

**Special Service Area #61**  
**SSA Board of Commissioners Minutes**  
**Tuesday, September 26th, 2023 11am**  
**Hyde Park Bank Conference Board Room**  
**1525 East 53<sup>rd</sup> Street**

**Present:** Charles Newsome, Anthony Beach, Mary Rogel, George Rumsey, Gregory Guttman, Nancy Stanek and Angie Marks

**Absent:** James Nurss and Shaka Mitchell

**Also Present:** Rod Sawyer (SSA Program Manager), Annie Anderson and Stephanie Horst (SECC Interns), Ticina Williams (SECC), Eric Thompson, Roger Huff, Chantal Healy and Stephanie Strickland (Chicago Public Arts Group – CPAG)

**Call to Order:** Chairman Guttman called the meeting of SSA #61 to order at 11:07am with a quorum present.

**Reading/Approval of the Minutes (approved or any corrections):**

August 2023 minutes were accepted as circulated.

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

R. Huff

- Meetings should be made available on Zoom for the community
- How is the SSA measuring impact and effectiveness?

Ans.: (R. Sawyer) Hybrid meetings are more involved and not recommended. Personal preference is that public meetings should have public attendance. The SSA measures impact and effectiveness through both customer attraction goals (SSA Workplan) and anecdotally.

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

- August 2023 Financial Report: Not presented/Accountant not present.
- August 2023 Budget Tracker: Presented. Change in “Late Revenue” noted on report. Noted no budget expenses for August, 2023: R. Sawyer – have received bills, and will appear in future expenses. Question: Where will be be at year's end? R. Sawyer – we will spend all collected 2023 tax revenue by year's end. Some categories were over-budgeted and will be reallocated.
- 2023 Spend Down Briefing: We should be able to spend down all collected 2023 revenue by 12/31/23. Working on plan to move Tax Increment Finance Surplus to newly reconstituted SSA #61.

### **Downtown Hyde Park Banners Project – R. Sawyer**

Presented final artwork before commissioners. N. Stanek: Artwork seems generic, can they be made HP specific? R. Sawyer: Design is finalized. Breaking up installation of banners in areas of district. Current plan is to have them installed by the end of October.

### **Viaducts (53<sup>rd</sup> and 55<sup>th</sup> and Lake Park Ave.) Project: CPAG**

C. Healy (Executive Director) and S. Strickland (Project Manager) of CPAG presented a Powerpoint slide of the process of replacing the Photography panels. Estimate of project is approximately \$147,000. A question of ownership of the art was asked, in which R. Sawyer stated that it would be the City of Chicago. Financing the project was discussed. There is money available for the project. R. Sawyer will negotiate with CPAG to ensure that we have funds available as received from tax disbursements, including breaking up the contract over SSA years. G. Rumsey made the motion to accept CPAG's presentation as a basis of a proposal to proceed. A. Beach seconded the motion. The motion passed unanimously.

### **Mural Project – Metra Wall, Lake Park and 53<sup>rd</sup> Street: Status – S. Horst**

Discussed number of submissions and geographic base of artists. The next step will be narrowing down to finalists and next meeting date.

### **International Downtown Assoc. Tour of DTHP Wed, Oct. 4<sup>th</sup> – A. Anderson**

Email list to be sent out of locations on the tour. Commissioners are invited to join the tour, which will be a 45-minute walk along the business corridor.

### **Hyde Park Farmer's Market – T. Williams**

Last Market day, Sunday, 9/24. Over 300+ attendance. Attractions included a yoga class, a chef, photo booth and DJ. Six vendors sold out of merchandise.

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

None

### **Adjourn**

Made by M. Rogel. The meeting was adjourned at approximately 1:17pm.

Respectfully submitted,  
Roderick Sawyer, SSA 61