

**Special Service Area #61**  
**SSA Board of Commissioners Minutes**  
**Tuesday, January 21, 2023**  
**Virtual Meeting**

**Present:** Greg Guttman, Angie Marks, Charles Newsome, James Nurss, Mary Rogel, George Rumsey

**Absent:** Anthony Beach, Shaka Mitchell and Nancy Stanek

**Also Present:** Rod Sawyer (SSA Program Manager), Diane Burnham (SECC Executive Director), Isaac Greene (Accountant), Mike McGarry (SECC), Eric Thompson, Wendy Williams, Roger Huff, Gary Ossewaarde, Karen Forte

A quorum being present, Chairman Guttman called the meeting of SSA #61 to order at 11:05am. Pursuant to the applicable law and his determination that attendance by remote means is necessary because an in-person meeting is not practical nor prudent due to the declared public health disaster cause by COVID-19, this meeting was conducted by videoconference. The meeting was recorded and is available at <http://www.downtownhydeparkchicago.com/> and on YouTube.

**Reading/Approval of the Minutes:**

The minutes for the December 13th SSA meeting were accepted as corrected.

**Questions and Comments from Guests** *(per the city should occur at beginning of meetings 3-minute limit).*

None

**SSA Financials w/Budget Tracker – R. Sawyer/D. Burnham/G. Rumsey/I. Greene**

Financials were accepted as circulated and presented.

**Tax Disbursements Follow up – R. Sawyer**

With receipt of funds the SSA was able to reimburse the service provider and pay for the expenses covered in the 4<sup>th</sup> quarter.

**SSA Reconstitution – R. Sawyer**

Meeting is scheduled for tomorrow (Wednesday). The RFP's has been received by the consultants and the committee will select the consultant tomorrow. Commissioner Rumsey asked for a brief overview of the consultants who applied to the RFP.

### **Programs Committee – R. Sawyer**

Developing an RFP for the expiring contracts and for projects such as the viaduct. The Commissioners were polled to see if they would like for the program and finance meetings to be public. Having the meetings public will permit any Commissioner to attend without violating the open meetings act.

### **Meeting Schedule – R. Sawyer**

Chairman Guttman put forth a motion to move the Finance Committee to March 14<sup>th</sup> and the Commissioners meeting to March 21<sup>st</sup>, which was moved and seconded by Commissioners Rogel and Marks. The motion passed.

### **Chairman Updates – G. Guttman**

Spending according to the budget submitted to the city. Feels the project priorities have not been adequately expressed to the service provider and manager. It was discussed that this may have been finalized at a prior meeting. The program committee meeting will follow up.

### **Questions and Comments from Commissioners**

Commissioner Newsome – wanted to discuss the current property tax increase and if anyone has experienced this. Rod stated that due to the property valuations, everyone has experienced an increase in taxes. Commissioner Rumsey states that due to the shift in placing the burden on the businesses and away from the property owners. Other commercial property owners have seen an upswing in their property taxes as well.

The next meeting will be March 21, 2023 @ 11:00 am via Zoom.

The meeting was adjourned 11:46 am.

Respectfully submitted,  
Raymonde Vance, SSA 61