

**GREEKTOWN SSA#16**  
**September 23, 2021 VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES – FINAL**

**Commissioners Virtually Attending**

Frank J. Caputo, (FC)  
Eve Moran, (EM) (partial attendance)  
Anastasia Makridakis, (AM)  
Justine Fedak, (JF)  
Nicholas Kriarakis, (NK)  
George Reveliotis, (GR)  
Alex Theoharis, (AT)

**Others Virtually Attending**

Rod Burch, (RB), Exec. Director WCA  
Dean T. Maragos, (DTM), Advisor  
Tia Angelos, (TA)  
Elizabeth Neukirch, (EN), Silverman Group

**Commissioners Absent**

Lorraine Rieff Liakouras  
Tom Paspalas  
Maria Tsourapas  
Marc Washor

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

**II. Community Participation** – Leo Louchios informed the Board concerning the background on the Chicago Greektown Educational Foundation (CGEF) that would be discussed later. Leo informed all the great work that the CGEF is doing for the local children.

**III. Review and Vote on Approval of July 8, 2021 Meeting Minutes** – There was a motion by FC, seconded by JF, to approve the July 8, 2021 meeting minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

**IV. Old Business**

- A. Lights at Monuments – Frank Caputo (FC) stated that there will be an RFP out concerning the installation of LED lights on the monuments. The lights are needed to properly illuminate the area. There is one (1) temporary light installed. FC will prepare the specifics of the RFP for the lighting project. Rod Burch (RB) stated that we must fix the light seal since water gets into the lights and ruins them. The Elysian Field will also have new LED lights in this proposal.
- B. Decorative Pavements for Greektown Intersections – FC reported on the crosswalks between Madison and Van Buren. CDOT will have white stripes. There will be a crosswalk pattern of blue stripes and white stripes and the Greektown logo will also be included on one of these areas. Gallagher Asphalt gave a proposal concerning the costs of the project. There was a proposal for two items attached.

This project will be postponed until after the construction is completed on the Kennedy and the Eisenhower Expressways. RB stated if this is a CDOT project we may not need an RFP. RB said he would check with the Department of Planning and Development and see whether or not an RFP for this project is necessary. RB also stated that CDOT pricing may need to be reviewed by several companies who will submit multiple bids. FC

will get the timeline on the project. FC asked if this could be paid for by the Budget Carryover. RB said he will look into that.

## V. New Business

- A. Emergency Call Boxes RFP – Tia Angelos (TA) informed the Board that the Emergency Call Box Proposal to put Emergency Call Boxes in the SSA will require an RFP. TA stated that PACE Systems, Inc. had individuals in attendance to explain the system. Gene Prorwicz was the spokesman for PACE and stated we need power from the City to light the poles to run the systems. We need to get City approval for power. He also stated we'll need mentoring on how to call the central station. It was asked of him what is the response time to the request for assistance and he stated that he was not certain what exactly the timeline would be. Gene stated there would also be a program for cameras on each pole that would take photos and refer them to the Chicago Office of Emergency Management & Communications (OEMC) monitoring. The procedure for commencing the alert is just to push the button and talk like 911.

George Reveliotis (GR) wanted to know if Pace will work with AGB and he stated they would. Pace stated there was a similar system in Boy's Town, but it is not the Pace System. Gene stated that a video and audio program was possible and also to have cameras 24/7. Gene stated that reports on crime had decreased in the area. There was a motion for the RFP for the security pod by FC and seconded by GR. The motion passed unanimously.

- B. TOG Rebate Applications – There were eight merchants who applied for the "Taste of Greektown" merchant's rebate. There was a discussion by the commissioners concerning eligible merchants to do business in Greektown and their ability to receive the rebate. There were discussions concerning stakeholders getting the rebate. Alex Theoharis (AT) stated that he lived in Greektown and he "is a stakeholder in Greektown". He has done business in Greektown since 2011. He has paid personal taxes for Greektown. There was no clear delineation of the rebate requirements initially given to him. There was a motion by JF and seconded by AM to grant a rebate program to AT. The motion passed by the vote of JF, AM and MW. In opposition were FC and GR.

Procedures will be discussed at a special meeting of the commissioners in the future.

- C. Proposal for Marathon – Elizabeth Neukirch from the Silverman Group stated that the proposal would be a "cheer station" similar to the prior years, which the Greektown SSA has special booths and information to promote Greektown on this unique marathon event. There was a motion made by AM and seconded by FC to fund up to \$5,000 for this project. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. AGB Security & Other Options – TA explained that at the last security meeting, AGB was asked to make a proposal for 24/7 from October 1, 2021 until December 31, 2021. AGB stated they cannot do that.
- E. Security Issues – Hours of Operation – There was much discussion concerning Taco Burrito King's closing at 1 a.m. and Philly's Best closing at 1 a.m. due to severe problems that may occur due to the 1 a.m. closing of Maxwell Street. There was a motion by FC and seconded by AM to pass AGB's proposal to go from 10:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m., seven days a week until December 31, 2021. The motion passed

unanimously. TA will send a notice to Philly's Best and Taco Burrito King that they must shut down at 1:00 a.m. There was a motion by FC and seconded by JF that these establishments close at 1:00 a.m. due to the new severe safety threat to the community. The motion passed unanimously.

- F. CGEF Proposal – LL explained the proposal for \$15,000 that has been awarded by the SSA to the CGEF. GR stated that any dollars for foundation benefits, benefits all the Greek community schools fairly. None of this money goes to pay administrators who work on a pro bono basis. There was a motion by GR and seconded by JF to approve the \$15,000 award amount to the CGEF. The motion passed unanimously.
- G. Security Rebate Program /Security Systems – FC stated that there was a Security Rebate for security cameras. The alarm system rebate is between \$1,500 and \$1,800. These are for street cameras or exterior lights. RB stated we must vote before the work is done on the proposal submitted by the vendors. There was a motion by AM and seconded by AT to add the alarm to rebate program. The motion passed unanimously.

## **VI. Reports & Updates**

- A. Chairman Report – There was no Chairman Report.
- B. Art Committee Report – There was no Art Committee Report.
- C. PR Updates – Elizabeth Neukirch (EN) from Silverman Group stated that the marathon project is moving forward. EN also said the Restaurant week went very well and the GreekFest was very successful. EN also talked about positive public relations and crisis management on the public relations against false articles concerning Greektown's demise. EN stated they are "monitoring all the trolls".
- D. Security Committee Report – There was no Security Committee Report.
- E. Program Manager Report/Sole Service Provider Report – RB said that the independent audit from the City stated that the SSA was in total compliance and gave it an unqualified opinion. The commissioners congratulated RB.

**VII. Closed Session** – Not applicable.

**VIII. Adjournment** – At 4:27 p.m. there was a motion by FC and seconded by JF to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The next SSA meeting is October 28, 2021.