

**WPB (SSA #33) Commission Meeting Minutes**  
**Tuesday, April 13, 2010**  
**St. Mary's of Nazareth Hospital, Conference Room 1CD, 1127 N.**  
**Oakley Ave.**  
**Approved (FINAL) Minutes**

Present:

Commissioners: Payton Chung, David Ginople, Larry Griffin, Joe Hall, Wayne Janik, Sheila Kailus, Brent Norsman, Jessica Peterson, Jean Taylor, Laura Weathered.

WPB Interim Program Manager Eleanor Mayer.

WPB Chamber of Commerce President Robert Gomez, WPB Chamber Executive Director Paula Barrington, and six members of the general public also attended all or part of the meeting.

**Ms. Peterson called the meeting to order at 7:03 p.m.**

Ms. Peterson found that there was a quorum of active commissioners present.

Mr. Janik moved to approve the March 2010 draft minutes. Mr. Hall seconded. Mr. Ginople requested that the recording secretary correct the minutes to reflect that the discussion point he raised regarding grants should be referenced as the Wicker Park Visual Spectacle Project rather than as the Chopin Theater project. The motion carried unanimously. (Mr. Chung was not present and did not vote on this motion.)

In lieu of an aldermanic report, Ms. Mayer reported on conversations with Alderman Joe Moreno's office regarding potential expansion of the SSA boundaries west along Milwaukee Avenue to California Avenue.

**Financial report by Mr. Hall.**

Mr. Hall presented the statements of financial position, financial activity, and budget v. actual for WPB as of March 31, 2010. WPB had total income of \$187,540.88 and total expenses of \$118,506.35 in March. WPB had approximately \$266,331.40 in current assets at the end of the month.

Mr. Hall noted that the SSA received a large amount of levy income in the past month and that few amounts are currently outstanding. Major expenses include the Do Division festival grant, payments for public way recycling permits (which we can be reimbursed for once the check clears, approximately \$4,000 to Futurity for the landscape database, and a façade improvement rebate for \$5,000.

**Program manager report by Ms. Mayer.**

Ms. Mayer reported regarding her attendance at the American Planning Association conference in New Orleans, LA. There will be a photo and video of the awards ceremony online featuring WPB staff and the master plan consulting team.

Ms. Mayer also discussed the 2011 budget process; the updated grant policy; the Time Out neighborhood guide foldout launch party at the Southern set for April 14th; status of the WPB resource guide project; WPB bicycle light distribution; WPB programs to be featured on a panel at an upcoming Arts exposition; next community shred day to take place on May 8th, from 10-Noon in the K-Mart parking lot at Division and Ashland.

**Chair recognized WPBCC Executive Director Paula Barrington.**

Ms. Barrington discussed Alderman Moreno's proposal re: SSA expansion, the Chamber's impending receipt of a city grant, the Chamber's plans to launch a banner program, planning for Wicker Park Fest (July 31-August 1 2010) and upcoming request for funding from SSA re the promotion of the Wicker Park Fest.

Ms. Barrington also announced her resignation as executive director effective May 14, 2010 for personal reasons. Ms. Peterson thanked Ms. Barrington for her service to the Chamber, the SSA, and the neighborhood.

**Executive committee report by Ms. Peterson.**

No report/motions; please see committee report.

**Promote: WPB Committee report by Ms. Kailus.**

Ms. Kailus reported that the committee declined to release the final 10 percent on Wicker Park Visual Spectacle feasibility study.

Ms. Kailus discussed the possibility of volunteers (particularly commissioners) distributing the upcoming Resource Guide to local business owners and residents. Mr. Griffin recommended that copies be provided at the local public library and other high-traffic locations.

Ms. Kailus discussed the upcoming Wicker Park Fest grant and noted that the funds for grants in 2010 and beyond will need to be prioritized because limited funds are available.

Ms. Kailus reported on plans to energize the public space at Mautene Court. The ice sculpture program was cited as an example of a success. Tocco has ideas for the programming of the space but wants WPB to fund and manage those ideas. The

Commission discussed various ideas and the committee will keep working on this program.

Ms. Kailus moved to approve payment of \$3,000 to produce 20,000 extra copies of the Time Out Chicago Neighborhood Guide from line 1.04 Public Media Relations/Events. Mr. Chung seconded. The motion carried unanimously.

Ms. Kailus moved to approve payment of \$300 for a marketing event to promote the Time Out Chicago Neighborhood Guide from line 1.04 Public Media Relations/Events. Mr. Janik seconded. The motion carried unanimously, with Mr. Hall abstaining.

