

WPB (SSA #33) Commission Meeting Minutes
Minutes
Tuesday, September 8, 2009
Bucktown Wicker Park Library Branch

Present: Commissioners Payton Chung, David Ginople, Larry Griffin, Joe Hall, Wayne Janik, Sheila Kailus, Dan Kuruna, Jan Metzger, Jessica Peterson (chair), Art Sundry, Laura Weathered; WPB Program Manager Jamie Simone; WPB Contracts Coordinator Jason Giarmo; WPB Program Assistant Eleanor Mayer; approximately three members of the general public.

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

Motion: Ms. Metzger moved to approve July 2009 draft minutes. Mr. Janik seconded. With corrections to commissioners present at July 2009 meeting, motion carried unanimously (with Mr. Chung not present for the vote).

Financial report by Mr. Sundry.

For July 2009, Mr. Sundry reported revenue of \$15,310.27, expenditures of approximately \$64,172.47, and approximately \$551,151.21 in the WPB's bank accounts.

For August 2009, Mr. Sundry reported revenue of \$32,547.51, expenditures of approximately \$118,299.39, and approximately \$470,072.08 in the WPB's bank accounts.

Discussion was had regarding the level of expenditures under the utilities categories for July and August.

Program manager report by Ms. Simone.

Ms. Simone discussed the initial launch of the RedPost/CTA Bus Tracker signboard program in various locations in Wicker Park. The WPB RedPost pilot is the first such network anywhere in the country. Ms. Simone reported the program has attracted strong interest from the CTA. With regard to advertisements, the plan is to charge for ads eventually, but provide free credits to certain local groups.

Ms. Simone reported that due to a request from President Obama to perform in Washington, D.C., RedMoon is unable to stage the planned Halloween spectacle. RedMoon is available to perform a holiday-related program in December 2009 as a substitute. A search has begun to find a replacement for RedMoon.

The neighborhood marketing campaign is in its final stages of development. There will tentatively be a launch party on October 15, 2009, location TBD.

Ms. Simone also discussed (1) plans to schedule loading zone meetings in targeted areas of WPB; (2) the draft Active Transportation Alliance mode study report; and (3) the hiring of a payroll company to service WPB.

Contracts coordinator report by Mr. Giarmo.

Mr. Giarmo presented information regarding CleanSlate and Christy Webber performance

statistics, and discussed negotiations with CleanSlate and Olsen Inc. regarding snow removal and street cleaning contracts. Mr. Giarmo also discussed efforts to track the use of newly-installed recycling receptacles in Wicker Park, and discussions with the ward superintendants regarding expediting the installation of additional recycling containers in the future.

Mr. Giarmo also discussed the bid process for installation of murals at Mautene Court and the installation of the commemorative plaque at Mautene Court, which has been completed.

Mr. Giarmo discussed the Clean, Green, and Safe Committee's plans to promote the graffiti abatement program, and efforts to have CleanSlate track/report graffiti within the neighborhood, so that the graffiti location can be reported to the City for Graffiti Blasters service.

Chamber of Commerce report by Ms. Simone.

Ms. Simone provided a written report from the Chamber of Commerce, including information about the revenues from Wicker Park Fest and plans for December on Damen / giftwrap stations promotions.

Long Term Planning Committee report by Mr. Chung.

Mr. Chung presented the report and recommendations from the most recent meeting of the Long Term Planning Committee. The committee reviewed the status reports submitted by each standing committee, and provided specific recommendations and action items. Each committee is to consider and respond to these recommendations and action items.

Mr. Chung also discussed the LTPC's recommendation that the WPB Commission select a "project of the year," namely, a significant project that would be a top priority for WPB to complete/make substantial progress on in the next year.

Motion: Mr. Chung moved to approve the final 10% for the St. Paul's Cultural Center feasibility study, contingent on satisfactory receipt by WPB of: 1. the Preliminary Concept/Facility Layout (architectural drawings); and 2. A revised forecast budget showing sources and uses of funds for the study and development. The motion was withdrawn without a vote.

Ms. Peterson yielded the chair to Ms. Kailus.

Executive Committee report by Ms. Peterson.

Motion: Ms. Peterson moved to approve the following slate of WPB officers for the next year: Jessica Peterson – Chair, Sheila Kailus-Co-Chair, Wayne Janik-Secretary, Larry Griffin-Recording Secretary, and Joe Hall-Treasurer. The motion was seconded by Mr. Kuruna. The motion carried unanimously.

Motions: Ms. Peterson moved to approve the reallocation of funds within the WPB budget as set forth below:

- Move \$8,000 from line item 4.07 Other: Development of Comprehensive Database to line item 1.05 Special Events.
- Move \$10,000 from line item 7.01 Other: Crash Reduction/Education; \$10,000 from 3.08 Other: Public Arts; and \$15,000 from 4.04 Technical Assistance to Businesses to line item 1.09 Other: Community Support Initiative.

- Move \$3,000 from line item 5.05 Other: Graffiti Abatement Program to line item 10.06 Office Utilities/Phone.

