I. Call to Order, Roll Call – The virtual meeting was called to order at 2:23 p.m. A quorum was present.

II. Community Participation – There was no participation by the community.

III. Review and Vote on Approval of November 19, 2020 Meeting Minutes – There was a motion by LRL, seconded by AM, to approve the November 19, 2020 meeting minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously. RB then read a statement by the Department of Planning and Development for the virtual meeting issue.

IV. New Business

A. PR Firm – There were two of the four original applicants for the SSA Marketing & Public Relations Firm that made their presentations at this meeting. The two firms that were chosen of the four were Akrete and the Silverman Group. Margie Sweeney and Michelle from Akrete gave their presentation to the committee. After the Akrete group spoke, Beth Neukirch spoke on behalf of the Silverman Group and gave their presentation. After both presentations were given there was a discussion by the commissioners and there was a motion by FC and seconded by EM to choose the Silverman Group. The motion passed unanimously. The Silverman Group was to get their copy of a contract to the SSA as soon as possible. TA was to coordinate the receipt of the draft of the Silverman Contract.

B. Renewal of SSA Office Lease – There was a discussion on extending the current lease from December 31, 2020 to June 31, 2021. There was a motion by FC and seconded by EM to extend the current lease from December 31, 2020 to June 30, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.

C. 2021 Commissioner Meeting Calendar – There was a motion by EM and seconded by AM to accept the published calendar as written and presented to the SSA at the SSA meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
D. 2020 Audit Proposal (A.C.T. Group) – RB discussed the work of A.C.T. Group. There was a motion by EM and seconded by FC to hire A.C.T. Group as the SSA’s Auditors. The motion passed unanimously.

E. Moore Landscape 2021 Contract - Planters – RB stated Moore Landscape had done an excellent job as did EM, AM, FC & TA. There was a motion by AM and seconded by FC to accept Moore Landscaping to handle the planters. The motion passed unanimously.

F. City of Chicago 2021 Summer Floral Proposal - Hanging Baskets – RB reported that Moore Landscaping has a contract with the City and discussed the ramifications of that contract to our Greektown hanging baskets. There was a motion by EM and seconded by LRL to accept the City of Chicago to handle the hanging baskets project. The motion passed unanimously.

G. 2021 Art Proposal – Program #1 - EM stated that she had an idea to work with the Silverman Group to get Planetarium ticketholders to attend the merchants in Greektown. The amount that EM was proposing for the Street Art program was $40,750.00. There was a motion by LRL and seconded by FC to accept the amount of $40,750.00 for the Street Art program as presented to the SSA at the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

Program #2 was presented for the Greektown Artists in Residence. There was a motion by AM and seconded by LRL to accept the proposal to allocate $1,200.00 to this program. The motion passed unanimously.

Program #3 Elysian Fields Art Project – There was much discussion among the commissioners. There was discussion of $3,000.00 to be allocated towards this project however, EM wanted to table it to see if we can discuss further the funding. The matter was tabled.

V. Reports & Updates

A. Chairman Report – Chairman FC said the SSA sponsored the Halsted Street lights and the lighting ceremony was a success.

B. Art Committee Update – EM reported that all the Karavakia were in and being distributed in the neighborhood.

C. Program Manager/Sole Service Provider Report –

a. Greektown Tree Lighting – FC stated once again that the tree lighting was a huge success and he complemented TA and everyone else in the program.

b. Holiday Lights, Piggyback Outlets – The City provided electricity.

VI. Adjournment – Next SSA #16 Commissioners Meeting is January 28, 2021 - At 4:30 p.m. there was a motion by EM and seconded by AM, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The next SSA #16 Commissioners Meeting is January 28, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.