

**GREEKTOWN SSA#16
SEPTEMBER 28, 2017 MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioners Attending

Frank J. Caputo ("FC")
Tom Bonanno ("TB")
Lorraine Rieff Liakouras ("LR")
Eve Moran ("EM")
Tom Paspalas ("TP")

Commissioners Absent

Marc Washor

Others Attending

Rod Burch ("RB"), Exec. Director WCA
Dean T. Maragos ("DTM"), Advisor
Susan Downs ("SD")
John Theoharis, Meli Café
Leo Louchios, Greektown Ed. Found.
Alex Theoharis, 9 Muses
Stephanie Reay, Zapwater
Katie Niemiec, Zapwater

I. Roll Call – The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. There was a quorum present.

II. Review of Meeting Minutes – The July 13, 2017 Meeting Minutes were reviewed. There was a motion by FC and seconded by LR to accept the meeting minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

III. Old Business

- A. Strategic Plan RFP - Update** – The Strategic Plan RFP was discussed and the winning bid was the Lakota Group. On motion by TB and seconded by LR the Lakota Group was declared the winner and at the next meeting the Lakota Group will report to the commission.

IV. New Business

- A. First Vice Chair** – On motion by EM and seconded by FC, LR was chosen as the new Vice Chair. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Proposal for Tree Replacement/ Pruning** – FC reported that he did an RFP and he sent the RFP to three companies. The three companies were Pro Tree Service, The Care of Trees, Inc. and Trees "R" Us. Trees "R" Us was the only company that responded with a proposal and it was given to Rod Burch for \$6,290. The term of the work would be until December 31, 2017. It was agreed that DTM would review the contract prior to its signing. There was a motion by TB and seconded by TP to accept the contract as amended by DTM. The motion passed unanimously.
- C. Proposal for Sidewalk Repair** – FC reported that RB sent out an RFP and the only company that responded was QC Enterprises, Inc. The proposal was for \$65,130 and that would be line item 2.02 Landscape. This would also be subject to DTM's approval of the contract. There was a motion by TP and seconded by TB to commence the process. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. Proposal for Greektown Tree Pit Maintenance - Grates** – FC stated we replaced two grates on Halsted. There are 28 tree beds and we need grates for

maintenance plus two IDOT grates that IDOT is responsible for. The total amount for the grate system is \$5,370.00 to redo all of the grates. There was a motion made by FC and seconded by TP to accept the \$5,370.00 for the tree pit grate contract. The motion passed unanimously.

- E. Proposal for Lighting on Columns** – This will be discussed at the next meeting.
- F. Chicago Trolley Proposal – United Center Trolley** – FC stated for \$2,500 we would get a large ad around the bus. The proposal for 2017/2018 is (90 bus runs x \$430 per run plus \$70 for tax and gratuity) \$38,770. This would be for the Bulls' and Hawks' seasons. There would be one stop only at 212 S. Halsted to pick up all Greektown patrons and take them to and from the United Center. There was a motion to approve the outdoor marketing contract with the proviso that they must give weekly patron counts to RB and report to the commissioners. It was stated that this would be the second year of this project and the 2016 usage was positive. There was a motion by TB and seconded by EM to accept this program subject to DTM's review of the contract. The motion passed unanimously.
- G. Columbus Day Parade** – RB said this was already voted on in March, 2017 and no further action was necessary.

V. Open Session

- A. Greektown Art Committee Update** – EM reported that she wanted to buy one large Christmas Greek Boat and put it into the temple and/or smaller boats in the restaurants since these are traditional Christmas items in Greece. The windows would have blue lights on the boats. There was a motion by TP and seconded by LR to buy one boat at \$800 plus 10 to 15 small boats for retail shops for a total of \$6,500. The motion passed unanimously. EM then reported on the Dingy status and she suggested there be an auction in which the winning bidder pays directly to a 501(c)(3) non-profit. There was a motion by EM and seconded by TB to have the Dinghy auction and report on the auction at the next meeting in October. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Zapwater PR/Social Media Update** – Katie from Zapwater stated that today there would be a Yoga/Pilates event on the top of Arkadia at 6:30 p.m. Gloria McFadden is an influencer and she has a blog promoting Greektown. Her blog had 670 new followers for the Taste of Greektown. The Greektown influencers were Rachel Byers, Shelly Kayley for dining out and Alex from Best Food from Alex. The media is Windy City Greek, Christmas Tree Lighting, Children Singing and Shia Kapos would be notified. Trolley information would be given to the media and Four Strings Concert will be in January or February.

Motion by TB and seconded by TP to have Zapwater do some Public Relations at the Chicago Marathon and to report back at the next meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Project Reviews –

CTA - FC stated that he is making progress on getting the Eisenhower Halsted Stop renamed to "UIC-Greektown El Stop". Terry Peterson and his individuals have been working with us for the Racine Greektown sign and the Eisenhower sign. IDOT said the Kennedy sign will be forthcoming once the construction is completed. There are also 35 local Greektown street signs in place pointing to Greektown.

Groundbreaking – The groundbreaking for the Loukas project would be October 4th, from 11:30 – 12:30 p.m.

Elysian Field – The Elysian Field would be ready by the Summer of 2018.

Greek Artifacts - Jack George said he would get the renderings from the BKL Architects to have some Hellenic artifacts on the building.

LED – FC stated the LED lights are on Halsted and these are the first such lights in the City.

FC stated the bridge would be closed east of Van Buren on October 9, 2017 from Des Plaines to Halsted for one year.

- D. SSA #16 Commissioner Application Update** – RB stated there are four commissioners approved by the Finance Committee and they are waiting for additional information for the Mayor's letter.
- E. Community Participation** – John Theoharis asked about a façade rebate and FC and RB stated they will keep the public informed of the \$100,000 TIF rebate through the SSA.

VI. Adjournment – At 4:37 p.m. there was a motion made for adjournment by FC, and seconded by LR. The motion passed unanimously.