr. Chung seconded. After discussion, the motion carried, with Mr. Hall voting nay and Ms. Weathered abstaining.

Mr. Sundry reported that the committee received and approved the final report Friends of Pritzker School for their birdhouse auction project, which raised approximately \$9,500, and that the final ten percent of the funds approved for Pritzker will be released.

Public comment.

Mr. Ginople moved to adjourn. Mr. Sundry seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 p.m.