

WPB (SSA #33) Commission Meeting Minutes
Wednesday April 19, 2017
Wicker Park Field House
1425 N. Damen Ave.
In attendance:

Brent Norsman (BN)
Rebecca Dohe (RD)
Wayne Janik (WJ)
David Ginople (DG)
Joe Hall (JH)

Minutes

1. Call to Order at 7:01 pm; **David Ginople chairing**
Introductions – Chair
In attendance: William Scherba and Jessica Freiburg, from Sassetti; David Stearns, WPBCC board president; Doug Wood, Wicker Park Advisory Council; Teddy Varndell; Michael Lofton; Richard A., homeowner; Mitch Hutton; Paul Dikman, stakeholder; Jose Rivera, Chief of Staff, 2nd Ward; Elaine Coorens (arrived 7:21)
Pamela Maass, executive director; Jessica Wobbekind, managing director; Michael Ashkenasi, ssa program specialist
2. Presentation of 2016 Audit, report delivered by Jessica Freiburg, Sassetti
Found no issues, all systems of control are good.

PASS CHAIR TO BN, arrived at 7:10.

JH- question: the “net of allowances” doesn’t really pertain to us
Ms. Freiburg explains the letter to the Commissioners, this is a very general letter going over the process of the audit, any deficiencies would be pointed out in the letter.
DG- over the last few years, we have received praise for our transparency
Mr. Rivera- there has been an ordinance introduced to add criteria to the audits and accounting standards in a continual push to make SSA’s accountable to the standards of the City.

Motion: to approve the 2016 DRAFT audit as presented.

Motion to approve made by: WJ; Seconded by: DG

No Discussion

All in favor, no opposed, no abstentions

3. Review of March 15, Meeting Minutes

Motion to approve the minutes made by: WJ; Seconded by: JH

No Discussion

All in favor, no opposed, no abstentions

4. Review of Financial Reports, March 2017, delivered by WJ

Motion to approve the financial reports made by: DG; Seconded by: JH

No Discussion

All in favor, no opposed, no abstentions

RD arrives 7:21

5. Chamber of Commerce Report, delivered by PM
New Special Events Coordinator started; we had a great mixer at Urban Belly, over 60 people attended; neighborhood guide release party is May 4; State of the Wards is May 24; festival updates
6. Program Manager Report, delivered by JW
Mr. Hutton asks, what are streetside recycling cans for? Can't you just pull a blue cart from the alley? BN- part of our initiative is green, recycling is a big part of that.
Mr. Rivera- the IGO is investigating the city's recycling program
Mr. Hutton objects to the cigarette butt recycling containers
7. Committee Reports
 - a. Executive Committee report delivered DG

Motion 1: to approve the 2016 Annual Report for SSA #33.

Motion to approve made by: DG; Seconded by: RD

Discussion: JH- who did it this year, it looks great, Answer Teska.

all in favor, no opposed, no abstentions

Motion 2: on behalf of the Promote Committee, to approve funding of the Polish Triangle Coalition's Tuesdays at the Triangle in the amount of \$1,750 from line item 1.10 (Community Grants).

Motion to approve made by: DG; Seconded by: JH

Discussion- it is in its 5th yea, BN- thanks to the Polish Triangle Coalition for their efforts.

all in favor, no opposed, no abstentions

- b. Promote: WPB, report delivered by RD

Motion 1: to approve funding Do Fashion at Do Division Street Fest to take place June 2,3 & 4, 2017 in the amount of \$4,000 from line item 1.10 (Community Grants).

Motion to approve made by: RD; Seconded by: WJ

Discussion- Mr. Vardell states, my understanding is that the purpose of these grants is to give a little bit of seed money to help get programs off the ground. BN- yes, that's one philosophy. RD- part of the reason we choose to support this event is because we want representation at Do Division, this event also provides an excellent opportunity for local businesses to participate in the fashion show. Mr. Rivera-I used to own a store on Milwaukee Ave and this type of activity is something you see in NY, this is an art, it is needed here, no amount of compensation would be enough for what Ms. Gomez does.

all in favor, no opposed, no abstentions

Motion 2: to approve the funding of the bicycle powered stage at Green Music Fest to take place June 10 & 11, 2017 in the amount of \$5,000 from line item 1.02 (Special Events).

Motion to approve made by: RD; Seconded by: WJ

Discussion- Mr. Vardell- we were told that this festival would only be in this location for one year, we are now on the 5th or 6th year, it seems like the money is going to benefit a local promoter. DG- this is the first year that the Chamber is a full partner, the Chamber exists to support businesses, supporting the bike stage is another part of our mission for sustainability. JH- there is an education component to this as well. Mr. Hutton- if you are going to be a green fest, why not bring in the "sunflower" or a tesla battery, something more unique than the bike stage.

all in favor, no opposed, no abstentions

Motion 3: to approve funding of the Wicker Park Advisory Council's Wicker Park Classical Music Series in the amount of \$5,000 from line item 1.10 (Community Grants).

