

Lakeview SSA 27

Commission Meeting Minutes

May 2, 2017, 6:00 PM

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

Present: Darian Campise, Terese McDonald, Luis Monje, Chuck Stewart, Nabil Zahrah

Absent: Jill Heise, Melissa Salvatore, Erin Schwartz

Staff: Dillon Goodson

Guests: None

Nabil Zahrah called the meeting to order at 6:08 PM.

Public Comment

There was no public comment.

2018 Budget Feedback

Nabil Zahrah shared that the purpose of this special meeting was to gather the Commission's feedback about priorities for the 2018 SSA budget. He reminded commissioners about the SSA's 3-year plan, which focuses the SSA's priorities around diversity, destination and density, and shared a copy of the current 2017 budget broken down into three categories of expenses: core, auxiliary and discretionary. He presented his ideas for the budget, suggesting that the Commission should focus on building unique public spaces and activating them with input from the community. He pointed to examples from other Chicago neighborhoods and cities, and recommended creating a series of new events throughout the service area that would involve local partners and create unexpected experiences that accomplish the SSA's mission. Commissioners agreed with a focus on creating new community programming. Luis Monje recommended including some pet-related programming, and Terese McDonald said the SSA should consider whether other holiday programming could replace the Southport Holiday Stroll.

Darian Campise recommended a focus on safety education programs. Terese asked about ways the SSA has informed community members about its progress with regards to the Security Rebate Pilot Program, safety communication lists, and security survey results. Luis suggested that the SSA's PR firm could be tasked with creating a campaign to promote the SSA's security initiatives, and that other ideas should be explored in conjunction with other partners in the community. Darian recommended increasing funding for security rebates to \$10,000 in 2018, and added that additional funding should be considered for a new safety education campaign.

Commissioners discussed funding for streetscape elements. Terese recommended utilizing discretionary funds for Low-Line improvements at Southport, Ashland and Paulina, and funding new sidewalk seating areas throughout the service area. Nabil commented that the SSA should continue to prioritize installing its current People Spots, but should not explore adding additional People Spots due to the time it takes to seek approval and secure a permit under the City's process. Terese requested more funding for murals, and Luis suggested using public art strategically to encourage people to linger in neighborhood focal points and to activate gaps in pedestrian activity.

Luis suggested that funding for the Lakeview Gift Card promotion could be reduced. Terese argued that the promotion has a positive impact on the neighborhood, and that locals would be sorry to see it disappear. Dillon Goodson shared that he was planning to present on the Lakeview Gift Card at the May 11 Commission meeting, so Commissioners could continue the conversation then.

Adjourn

Darian Campise motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Terese McDonald; meeting adjourned at 7:23 PM.