

## **Lakeview SSA 27**

Commission Meeting Minutes

October 8, 2020, 8:30 AM

Virtual Meeting via Zoom Conferencing

**Present:** Darian Campise, Kaitlyn Hurley, Matt Lederer, James Miller, Erin Schwartz

**Absent:** Jason Aragon, TJ Walczak

**Staff:** Dillon Goodson, Nicole McLellan

**Guests:** Helen Bailey, Christopher Comes, Russell Huxhold, Ria Tjong

### **Call to Order**

Erin Schwartz called the meeting to order at 8:32 AM.

### **Reading of Mission Statement**

Erin Schwartz read the mission statement.

### **Public Comment**

Erin Schwartz performed a roll call to confirm attendance for the record.

### **Reading and Approval of Minutes**

Matt Lederer motioned to approve the minutes from the SSA 27 Commission meeting on September 10, 2020 seconded by James Miller; motion carries.

### **SSA 27 Commission Nominations**

Erin Schwartz asked Helen Bailey and Ria Tjong to present their statements of interest for the role of SSA 27 Commissioner, and asked them to provide information on their background.

Darian Campise joined the meeting at 8:39 AM.

Helen Bailey and Ria Tjong left the meeting at 8:40 AM while the SSA 27 Commission discussed the candidates' qualifications. Helen Bailey and Ria Tjong rejoined the meeting at 8:45 AM. Matt Lederer motioned to nominate Ria Tjong and Helen Bailey to the SSA 27 Commission, seconded by Kaitlyn Hurley; motion carries.

### **Presentation by Ripson Group**

Christopher Comes from SSA 27's neighborhood public relations firm, Ripson Group, recapped their work during 2020. Christopher Comes highlighted several initiatives led by Ripson Group, including ways they have promoted SSA 27 businesses affected by COVID-19. Christopher Comes opened the floor to attendees to ask questions regarding work to-date and campaigns Ripson Group will focus on through the end of 2020.

### **Committee & Task Force Reports**

- **Public Art Committee:** Erin Schwartz provided a recap of the Public Art Committee meeting on October 6, 2020, including the Committee's interest to work with Greenstar Movement, an organization that executes neighborhood murals with community members, in 2021. Erin

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Schwartz provided additional updates on recent public art projects, including the planned completion of all four murals at Ashland Plazas of the Low-Line, and an initiative to beautify vacant storefronts through public art. Erin Schwartz noted interest in a sidewalk chalk initiative to encourage voting in the upcoming 2020 election.

- **Streetscape Committee**

- **2020 and 2021 Litter Abatement Contract:** Matt Lederer presented on litter abatement proposals received for the 2021-2022 litter abatement RFP, noting that the Streetscape Committee received four proposals. Matt Lederer added that the Streetscape Committee found Clean Slate to be most competitive in price, and recommended a contract with Cleanslate through the end of 2020, and in 2021 with an option to renew for 2022. Matt Lederer motioned to approve a litter abatement contract with Clean Slate at a not to exceed of \$30,000 through the end of 2020, seconded by James Miller; motion carries. Matt Lederer motioned to approve a litter abatement contract with Clean Slate at a not to exceed of \$96,000 in 2021-2022, seconded by Darian Campise; motion carries.
- **Bike Rack Maintenance:** Matt Lederer informed the Commission that the Streetscape Committee voted to recommend a bike rack maintenance project for 2020, and three proposals were received. Matt Lederer explained the most competitive proposal was from Clean Slate, for the scraping and repainting of bike racks. Kaitlyn Hurley noted that due to the increase of scooter use, there has been a shortage of available bike racks and SSA 27 should consider adding more. Matt Lederer motioned to approve a contract with Clean Slate at a not to exceed of \$20,000 for bike rack scraping and repainting in 2020, seconded by James Miller; motion carries.
- **Tree Care & Planting:** Matt Lederer noted that there are approximately 21 dead trees in SSA 27 boundaries, which can be removed and replanted this year by the City Bureau of Forestry. Kaitlyn Hurley motioned to approve a contract with the City Bureau of Forestry to remove and replant trees at a not to exceed of \$15,000; seconded by James Miller; motion carries.

### **President's Report**

Erin Schwartz noted that security is an important item, and suggested exploring the creation of a safety buddy program; this could be a number the community can call so that a buddy can come walk them home late at night. Kaitlyn Hurley noted she has been a part of similar programs in the past, and these were highly-used and very successful.

### **Treasurer's Report**

Matt Lederer presented on SSA 27 financials, including the budget vs. actuals through August 31, 2020, noting that these figures reflect approximately \$430,000 in available budget for 2020. Matt Lederer added that this is a high amount, and the Commission has allotted \$120,000 in carryover in 2021. Nicole McLellan gave a reminder that this amount is accurate as of August 31, 2020, and there are several larger budget items to be spent in 2020, including remaining contracts, bike rack maintenance, and holiday decor. Nicole McLellan added that the Commission will receive a Q3 status report at the November 12, 2020 Commission meeting, and will undertake necessary budget modifications at that time. James Miller voiced concern that creating new programs in November offered a limited amount of time for execution in 2020, and inquired if scheduling a special meeting in the meantime would be

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beneficial. Darian Campise also inquired whether the City of Chicago might permit changes to the budget to increase budgeted carryover for the 2021 budget, and Nicole McLellan confirmed she could confirm. Matt Lederer suggested considering scheduling a special meeting in advance of the November 12, 2020 Commission meeting to discuss the 2020 budget and 2021 carryover.

### **Winter Materials Rebate**

Erin Schwartz noted that with the onset of colder weather, SSA 27 businesses are considering how to continue their outdoor operations. Erin Schwartz proposed the creation of a Winter Materials Rebate Program, which would provide a rebate for items like tents, heaters, outdoor lamps and retrofitting to support the continuation of outdoor operations throughout the colder months. Erin Schwartz proposed offering a rebate of 50% of costs up to \$500, with an allocated budget of \$10,000 in budget category of 1.02 Special Events. James Miller noted that if there is available budget, the maximum rebate could be increased due to the high price of heating lamps and similar items. Nicole McLellan pointed out that if the Commission decides to increase the maximum rebate amount up to \$750 or \$1,000, she recommended increasing the total budget to allow for additional businesses to apply. Matt Lederer motioned to approve the creation of a Winter Materials Rebate for 50% of costs up to \$750, with an allocated budget of \$15,000 in SSA budget category 1.02; seconded by Darian Campise; motion carries.

### **Partner Board Reports**

- **Lakeview Chamber of Commerce:** Dillon Goodson presented on Lakeview Chamber projects, including Lincoln Avenue Beer Kits and other Halloween promotions.
- **Friends of Lakeview:** Dillon Goodson presented on Friends of Lakeview initiatives, including the upcoming split-the-pot raffle.

### **Staff Report**

Nicole McLellan reminded the Commission that holiday decor will include 1,320 sets of lights on 110 trees and decor on 34 poles, along with an artificial tree with lights and ornaments, a gold heart, a walk through ornament and a selfie photo frame. Nicole McLellan noted that this is a different approach from past years, as SSA 27 typically focuses on pole decor.

### **New Business**

There was no new business.

### **Announcements**

There were no announcements.

### **Adjourn**

Matt Lederer motioned to adjourn the meeting, seconded by Erin Schwartz; meeting adjourned at 9:38 AM.

Next Regular Meeting Date: November 12, 2020, 8:30 AM

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