

GREEKTOWN SSA#16
MARCH 30, 2022 VIRTUAL MEETING MINUTES – FINAL

Commissioners Virtually Attending

Frank J. Caputo, (FC)
Eve Moran, (EM)
Justine Fedak, (JF)
Maria Tsourapas, (MT)
Marc Washor, (MW)

Others Virtually Attending

Rod Burch, (RB), Exec. Director WCA
Dean T. Maragos, (DTM), Advisor
Tia Angelos, (TA), SSA #16 Program Director
Nicole Rizzo, (NR), The Silverman Group

Commissioners Absent

Anastasia Makridakis
Tom Paspalas
George Reveliotis
Lorraine Rieff Liakouras

I. Call to Order, Roll Call – The meeting was called to order at 1:40 p.m. A quorum was present.

II. Community Participation – There was no community participation.

III. Review and Vote on Approval of February 24, 2022 Meeting Minutes – There was a motion by FC and seconded by JF to accept the February 24, 2022 meeting minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Old Business

A. Crosswalks Update – FC stated that he wants to defer this matter to the next meeting.

V. New Business

A. Annual Report Draft – RB stated that the draft has been given to the commissioners and he will await any further comments. There will be a final vote for the annual report at the next meeting in April.

B. COVID Health & Marketing Rebates – MT stated that the Greektown merchants have been hurt materially by COVID. There was a motion by MT and seconded by EM to vote to accept the Covid Program as presented at the meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

C. Greektown Agora at Elysian Field Day of Parade – TA discussed that there will be a row of tents for the Agora. TA stated that she needs the commission to pay up to \$3,000 for the tent costs. TA also stated that she may be able to get sponsorships from private companies and she will report on that. There was a motion made by EM and seconded by FC to have the SSA pay \$3,000 now for the tents but to accept any private company sponsorships to reimburse the SSA to pay for the tents and save the SSA expenditure of \$3,000. The motion passed unanimously.

- D. Monument Repairs & Installation of Lights – FC spoke with City agent Garth Wemmer. FC reviewed the Mertes Company proposal for \$35,450.00 for both the Monroe Street and Van Buren Street repairs for the temples and the lighting. There was much discussion on the proper way to do this. It was decided that the lighting and the repairs for the structures should be on an RFP. There was a motion made by FC and seconded by EM to authorize RB to establish the scope of work in an RFP for various vendors and to report at the next meeting. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. Security Service (Budget & Hours) – Captain Salmon attended the meeting. FC stated that we need to adjust the hours because we are concerned about security, but we also have to be conservative in our budgets. It was noted by FC and all the commissioners that there have been no complaints since the last revision of hours with AGB Security. FC said that we have lost the lights on Halsted Street, and we are concerned about that. Captain Salmon stated he felt that if we opened the security force a little later in the morning that we could save money. There was much discussion with RB and the commissioners concerning the security program. RB stated that the cameras cost us \$40,000 plus maintenance and he proposed to the SSA that they consider eliminating those costs based upon a lower need.

RB stated we must cut the activities to fit within the budget. Currently we have 12 hours per day, 7 days a week. Captain Salmon said that the weekly basis we should keep is Saturday from 9 pm to 10 am and start later in the morning. DTM asked for RB and Captain Salmon to get together and do a proposal for the Security program within our budget. There was a motion made by FC and seconded by EM to authorize them to get a budget proposal for the April meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

- F. Sponsorship of Orpheus & SSA 16 Parade Float – There was a discussion of the Orpheus Troupe that had worked with the SSA at the last parade. TA explained it would cost \$1,450 to sponsor the troupe for this year and make the SSA a sponsor of the Orpheus Troupe. There was a motion made by FC and seconded by EM to approve the sponsorship. The motion passed unanimously.
- G. Shopper Rewards for May Greek Heritage Parade Month – TA stated there was a \$50 reward for the Greek Parade month. Last year there were 8 recipients of the \$50 rebate. There was a motion by EM and seconded by MT to sponsor the shopper rewards again in the identical basis. The motion passed unanimously.

VI. Reports & Updates

- A. Chairman Report – FC stated that he wanted to defer the streetscape and lights until the next meeting. FC also wanted to discuss the hours of security at the next meeting.
- B. Art Committee Report – EM stated she was working with a professor named Cheryl at the University of Illinois (U of I) on mutual projects to be beneficial for the SSA and the U of I. The U of I stated they would like to do a new Greektown banner that they would design and get back to us. EM also stated there would be cross promotion between the U of I and Greektown.

EM stated that the “LYRE” sculpture is going to press.

- C. PR Updates – Nicole Rizzo, (NR) from Silverman Group stated that she is working with two tv stations, WGN and Fox to do special programs on the Greek Easter traditions. NR also stated they're doing a press release on the Greek Parade, Shopper's Rewards and other items on the Greek Easter holiday.
- D. Security Committee Report – This report was discussed earlier in Section V E, Security Service (Budget & Hours).
- E. Program Manager Report/Sole Service Provider Report – RB stated that he will do a budget survey of the Greektown merchants to determine what we will consider concerning the Budget for 2023. RB stated he will contact Lakota Group and discuss it with them.

VII. Adjournment – At 2:20 p.m. there was a motion by FC and seconded by EM to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The next SSA #16 Commissioner meeting is April 28, 2022.