GREEKTOWN SSA#16
February 27, 2020 MEETING MINUTES

Commissioners Attending
Frank J. Caputo, (FC)
Eve Moran, (EM)
Nicholas Kriarakis, (NK)
Anastasia Makridakis, (AM)

Others Attending
Rod Burch, (RB), Exec. Director WCA
Dean T. Maragos, (DTM), Advisor
Claire Naughton, Zapwater
Rachael Smith, Lakota Group

Commissioners Absent
Tom Paspalas
Lorraine Rieff Liakouras
Alex Theoharis
Marc Washor

I. Call to Order, Roll Call – The meeting was called to order at 2:07 p.m. A quorum was present.

II. Community Participation – There was no community participation.

III. Review and Vote on Approval of January 23, 2020 Meeting Minutes – Minutes from the January 23, 2020 Meeting were reviewed. There was a motion by FC, seconded by AM, to approve the January 23, 2020 meeting minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Old Business

A. Receptacles – Design Proposal/Location – Rachael Smith from Lakota Group explained the receptacles design proposal and there were many options. The Board voted for option B and approved the 22 locations. Motion made by AM and seconded by FC to accept option B. The motion passed unanimously.

B. Audit RFP – Bravos, The A.C.T. Group, LLC. – The RFP for the new independent auditor for the SSA was sent out and an officer from the A.C.T. Group, LLC attended and explained the proposal for A.C.T. There was a motion by AM and seconded by EM to hire A.C.T. Group, LLC. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Planters/Floral Selection – There was a motion by EM and seconded by AM to approve the solid summer palette floral selection. The motion passed unanimously.

V. New Business

A. 2019 Q4 Greektown SSA 16 Performance Report – RB discussed the 2019 Q4 Greektown SSA 16 Performance Report and attached the report to the meeting packet. Motion made by FC and seconded by AM to accept the Performance Report. The motion passed unanimously.
B. Arts Programs – RB may change the monetary sums in the budget at the next meeting concerning the Arts Programs in Greektown.

C. AM & RB stated we must have votes at the SSA meetings for exact amounts for the Christmas 2020 Event. Also, we need to vote on the range of costs to be approved.

Per the request of the Board at the last meeting, Dean Maragos itemized each bill that was owed and still not paid in the amount of $2,584.31 for the 2019 Christmas Tree Event. There was a motion by AM, and seconded by RB to pay the vendors for the $2,584.31. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Reports & Updates

A. Chairman Report - Chairman FC gave a report that he has a meeting on March 3, 2020 for the IDOT meeting. IDOT says now they will be ready in 2022. FC commented that they have been materially wrong in their estimates and the closing of Jackson & Van Buren and Monroe was without notice to the community.

B. Program Manager/Sole Service Provider Report

   a. Shopper’s Reward Update - RB stated that there were 20 Shopper’s Rewards returned which is a good sign that that project is being used. The project ended January 31, 2020.

   b. Contracts Executed – The contracts for Moore Landscaping, the SSA Office Lease and Maragos & Maragos, Ltd. have all been approved and have been executed.

   c. 2020 Project Overview

      Receptacles - The design and location of the receptacles were discussed.

      Greek Parade – The Greek Parade will be held on May 3, 2020.

      EM stated she needs to get the permits for the artwork and Leo Louchios (LL) said he would assist her with the permits. LL stated there are eight schools that will be participating. Zapwater stated they would prepare a video on the art programs.

      There will be a decision on the ribbon cutting for the Elysian Field. LL stated he will work on getting the electricity (electric box) and the City will pay for it. LL will talk with Alderman Burnett to have ComEd get electricity there. LL will then talk with the City to install the meters.

   d. Walgreens Lighting – Leo Louchios stated that we must discuss with Walgreens’ increasing the brightness of the lights as their Halsted store since he has stated that at other Walgreens’ stores the lights are much brighter. We will contact Donovan Pepper to get increased lighting.
e. Security Reports – There was no security report other than a new CPD beat officer has been assigned to Greektown.

C. PR/Marketing – Zapwater – Claire Naughton (CN) of Zapwater reported the following:

There were 900 hits on social media for the Valentine’s Day program.

There will be Greek Heritage Nights with the Chicago Bulls and the Chicago Blackhawks that will give Greektown additional exposure.

The Chicago Fire will host a Greek Night at Soldier Field.

There will be a celebration for Officer Cantu on March 9, 2020 at 3:00 p.m.

There are merchant videos, wine tastings and ribbon cuttings on social media.

CN will contact Kostas Haniotakis who is the head of the Greek Parade.

There was a motion by EM and seconded by FC to have the Orpheus Dance Troupe on the Greektown float. The motion passed unanimously.

VII. Closed Session – The commission went into closed session on motion by EM and seconded by FC. There was a motion by FC and seconded by EM to close the closed-door session. The motion passed unanimously.

VIII. Adjournment – Next SSA #16 Commissioner Meeting is March 26, 2020 - At 3:55 p.m. there was a motion by NK, seconded by FC, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The next SSA #16 Commission Meeting is March 26, 2020 at 2:00 p.m.