

GREEKTOWN SSA#16 OCTOBER 24, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioners Attending

Frank J. Caputo, (FC)
Eve Moran, (EM)
Anastasia Makridakis, (AM)
Tom Paspalas, (TP)
Alex Theoharis, (AT)

Commissioners Absent

Tom Bonanno
Lorraine Rieff Liakouras
Marc Washor

Others Attending

Rod Burch, (RB), Exec. Director WCA
Dean T. Maragos, (DTM), Advisor
Susan Downs, (SD)
Thanos Markakis
Maria Tsourapas, Greektown Ed. Found.
Chris Lamas, Taco Burrito King
Claire Naughton, Zapwater
Stephanie Reay, Zapwater
Carlos Lamas, Taco Burrito King
Gerda Varkuleviciute, The Van Buren
Nick Kriarakis
Bill Tsourapas
Leo Louchios

I. Call to Order, Roll Call – The meeting was called to order at 2:10 p.m. A quorum was present.

II. Community Participation – There was a call to the audience for community participation but no one had any questions.

III. Review and Vote on Approval of September 26, 2019 Meeting Minutes – Minutes from the September 26, 2019 Meeting were reviewed. There was a motion by FC, seconded by TP, to approve the September 26, 2019 meeting minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. New Business

A. 2019 Special Events

- a. 2019 Special Events – Claire Naughton from Zapwater gave a report.
The Chicago Marathon – There were approximately 1,000 people in attendance at the tent along Halsted & Van Buren for the event. There was Greek coffee, water and signs. There was also a DJ and it was a very lively time with good public relations for the SSA.
Chicago Blackhawks Greek Heritage Night – There have been 450 tickets sold for the Greek Heritage Night with the Chicago Blackhawks at the United Center. This is being advertised on the Greektown SSA website. Windy City Greek is also advertising this event.
Chicago Bulls Greektown Night – This will be on November 18, 2019.
Elysian Fields – There are no plans yet for the groundbreaking ceremony since we do not know when the completion will be. We will most likely do it in Spring of 2020.
Christmas Event – Ms. Naughton discussed the event and that they are organizing for it.

b. 2019 Greektown Christmas Ceremony

- i. Christmas Event Budget – FC discussed the Christmas Event and the need for an additional \$6,505.00. There will be a tent with seating for approximately 300 people. There will be 4 tents on Van Buren, heaters, a 60' x 40' tent that is east of Halsted, a generator, a DJ playing Christmas music, and lights, porta-pottys and hand washing stations.

There will be a Christmas tree donated by 9 Muses that will be professionally decorated.

We will reach out to Arkadia and all the community to participate. There will be three school buses to pick up the children at 2:30 p.m. and return them to school.

The Greektown Educational Foundation will be providing volunteers.

Alex Theoharis will donate cocoa for everyone, which will be approximately 300 people.

Leo Louchios said there will be a Santa Claus and roasted chestnuts donated by Pete's & Spectrum. He also stated we need to put fliers in all the areas. Gina Roccas has volunteered to do the design for the fliers.

There was a motion by TP and seconded by EM for \$6,505 and \$2,000 additional expense money for a total of \$8,505 for the Christmas tree event. The motion passed unanimously.

There was a motion by AT, seconded by EM to approve up to \$6,984.00 to purchase scarves, Santa hats and mugs. The motion passed unanimously.

EM discussed a possible Santa for the dog park which is separate from this event.

- ii. Greektown Holiday Light Display (Twin Electric Proposal) – FC reported on the Holiday Lights from Madison to Van Buren. The cost will be \$32,680.00. There are 60 trees that will have white and blue ribbon on them. There was a motion by EM, seconded by TP approve the \$32,680.00. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Branded Merchandise

- a. Taste of Greektown (Poulopoulos invoice \$9,020)
- b. Chicago Marathon Greektown Cheer Station (Poulopoulos invoice \$852)

- c. **Items for Restaurants & Visitors to Greektown, & Flags (Poulopoulos invoice \$6,512)**

There was a motion by TP and seconded by FC to approve payment of the \$9,020 invoice, the \$852 invoice and the \$6,512 invoice. The motion passed unanimously.