Motion to approve made by: RD; Seconded by: WJ

Discussion- JH asks how many events there are, Mr. Wood details the events.

all in favor, no opposed, no abstentions

Motion 4: to approve funding for Wicker Park Fest in the amount of \$10,000 with \$5,000 to go marketing and \$5,000 to go to the kid's area from line item 1.02 (Special Events)

Motion to approve made by: RD; Seconded by: WJ

Discussion- Mr. Vardell- for years we were told that the donations at the gate were going to the school, I was under the impression that the \$5,000 was coming from the promoter to the school.

DG- we have struggled with this for years. The City now includes a budget line for festivals, they recognize them as a neighborhood benefit. Mr. Hutton asks why isn't Pritzker the beneficiary?
Answer- Pritzker is not in the SSA.

all in favor, no opposed, no abstentions

- c. Transportation: Pedestrians, Passengers & Bikes, report delivered by JH
CDOT has a public meeting scheduled, looks like they are ready to spend some money to make the North/Damen/Milwaukee intersection safer for all users. It is going to be a low-cost pilot project with paint and bollards.

PASS CHAIR TO RD

- d. Guide Development, delivered by BN

Motion 1: to approve funding of Cleanslate evening service in an amount not to exceed \$10,000 from line item 2.08 (Sidewalk Maintenance).

Motion to approve made by: BN; Seconded by: JH

Discussion- adding evening service will add more eyes on the street, Mr. Varndell thinks that the sidewalk cleaning services is not funded enough.

all in favor, no opposed, no abstentions

Motion 2: to approve funding in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 from line item 2.03 (façade enhancement programs) for façade improvements at 1841 W North Ave.

Motion to approve made by: BN; Seconded by: WJ

Discussion- JH- what are they doing there? MA- tuckpointing, repairing cracks, replacing one of the verneers.

all in favor, no opposed, no abstentions

Motion 3: to approve Michael Lofton to become a voting member of the Guide Development Committee.

Motion to approve made by: BN; Seconded by: WJ

No Discussion

all in favor, no opposed, no abstentions

Motion 4: to approve the funding of a private security rebate program in an amount not to exceed \$25,000 to provide rebates of up to \$2,500 per business or residence from line item 5.05 (General Safety and Security Programs).

Motion to approve made by: BN; Seconded by: WJ

Discussion-Mr. Hutton- what is the general safety / security programs? BN- the programs include safety enhancement rebates, it's a co-pay, we were brainstorming at a committee level, we found this to be the best way to maximize the money and allow people to use it where they feel they need it most. Mr. Hutton- so you ignore what the people and the aldermen want? Mr. Varndell- this is a lot more equitable, this is a decent compromise. Mr. Rivera- to clarify, the hiring of private security would use off-duty cops and sheriffs, this program is used in 9 out of 50 SSAs, both aldermen expressed a desire that \$50,000 be used for private security, to use half of that is not going to work. There was conversation with Nike about possibly contributing some money to a program. I would ask that you go back and rethink the idea, expand the program. DG- Jose, you have said this has been successful in other SSAs but there are NO metrics. Mr. Rivera- I can pull the figures for you from Comstat. Ms. Coorens- you are comparing this to Wrigleyville and it is not the same. BN- we have not heard from a single taxpayer who wants this. Mr. Rivera- we are 72% worse this year than last year in strong-armed robberies and car-jackings. We will help you gauge the desires of the PIN holders, we will pay for mailers, host meetings. You have a good suggestion on the table, expand the amount of money, \$40,000 would be fine. BN- we don't want to put all of our eggs in one basket, that's why we have a whole host of programs. Mr. Rivera- I want to see you use the money in the right way, educational programming is not going to help. RD- are you suggesting we table it or expand the amount of money now? BN- of we make the motion today, we can start this program this month. JH- with all due respect, the SSA is place-based and this program is place-base, it allows the PIN holder to decide. Mr. Rivera will help write a new program

In favor: BN, WJ, JH

Oppose: DG

Motion 5: to fund the design and printing of an informational pamphlet to market SSA #33's safety measures and enhancement programs in an amount not to exceed \$5,000 from line item 5.05 (General Safety and Security Programs).

Motion to approve made by: BN; Seconded by: WJ

Motion amended to include "safety measures", JH seconds amendment

Discussion- JH what is the format, is it going to be modeled after something?

In favor: BN, WJ, JH

Oppose: DG

CHAIR BACK TO BN

- e. Clean, Green & Safe
WJ- no report, JW covered it in the PM report
- f. Arts – no report

8. Questions & Announcements-

JH- there is an APA event in Naperville on community engagement, would be good to attend.

9. Adjournment Motion

Adjournment at 8:43 p.m.

Motion to approve made by: WJ; Seconded by: JH

Passes unanimously