- Move \$500 from line item 4.04 Technical Assistance to Businesses to line item 10.11 Other: Computer Assistance.

Mr. Ginople seconded the motions. The motions carried, with Ms. Metzger and Mr. Chung voting nay.

Ms. Kailus yielded the chair back to Ms. Peterson.

Guide Development Committee report by Mr. Griffin.

Mr. Griffin reported that the committee had voted to give preliminary approval to façade improvement projects submitted by (1) Pint, 1567 N. Milwaukee Ave., and (2) Joseph Freed & Assoc., 1287, 1289 and 1291 N. Milwaukee Ave. Discussion was had regarding preliminary approval process for façade improvement program projects; in the future, the full Commission will vote to approve applications for façade improvement rebates instead of the committee.

Motion: Mr. Griffin moved to approve Kirsten Hull and Dan Dean as voting members of the committee. Mr. Chung seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Mr. Griffin moved to approve up to \$3,000 from line item 4.07 for CoStar subscription fees for the remainder of 2009. (The committee would like to enter into a 12-month contract, but the 2009 allocation would be a maximum of \$3,000.) Mr. Ginople seconded. After brief discussion, the motion carried, with Mr. Hall voting nay.

Transportation: Pedestrians & Passengers Committee report by Ms. Kailus.

Ms. Kailus reported that the committee had received and reviewed the initial findings of the Active Transportation Alliance mode study. Ms. Kailus also discussed initial plans regarding CTA Adopt-a-Station and sidewalk maintenance/repair programs.

Motion: Ms. Kailus moved to approve Lisa Phillips as a voting member of the committee. Mr. Chung seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Transportation: Bikes Committee report by Mr. Chung.

Mr. Chung discussed the committee's review of progress to date and prioritization of plans to pursue Master Plan recommendations.

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

Discussion was had regarding options for the holiday decorations for the Polish Triangle.

Motion: Mr. Ginople moved to increase funding for the holiday program from \$55,000 to \$57,000. Ms. Metzger seconded the motion. The motion carried, with Mr. Chung voting nay.

Motion: Mr. Ginople moved to change the holiday decorations program to decorate the 12 existing trees in the Polish Triangle with lights. Mr. Sundry seconded. Motion carried.

Motion: Mr. Ginople moved to approve funding for a marketing campaign to better inform business and building owners of the programs and solutions available for prevention and

suggested actions they should take if they have become a victim of vandalism or graffiti at a cost of \$3,000 from line item number 7.06 for the design and printing of the materials. Ms. Kailus seconded. After discussion regarding the inclusion of other similar programs for business owners in any such promotional materials, the motion was called for a vote and carried unanimously.

Promote: the Arts Committee report by Mr. Kuruna.

Mr. Kuruna reported regarding the goals of the committee for the next year, including compiling a database of local arts organizations and assessing the availability of commercial space for arts within the district.

Promote: WPB Committee report by Mr. Sundry.

Mr. Sundry provided the follow-up reports regarding from Do-Division and Wicker Park Kids Fest, and the Flat Iron Artists Association follow-up report regarding their summer First Friday programs. The committee approved the follow-up reports and released the last ten percent of the approved funding to the respective applicants.

Motion: Mr. Sundry moved to approve \$5,000 from line item 1.09 to support the 2nd Annual Fall smART Show. Mr. Chung seconded. The motion carried, with Mr. Hall abstaining.

Motion: Mr. Sundry moved to approve \$700 from line item 1.09 to support the film/ video/ performance exhibition that smART will host on September 19. Mr. Janik seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Mr. Sundry moved to approve \$3,500 from line item 1.09 to support the Fashion Focus event taking place October 21-25 by producing reusable neighborhood tote bags. Mr. Janik seconded. The bags will be distributed for free in at least ten stores in the neighborhood. The motion carried, with Mr. Hall voting nay.

Motion: Mr. Sundry moved to approve \$6,350 from line item 1.09 to support advertising for Do-Division Holiday. Mr. Chung seconded. The motion carried, with Mr. Janik abstaining.

Motion: Mr. Sundry moved to approve \$6,375 from line item 1.09 to support Boo-Palooza advertising and entertainment. Mr. Janik seconded. The program will include a parade, trick or treating, pumpkin painting, and other activities. The motion carried unanimously.

Motion: Mr. Sundry moved to approve up to \$10,000 from line item 1.05 to contract with another performance troupe to provide entertainment for Halloween 2009. The original contract with Redmoon for a Halloween event will instead be used for a holiday event. The motion carried, with Ms. Metzger abstaining.

Motion: Mr. Sundry moved to approve \$2,800 from line item 1.09 to support the production and distribution of the Pipeline Newsletter. Mr. Janik seconded. The "We Are WPB" logo will be included in the newsletter. The motion carried, with Mr. Hall voting nay.

Motion: To approve \$40,000 from line item 1.04 for design services provided by Firebelly for the Neighborhood Marketing Campaign. After further discussion, motion was amended for \$20,000. Motion carries.

Public comment and announcements.

Ms. Peterson thanked outgoing commissioners Mr. Sundry and Mr. Kuruna for their service to WPB.

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