

**Special Service Area #61**  
**SSA #61 Program Committee Minutes**  
**Tuesday, May 2, 2023, 10:00am-11:00am**  
**Virtual**

**Present:** Co-chairs Mary Rogel and Anthony Beach

**Additional Commissioners Present:** George Rumsey, Greg Guttman and Charles Newsome

**Also Present:** Rod Sawyer (SSA Program Manager), Diane Burnham (SECC Executive Director), Roger Huff (Guest), Wallace E. Goode, Jr. (Guest), Joyce Feuer (Guest), Carol Moy (Guest), JoAnn Newsome (SECC Board Member)

**Call to order:** A quorum being present, Chairperson Rogel called the meeting of SSA #61 to order at 11:05am. Pursuant to the applicable law and her 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 caused by COVID-19, this meeting was conducted by video conference. The meeting was recorded and is available at <http://www.downtownhydeparkchicago.com/> and on YouTube.

**2023 SSA Initiatives - Poll Results:** R. Sawyer presented the poll results regarding SSA major initiatives (viaduct beautification, Lake Park beautification, Nichols Park, attractiveness of 53rd Street, attractiveness of 55th Street). The first priority was viaduct beautification. R. Sawyer thinks that if SSA is renewed, some of the money can be used on these initiatives.

**2023 SSA Initiatives - Progress Report:** R. Sawyer presented the status on the following items: (1) Viaducts initiative - meetings with Chicago Public Arts Group (CPAG) – discussed 2007 proposal for viaduct art panels. CPAG was asked to come up with a current proposal. (2) Lake Park Landscaping - RFP for median work – RFP opened to invite landscapers to bid on the process. Clarence Davids was asked to update its previous bid. The closing date for this RFP will be Thursday, May 4th. Those bids will be presented at the Commissioners Meeting to be evaluated.

**Hyde Park Summer Fest – G. Guttman:** Jonathan Swain presented proposals for the SSA to sponsor Hyde Park Summer Fest. Summer Fest does not fall within the SSA footprint. Discussion on whether it can bring money into Hyde Park businesses. No motion was made to fund the festival.

**Proposition to move commissioners meeting:** Decision to move the next commissioners meeting to Thursday 5/25 at 11 A.M. because of a conflict with the city's SSA forum.

**Questions and Comments from Guests:** None.

The meeting was adjourned.

Respectfully submitted,  
Rod Sawyer, SSA 61