- C. **SSA #16 – 2020 Proposed Meeting Dates** – The SSA 2020 proposed meeting dates were attached. There was a motion by AM, seconded by AT to approve the SSA 2020 meeting dates. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. **SSA #16 – Façade Rebate Application (318 S. Halsted)** – There was a presentation by Bill Tsourapas explaining his façade costs and asking for reimbursement for the façade at 318 S. Halsted. There was a motion by AM seconded by AT to approve the \$3,500.00. The motion passed unanimously. Mr. Tsourapas also wanted \$2,000.00 for signage for his awning. He will prepare an application before the SSA for that reimbursement.
- E. **SSA #16 – Potential Commissioner (Thanos Markakis)** – Thanos Markakis was in attendance and we welcomed him to join the organization.
- F. **Taco Burrito King – Expansion Plans** – The owners of Taco Burrito King came before the SSA concerning an expansion of the size of their restaurant. They agreed that they would sign the following contract (see attached). There was a motion by AT, seconded by FC to approve this agreement once signed by the owners of Taco Burrito King and Rod Burch as WCA. The owners of Taco Burrito King said they are not seeking any liquor for their establishment.
- G. **Greektown Arts Committee – 2020 Art Display (Proposal)** – EM stated that there will be a “fish” theme a small fish on a pedestal or a large fish on display. The cost is the same as last year’s 15 models. EM stated she is seeking 20 new models. They will be displayed from Monroe to Adams. This will be similar to the current discus art works. We need additional art work to close the barren area between the locations of the art work. EM stated she would require \$40,000 for the Arts Committee for 2020. There was a motion by EM, seconded by TP to approve the \$40,000.00 for the Arts Committee. The motion passed unanimously. Leo Louchios stated there will be more children participating in the art programs.
- H. **Tree Trimming (Clean Slate Proposal)** – The Greektown trees will be professionally trimmed. There was a motion by TP to approve a cost of \$1,600.00 for the tree trimming for all the trees in Greektown, seconded by FC. The motion passed unanimously.
- I. **Canon – Canon ImageClass MF 743Cdw** – Susan Downs reported concerning a new printer. There was a motion by AM for \$400 to be approved, and seconded by TP. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Reports & Updates

A. Greektown Arts Committee Update

- a. Karavakia Placement (small holiday boats displayed in businesses Dec. 8 – Jan. 15) – EM stated that the Karavakia small holiday boats are ready to place as of December 8, 2019.

B. Chairman Update

- a. Elysian Field Construction/Ribbon Cutting – FC stated that they improved the SSA sign on the exit ramp at Adams. At the suggestion of AM, there needs to be a fence on the area formerly held by the temple. FC will work on that right away. There are cracks in the Elysian Field base of columns. FC and RB will look at them to get them repaired. There was a suggestion that there be a new plaque placed on the Athena statue on the southeast corner of Van Buren & Halsted. DTM will prepare a plaque for the event to be voted on at the next meeting.

C. Program Manager/Sole Service Provider Updates

- a. Financial – RB reported that the financials will be available at the next meeting. The 2020 Budget is in process. The approval for City Council will be on December 19, 2019.
- b. Security – AGB Contract Renewal – RB requested an extension of the current contract from November 4th to December 31, 2019. Motion by FC, seconded by AT to approve the contract extension. The motion passed unanimously. All agreed that AGB contracts should be on an annual basis.

Walgreens – Walgreen has a lighting problem. We need to talk with the company to get cameras on Halsted and lights in the area to be properly lighted for security.

Homeless and Dangerous Individuals - Bill Tsourapas, Leo Louchios, Maria Tsourapas and AM all stated there are homeless people that are becoming a criminal threat to the residents. We need to call Sgt. Gurtowski of the 12th District to find out when they are adding that additional patrolman. FC said he will do that.

- c. Office Space – RB stated the office Space renewal is terminated on December 31, 2019 and we need to look for office space for the next meeting. FC stated the cost proposed by the current landlord is \$1,025.00 per month as opposed to \$980.00 we were paying before. RB will report at the next meeting.
- d. Greektown Trash Receptacles – RB stated there are 75 visits x 52 weeks in their proposal for the trash maintenance. Motion by AT and seconded by TP to approve \$7,000 to \$11,000 for this trash maintenance. The motion passed unanimously.

- e. Rideshare Update – RB stated he is going to get LYFT the rideshare company to give us a certificate of insurance as an additional insured.

VI. Adjournment – Next SSA #16 Commissioner Meeting is November 21, 2019 - At 4:05 p.m. there was a motion by FC, seconded by AT, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The next SSA #16 Commission Meeting is November 21, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.

License Agreement for City of Chicago SSA Approval of License – Plan of Operation

1. Taco Burrito King in house security (off duty County Policemen) will be maintained on Friday, Saturday and Sunday for the internal protection of the restaurant.
2. The Taco Burrito King security will work with AGB Security for indoor and outdoor protection.
3. The hours are 9:00 a.m. to 3:30 a.m. The restaurant will be “closed” (which means they will not have any patrons in the establishment after 4:00 a.m.) and all the doors must be locked. Violation of this means the Taco Burrito King owners could have a suspension or revocation of their license.
4. The internal security company for Taco Burrito King is Solved Security There will be two security guards that are uniformed and armed.
5. There will be outdoor cameras and indoor cameras. They will be linked to the Chicago Police OEMC.
6. There will be a sign outside stating that all the activities are being photographed by an outside camera.
7. The occupancy is 40 people totally.
8. They will work with AGB Security and call 911.