

**GREEKTOWN SSA#16**  
**March 25, 2021 VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES - FINAL**

**Commissioners Virtually Attending**

Frank J. Caputo, (FC)  
Eve Moran, (EM)  
Justine Fedak, (JF)  
Anastasia Makridakis, (AM)  
George Reveliotis, (GR)  
Alex Theoharis, (AT)  
Marc Washor, (MW)

**Others Virtually Attending**

Rod Burch, (RB), Exec. Director WCA  
Dean T. Maragos, (DTM), Advisor  
Tia Angelos, (TA)  
Perry Manderla, (PM), Verano  
Christopher Fotopoulos, (CF), Verano  
James Leventis, (JL), Verano  
Jesse Smart, Alderman Burnett's assistant  
Ra'Jah Welcome-Durosinmi, AGB Security

**Commissioners Absent**

Nicholas Kriarakis  
Lorraine Rieff Liakouras  
Tom Paspalas  
Maria Tsourapas

**I. Call to Order, Roll Call** – The meeting was called to order at 2:05 p.m. A quorum was present.

**II. Community Participation** – RB said there were no members of the community at the meeting.

**III. Review and Vote on Approval of February 25, 2021 Meeting Minutes** – There was a motion by AM, seconded by JF, to approve the February 25, 2021 meeting minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

**IV. New Business**

- A. Covid Rebates for Health & Marketing – TA reported that the merchants in Greektown were very happy with these programs. There was a motion made by AT and seconded by AM to have the program for both rebates be in operation from March 1, 2021 until April 30, 2021. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. AGB Contract Renewal – There was a discussion with Ra'Jah, the AGB agent concerning the contract. There was discussion concerning "Force Majeure" and how it applies to the Greektown contract. AT stated that he wanted to revise the contract concerning the Force Majeure to eliminate the terms "riots" and "epidemics" from Paragraph 8 "Force Majeure". There was a motion by AT and seconded by EM to renew the contract with AGB with these revisions being made to eliminate the terms "riots" and "epidemics" on the Force Majeure terms. The motion passed unanimously. DTM will call Ra'Jah at 773-445-4300 ext. 413 to eliminate from the contract the terms "riots" and "epidemics".
- C. Connie Hinkle 2021 Contract – There was a motion by EM and seconded JF to approve the contract as written. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. Verano (Zen Leaf) – At the meeting, Perry Manderla, (PM) Chris Fotopoulos, (CF) and James Leventis, (JL) were present representing Verano. The items that were discussed

were the hours of operation from 9 a.m. to 9 p.m., Monday through Thursday, and 9 a.m. to 10 p.m. Friday and Saturday and 10 a.m. to 6 p.m. on Sunday. There was a discussion concerning any further hearings. CF, JL and PM reported there were no more public hearings for the license to be issued. Jesse Smart was in attendance as a representative from the Alderman's office. DTM asked what the status was on the security and JL answered there were 78 cameras both inside and outside the building and every inch of the facility was covered and that the recordings were held for 90 days in case they are needed for review. Verano answers directly to the Illinois State Police and the Department of Agriculture. They have their own security named Silver Star Security who are armed guards. DTM asked if the cameras went to Jackson and Adams Street and CF stated he believed that they did. PM stated that they have been working with the Police Commander of the Chicago Police Department for the area.

EM wanted to know if Verano and AGB will meet to coordinate with the SSA Security Committee and they said they would.

FC stated he was concerned about looting this summer. Verano stated they have metal shutters on all the buildings and to protect the building integrity against any rioting. CF stated that the cameras are so highly specialized that they can get license plates from moving cars. PM stated that the police have approved the facility.

## **V. Reports & Updates**

- A. Chairman Report – FC stated that there was no City response for the painting of the crosswalks that he worked on.
- B. Art Committee Update – EM stated that the sculptures were completed. EM also stated that they were starting the models on March 31, 2021 to be sent to the artists. Silverman put new art on the street and would work on getting additional press coverage which would be around 6/1/21.

The Fish project has been very successful. EM wants all the art on the street by May 31, 2021 depending on the fabricator.

- C. PR Firm Updates – TA said all placements in the media by Silverman for Greektown have been very successful.
- D. Security Report – EM stated that the Security Committee met and assigned various tasks. FC said that GR took on the task to coordinate the University of Illinois Security Police with the Greektown AGB Security Force. There are three dates that GR and the Security Committee were to meet. EM congratulated GR. JF stated she is also monitoring crime issues in the community.
- E. Program Manager/Sole Service Provider Report -
  - a. Greektown Virtual Celebration Details –TA stated that the 200<sup>th</sup> Anniversary of the Greek Independence would be able to be viewed on television or online (YouTube).
  - b. Greek Restaurant Week – TA stated that ten restaurants participated and that the Shopper's Reward Program was very successful.

- c. City of Chicago Alfresco Dining Program – RB explained the issues concerning the City of Chicago Alfresco Dining Program.

RB stated that the area has lost its Beat Patrolman and there is a petition with 200 names from the community petitioning the City to get back the patrolman in the Greektown area.

TA thanked FC for distributing Greek flags this past week commemorating the Greek Independence Day and it was very well received and appreciated by the merchants.

**VI. Adjournment – Next SSA #16 Commission Meeting is April 22, 2021** - At 3:23 p.m. there was a motion by EM and seconded by FC to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The next SSA #16 Commission Meeting is April 22, 2021 at 2:00 p.m.