

WPB SSA #33 Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday, November 20th, 2024 – 7:16 PM to 8:25 PM
Hybrid Meeting Hosted at 1414 N Ashland Ave and via Zoom

Attendance:

Marcy Huttas (MH)

Ginna Ryan (GR)

David Ginople (DG)

Dominika Hertsberg (DH)

Guests – Kristen Drutchas (WP Dog Park), Mitch Hutton (Resident), Christine Hutton (Resident), Liz Melvin (Spark'd Dispensary/Dispensary 33), Nick (Spark'd Dispensary)

Staff – Alice Howe (SSA Program Manager), Pamela Maass (WPBCC Executive Director), Luke Scaletta (Community Engagement Coordinator)

1) Call to Order at 7:16 PM

2) Public Comment

- a. *Mitch and Christine Hutton vocalized an issue with the amount of graffiti on Milwaukee Ave, particularly on the Flat Iron Arts Building. GR confirmed that the 1st Ward office had, as of the day of the meeting, notified the SSA that they would have the graffiti removed from the ground floor of the Flat Iron Arts Building. The Commission discussed greater supplemental support from the local ward offices to combat the uptick in graffiti.*

3) Review of October Minutes

*DG motions. MH seconds. All in favor. **Motion passes***

4) Review of October Financial Report

*GR motions. MH seconds. All in favor. **Motion passes.***

5) Chamber Report, delivered by PM

6) Program Manager Report, delivered by AH

7) 2025 Commission Nominations and Meeting Arrangements

- a) DG shared that he would be stepping down from his position as Commission Chair, and GR was previously nominated to replace him. GR was formally nominated to be the

Chair, with all in favor. WJ was formally nominated to continue as the Treasurer, with all in favor.

- b) AH discussed moving the Commission meetings in 2025 back to the Wicker Park Field House and will be speaking with the Chicago Parks Department to reserve it for monthly meetings in the new year.

8) Wicker Park Dog Park Additional Funding

- a) Kristen Drutchas from the Wicker Park Advisory Council and Wicker Park Dog Park described the plans to break ground on the Dog Park restoration, their goal budget of approximately \$600,000, and their current collection of \$515,000.
- b) AH proposed a motion to provide additional funding to the Wicker Park Dog Park Project:

Motion 1: The Commission moves to approve an additional funding amount not to exceed **\$25,000** from line item **2.02 (Landscaping)** to fund the restoration of the Wicker Park Dog Park. (24-1107)

MH motions. GR seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

9) Motions for Commission

Motion 2: The Commission moves to approve funding not to exceed **\$5,000** from line item **1.10 (Community Grants)** for the annual programming by Cruelty Free You & Me, including the holiday toy drive, weekly story times, and more. (24-1108)

Discussion: Commission clarified that the organization hosts free, weekly activities for the community at the same time as the Wicker Park Farmers Market, Indoors and Outdoors.

MH motions, DH seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

Motion 3: The Commission moves to approve funding not to exceed **\$3,800** from line item **1.10 (Community Grants)** for Friends of Burr Washington DC Fundraiser/Wicker Park Fest. (24-1109)

Discussion: Correcting the previous faulty grant application from Friends of Burr for Wicker Park Fest Kids Fest, where they initially only applied for \$1,200.

MH motions. DH seconds. All in favor. Motion passes.

10) Motions

Motion 4: The Clean & Green Committee recommends to approve funding not to exceed **\$63,000** from line item **2.02 (Landscaping)** for Christy Webber Landscaping to provide landscaping services for the Milwaukee and Damen Ave planters for the SSA in 2025. (24-1102)

Discussion: Commission confirmed that this would include 4 seasonal plantings among 95 neighborhood planters.

*MH motions. GR seconds. All in favor. **Motion passes.***

Motion 5: The Clean & Green Committee recommends to approve funding not to exceed **\$55,000** from line item **2.02 (Landscaping)** for Christy Webber to provide general landscaping services for all of the SSA in 2025. (24-1103)

Discussion: Commission clarified that “general landscaping services” includes tree pit and flower bed maintenance, waterings, mulching, and more.

*MH motions. GR seconds. All in favor. **Motion passes.***

Motion 6: The Arts Committee recommends to approve funding not to exceed **\$25,000** from the 2025 budget line item **2.06 (Public Art)** to fund a mosaic mural from Green Star Movement on the wall of 1958 W. North Ave. (24-1105)

*MH motions. DH seconds. All in favor. **Motion passes.***

Motion 7: The Arts Committee recommends to approve funding not to exceed **\$8,000** from line item **2.06 (Public Art)** to fund a mural on the WPBCC office (1414 N Ashland Ave). (24-1106)

Discussion: AH confirmed an RFP will be released soon, and mural would not be painted directly on the building’s historic brick.

*MH motions. GR seconds. All in favor. **Motion passes.***

11) Adjournment Motion at 8:25 PM

*DG motions. GR seconds. All in favor. **Meeting Adjourned.***

Next Meeting – 2025