

Lakeview SSA 27

Commission Meeting Minutes

February 14, 2019, 8:30 AM

Sheil Park, 3505 N. Southport Ave., Chicago, IL 60657

Present: Darian Campise, Paul Leamon, Matt Lederer, Terese McDonald, Luis Monje, Amy Novotny, Doug Zylstra

Absent: Jason Aragon, Erin Schwartz, Chuck Stewart

Staff: Lee Crandell, Dillon Goodson

Guests: TJ Walczak

Call to Order

Terese McDonald called the meeting to order at 8:33 AM.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

Reading and Approval of Minutes

Amy Novotny motioned to approve the minutes from the SSA Commission meeting on January 17, 2019, seconded by Paul Leamon; motion carries.

Low-Line Committee Report

- **Ashland Plazas:** Darian Campise shared samples of the proposed finishes for the light boxes that will flank both sides of the Ashland Plazas as well as the white translucent "lens" that will cover the lighting element. She noted that the designers at PORT Urbanism conducted extensive testing on both materials to determine how they will perform when tagged with graffiti and other forms of vandalism. She also updated the Commission on engineering of the light displays that will be featured along the pathway, reminding Commissioners that PORT originally proposed the idea of CTA trains passing overhead triggering the lighting program. In order to accomplish this effect, PORT and subcontractor Chicago Lightworks are using audio frequencies to indicate when a train is arriving and set the light display in motion. According to the design team, this is the most effective way to approach this design challenge with the highest degree of accuracy, but as with any technology, there's always a chance the equipment may need to be fine tuned. Commissioners discussed the materials and program. Darian Campise motioned to approve the light box materials with a \$16,000 budget for programming the light displays as presented, seconded by Doug Zylstra; motion carries.

Streetscape Committee Report

- **North Southport Sidewalk Seating Area:** Luis Monje shared estimated costs for benches that are proposed as part of the SSA's sidewalk seating area on the 3600 block of N. Southport Ave. Noting that the Commission had already voted to approve the design, he asked for a vote to authorize the bench order, estimating the cost to be approximately \$9,316.02, subject to change. Doug Zylstra motioned to approve the order not to exceed \$10,000 with manufacturer Forms+Surfaces, seconded by Amy Novotny; motion carries.
- **Public Seating Approach:** Luis Monje updated the Commission on recent discussions within the Streetscape Committee about phasing out the People Spot program in favor of new sidewalk seating that combines elements of People Spots in a compact configuration with seating, tables, landscaping, and games. He explained that these seating areas could eventually be deployed throughout the SSA, sitting on sidewalks as narrow as 8 ft. wide. Commissioners discussed whether the new seating areas would

incorporate off-the-shelf site furnishings or whether the SSA would need to explore custom options. They commented about how there might be cost advantages to readymade site furnishings, but if there aren't off-the-shelf options that accomplish the Commission's vision, then the SSA should explore a custom design. Matt Lederer motioned to authorize a design exploration fee not to exceed \$1,000 with PORT Urbanism for the new compact sidewalk seating configuration, seconded by Paul Leamon; motion carries.

Community Events & Placemaking Grant Program Task Force Report

- **Appointment of New Members:** Amy Novotny noted that applications were due tomorrow for the SSA's 2019 Community Events & Placemaking Grant Program and that the Task Force would meet in early March to evaluate 2019 projects. She asked Commissioners whether anyone else would like to join the Task Force. TJ Walczak volunteered. Amy Novotny motioned to appoint TJ Walczak to the Community Events & Placemaking Grant Program Task Force, seconded by Darian Campise; motion carries.

Treasurer's Report

Matt Lederer shared the SSA's financials through December 2018, noting that the SSA's budgeted carryover is close to the actual funds remaining on the balance sheet at the end of last year. He reported that the 2018 audit is underway and reminded Commissioners that the 2020 budgeting process will begin in April.

Partner Board Reports

- **Lakeview Chamber of Commerce:** Lee Crandell recapped the recent safety seminar and Annual Meeting, hosted by the Lakeview Chamber of Commerce.
- **Friends of Lakeview:** Lee Crandell updated Commissioners on Friends of Lakeview's fundraising for the Lakeview Low-Line.

Staff Report

- **2018 Lakeview Gift Card Holiday Promotion:** Dillon Goodson presented data on merchant redemptions of the Lakeview Gift Card from 2017 through early 2019, noting the top performing businesses. Commissioners discussed how they'd like to establish a task force to revisit the original goals of the Lakeview Gift Card program, relying on survey data from customers and businesses, and determine whether any changes need to be made. Matt Lederer motioned to appoint a task force composed of Terese McDonald, Matt Lederer and Darian Campise, seconded by Amy Novotny; motion carries.

Announcements

Dillon Goodson invited Commissioners to a joint Wicker Park Bucktown/Lakeview SSA meet-up taking place on Monday, February 25 at 6:00 PM. He also reminded new Commissioners that they must attend a City-mandated New Commissioner Forum on Wednesday, February 20 at 9:00 AM at the Harold Washington Library.

Adjourn

Matt Lederer motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Amy Novotny; meeting adjourned at 9:23 AM.