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

Mr. Ginople reported re: exploration of enhanced trash can service similar to that found in West Town SSA, which are serviced by Cleanslate. It was recommended that WPB acquire cheaper cans, place them, and donate them to the city. SSA would still need to pay Cleanslate to empty cans but this would avoid fees.

Motion regarding the Futurity database updates was tabled pending resolution of additional questions and concerns by committee.

Mr. Ginople addressed questions regarding the review process for the landscaping contract. The contract term runs from April 2010 to April 2011, with a performance review approximately halfway through the contract that will help to inform whether or not the contract should be extended into 2012. Mr. Ginople discussed the relationship between the two RFPs (one for trees and the other for landscaping) and the subcontractor relationship between Christy Webber Landscaping and Autumn Tree Care.

Mr. Ginople moved to approve an amount not to exceed \$95,000 from Line Item 3.03 – Landscaping to enter into a landscaping and tree care contract with Christy Webber Landscapes, acting as prime contractor in partnership with Autumn Tree Care for maintenance of the SSA's urban forest, for one year, approximately April 2010 to April 2011. Mr. Griffin seconded. The motion carried unanimously with Mr. Ginople abstaining.

Mr. Ginople discussed the plans to install a mural in Mautene Court. The key issue is where to paint it. It was decided that on site was an appropriate place for painting. The project and project funding was approved by the Commission in May 2009. Novem Studios (the artists) have been authorized funding in the amount of \$4,000 total (\$3000 to create the mural and \$1000 to maintain it for 24 months). Christy Webber Landscapes has been authorized funding in the amount of \$4,000 to install and mount the mural's canvas of faux-brick and plywood on the fence adjacent to

Mautene Court. CWL will first install the canvas and then Novem will paint on it, on site.

Mr. Ginople reported that a city contractor was marking tree pits in the neighborhood as part of a program to replace with trees not prone to disease.

Ms. Peterson yields the chair to Ms. Kailus.

**Promote: The Arts report by Ms. Peterson.**

Ms. Peterson moved to approve funds from Line Item 3.08- Other: Public Arts in amount of \$25,000 for the first portion of Phase II of the WPB Art in Vacant Storefronts project. This funding is to be used to pay the selected vendor (Firebelly/Pivotal Productions team) to do the following, establish the art selection jury and review, determine the installation's overall theme (in one meeting with the Promote the Arts committee), create an RFP process for artist, and identify and pair the first round of WPB storefronts with specific art installations for display in June/July 2010. In committee discussion with the contracted team, it was decided to shorten the length of the project display from June 2010-11 to June 2010-November 2010 without altering the size of the project's budget. Mr. Janik seconded. Ms. Peterson answered questions about the intended duration of the program and the use of a database created by Firebelly in connection with Phase I. The motion carried unanimously with Ms. Weathered and Mr. Ginople abstaining.

**Transportation: Pedestrians & Passengers Committee report by Mr. Norsman.**

Mr. Norsman discussed progress on the erection of the You Are Beautiful mural; the committee is seeking a new bid from Christy Webber for the costs of mural installation. Freed has tentatively agreed to host the mural along two sets of Division Street Fences.

Mr. Norsman discussed plans to conduct surveys re: the Bus Tracker/ Red Post Signboard program.

Mr. Norsman reported on the results of the sidewalk survey and indicated that the data could be useful to neighborhood stakeholders and WPB committees. Copies of the sidewalk survey results are available upon request at the WPB office.

Mr. Norsman and commissioners discussed plans to push forward on the Wood/Milwaukee intersection project of the year. WPB staff and committee are working to obtain updates from CDOT. Mr. Griffin suggested that SSA liase with property owners to get their input and support for WPB proposals.

**Guide Development Committee report by Mr. Griffin.**

No report/motions; please see committee report.

**Transportation: Bikes Committee report by Mr. Hall.**

Mr. Hall discussed the bike commuter challenge, the potential need for funds for the bike valet which could be more expensive this year, plans for a bicycle commuter station at Polish Triangle the week of June 16th 2010, the new WPB bike lights and leg bands.

Mr. Hall also discussed longer term projects such as incorporation of bike parking into Milwaukee/Wood project of the year, a bike festival for the neighborhood, and financial support for the neighborhood access points to the Bloomingdale Trail.

Mr. Chung reported that the WPB has applied for MPC's Burnham Prize, by nominating WPB's Master Plan.

**Public comment.**

Commissioners answered question re: the disposition of Christmas lights in the neighborhood.

**Ms. Kailus moved to adjourn. Mr. Janik seconded. The meeting was adjourned at 8:12 p.m.**