

Clean & Green Committee Minutes

Monday, May 1st, 2023 – 9:07am-10:30am
Janik's Café – 2011 W. Division St.

In attendance: Wayne Janik (Committee Chair), Chi Braunreiter (Voting Member), Brett Keeshin (Voting Member), Steve Jensen (Voting Member)

Guests: Jack (Guest), Nicole (Guest), Damaune (Guest)

Staff: Alice Howe (Program Manager), Luke Scaletta (Community Engagement Coordinator)

Proposals:

Motion 1: The Clean & Green Committee recommends to approve funding not to exceed **\$15,000** from line item **3.01 (Garbage/Recycling Material Program)** for WasteNot Compost to act as our commercial composting vendor for 2023-2024. (23-0504)

Discussion: WJ recommended finding out what the WasteNot commercial compost pricing would be after the 9-month pilot program before this motion is brought to Commission.

Motion 2: The Clean & Green Committee recommends to approve funding not to exceed **\$5,500** from line item **2.07 (Sidewalk Litter Abatement – Supplies)** to replace six (6) public use garbage cans within the boundaries of SSA #33. (23-0505)

Discussion: Staff confirmed that Cleanslate would provide information on which six trash cans within SSA #33 boundaries require immediate replacement.

Motion 3: The Clean & Green Committee recommends to approve funding not to exceed **\$35,000** from line item **2.02 (Landscaping)** to remove ten (10) ash trees and replace each of them with another durable species within the boundaries of SSA #33. (23-0506)

Discussion: SJ recommended that the committee speak with Eric from Bartlett if leaving a tree's root cage on when planting will harm the tree in the long-term. Additionally, SJ asked if there are any vendors who would be able to both remove and replace the trees together, as well as what species of tree would be replacing the ash trees. Staff will answer these inquiries before Commission.

Motion 4: The Clean & Green Committee recommends to approve funding not to exceed **\$3,500** from line item **5.04 (Bicycle Safety Programs)** to order two (2) new bike pumps from Dero and have them installed by Cleanslate at the entrances to the 606 at Churchill Park and Western Ave. (23-0507)

Updates

1. **Annual Report Review**
 - a. WJ recommended adding 2023 SSA #33 tree statistics in the Clean & Green section of the Annual Report.
2. **Western + Damen CTA Underpass Maintenance**

- a. The committee discussed the prevalence of trash in these areas, and the combined efforts of Cleanslate and community volunteer organizations to keep these areas clean. Staff will work with community organizations to see what other solutions can be found.
- 3. Flooding on Major Streets**
- a. CB brought up flooding and recurring puddles on major stretches of Damen and other popular commercial highways, and SJ clarified the back valve capacity process for Chicago drainage, but increased attention to making sure drain grates are clear was recommended.
- 4. Walgreens Mural Protection**
- a. SJ recommended utilizing Rustoleum graffiti coating on the new mural once it has been painted on the Milwaukee-facing wall at Walgreens to protect it from further tagging.
- 5. Bicycle Infrastructure on Milwaukee**
- a. The committee discussed the new initiative to expand protected bike lanes on Milwaukee. While the committee recommends increased cycling and pedestrian-safe infrastructure, SJ and committee vocalized concern that the expansion would hinder business development and would ultimately not be much safer for cyclists due to the lack of visibility in the bike lane from the street.
- 6. Metal Fences on Division**
- a. WJ recommended that staff get in touch with Americana Iron Works to redo the decaying short, metal fences on Division.
- 7. New Clean & Green Voting Member Eligibility**
- a. Seeing as Jack and Nicole have attended three (3) Clean & Green Committee meetings, they are eligible to become voting members, which will be brought to the next Commission meeting.

Next Meeting – June 5th