



**Special Service Area #61
SSA Commissioners Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, April 30, 2024, 11am
Polsky Center North, 1452 E. 53rd Street, Jackson Park Room**

Present: Charles Newsome, James Nurss, George Robnett, Mary Rogel, George Rumsey, Nancy Stanek

Also Present: Rod Sawyer (SSA Program Manager), Raymonde Vance (SECC), Claire Davey (SECC Intern), Mike McGarry (SECC Board member), Isaac Greene (Accountant), Peter Cassel (Guest), Cecilia Butler (Guest), Dave White (4th on 53rd Committee Chair)

Absent: Angelica Marks and Eric Thompson

Call to order: Rod Sawyer called the meeting of SSA #61 Commissioners to order at 11:14am.

Election of Commissioner Chairman – The motion to nominate George Rumsey as chairman of the SSA 61 Commissioners was moved by Charles Newsome and properly seconded by Mary Rogel. The nomination was closed on that one name by Mary Rogel and James Nurss. George Rumsey was elected chairman unanimously. As a matter of record, Chairman Rumsey suggested that others should consider holding the position.

Q&A from Guests - Dave White, 4th on 53rd Committee Chair, presented to the body a proposal asking for the SSA to be a major supporter for this year’s events. The SSA supported the event with \$10k in 2023 and would appreciate the same level of support for 2024 due to what has been termed “*paradeflation*.” The estimated budget for the event:

- \$20k** – Parade
- \$13K** – Festivities
- \$7K** – Concert series

Estimated Budget \$30k–\$40K

Due to the timing of funds received, if SSA 61 were to be a supporter for the event this year, the earliest the funds would be given is likely in August. Mr. White indicated that the sooner the funds are received, the better. However, if an agreement is in place, they could move forward from there. No commitment has been reached; talks will continue.

2024 Meeting Dates: All meetings will be held on the 4th Tuesday of the month at 11am unless otherwise specified. Per ordinance meeting notices are to be advertised and posted no later than 48 hours prior to the meeting. Meeting dates should also be publicly posted annually. We continue looking at the committees. Committee meetings require that officers must be voted on, so the subject is tabled. First committee meeting will be scheduled for June.

- May 29 (Wednesday, due to holiday. Approval of 2025 Draft Budget and 2022 Audit)
- June 25
- July 23
- August 27
- September 24
- October 22
- December 10

**No meetings held in November*

Discussion: SSA 61 Bylaws. Are the changes adequate/appropriate and are any additional updates needed? Commissioners are requested to submit questions or concerns. Some questions posed were - Should the bylaws be updated to include protocol/procedures for conference call/virtual/hybrid meetings? Committee rules? Who can be selected as a commissioner – community person; nonprofit? Chairman Rumsey is leery/cautious of permitting anyone who is not within the business district directly to act in the capacity of a commissioner. All were advised to send questions/comments to Chairman Rumsey so they may be compiled into one document.

SSA 61 Financials. Accepted as presented with corrections. Rod presented an operational cashflow budget. A motion to approve the budget was moved by C. Newsome and seconded by M. Rogel.

BUDGET MODIFICATION VOTE

| COMMISSIONER | VOTE |
|-------------------|---------|
| G. RUMSEY (Chair) | APPROVE |
| G. ROBNETT | APPROVE |
| N. STANEK | APPROVE |
| C. NEWSOME | APPROVE |
| M. ROGEL | APPROVE |
| J. NURSS | APPROVE |

Programming - R. Sawyer noted that this has already been covered by Mark Roschen during the discussion on closing out the 2023 Workplan and incorporating the TIF funds. With this new understanding, R. Sawyer will look back on this in preparation for the 2023 audit.

Contracts – The following contracts require a vote and approval. These vendor contracts were extended due to the timing aspect. Contracts were approved unanimously.

CONTRACT VOTES

| COMMISSIONERS | CLEANSLATE | ADVANCED PRO CLEAN (APC) | CLARENCE DAVIDS |
|---------------|---|---|--|
| G. ROBNETT | X | X | X |
| G. RUMSEY | X | X | X |
| M. ROGEL | X | X | X |
| C. NEWSOME | X | X | X |
| N. STANEK | X | X | X |
| J. NURSS | X | X | X |
| | <i>Motion was moved by Rogel, seconded by Nurss</i> | <i>Motion was moved By Rogel, seconded by Newsome</i> | <i>Motion was moved by Stanek, seconded by Rogel</i> |

Questions, Comments and Notices

Attendees were reminded that the annual Hyde Park Garden Fair was the upcoming weekend on Friday and Saturday. All were encouraged to come out, get their plants/flowers, and prepare for spring.

Adjourn: The meeting was adjourned at 12:24pm.

Respectfully,

Raymonde Vance, SECC