

**GREEKTOWN SSA#16
SEPTEMBER 27, 2018 MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioners Attending

Frank J. Caputo, ("FC")
Tom Bonanno, ("TB")
Anastasia Makridakis, ("AM")
Eve Moran, ("EM")
Tom Paspalas, ("TP")
Lorraine R. Liakouras, ("LL") via phone

Others Attending

Rod Burch ("RB"), Exec. Director WCA
Dean T. Maragos, ("DTM"), Advisor
Susan Downs Susan Weber
Brittany Spears Andrew Doerge
Anthe Mitrakos Kevin Salmon
Nick Kalogeresis Melanie Richtman
Molly Mara Stephanie Reay

Commissioners Absent

Ceasar Melidis
Alex Theoharis
Marc Washor

I. Roll Call – The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. There was a quorum present.

II. Review of Meeting Minutes – The July 12, 2018 Meeting Minutes were reviewed. There was a motion by FC and seconded by TB to accept the July 12, 2018 meeting minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

III. New Business

- A. New CAPS Officer** – The new CAPS Officer is Sgt. Andrew Doerge. He discussed various questions posed to him concerning police efforts in the community.
- B. Chicago Greektown Ed. Foundation Proposal** – There was a motion by FC and seconded by AM to approve and ratify the earlier vote for \$15,000 to go to the Chicago Greektown Educational Foundation. Motion passed unanimously.
- C. Mary Bartelme Park Sponsorship** – There was a motion by FC and seconded by TB to give \$1,000 to the Mary Bartelme Park Sponsorship for advertising. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. Chicago Greek Film Festival** – There was a donation of \$250 for advertising for the film festival that will occur on October 4 – 8, 2018. There was a motion by TB and seconded by LL to approve the advertising donation. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. Ornamental Lights – City of Chicago Proposal** – FC gave a report on the Ornamental Lights and he explained the program. FC stated that there were 30 light balls on Van Buren to Madison. There are 32 LED lights at a cost of \$43,200 to buy from the City if the City approves them to add more lights for safety. They are 20 feet tall and they will provide additional safety to the community. There will be another report at the next SSA meeting.

- F. Holiday Lights Proposal** - FC discussed the proposal and the strong lights on LED poles. The cost is \$45,860 over a two year period at \$26,000 a year to increase patronage with holiday lighting. RB discussed his thoughts on this proposal. FC stated there will be an electrical control box on Van Buren and Monroe paid by the City. Students from St. George and Solon Greek School will be performing near the IDOT monument which will be part of the lighting program.
- G. LYFT/UBER Service – Customer Retention Initiative** – RB discussed the trolley service and suggested that we do a LYFT/UBER instead of the trolley and get a discount from LYFT/UBER if we sign up our patrons to do this. It would be free for the patrons. We would give the code to the geographical area in time periods. Motion by TP and seconded by FC to have RB report at the next meeting on this system. The motion passed unanimously.
- H. The Midwestern Hellenic Dance Festival** – There was a motion by TB and seconded by AM to authorize an agenda and purchase a full paid ad and logo for \$400. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. Old Business

- A. Community Meeting BACP – Jackson Street** – October 1st FC discussed the Taco Burrito analysis. FC said they are not closing after 4:00 a.m. and they are remaining open. RB gave a report that at the July 10, 2018 meeting of BACP all the vendors said that they will close at 4:00 a.m.

Concerning Christmas, Eve Moran reported that there will be five small boats. There was a motion by FC and seconded by TP to allocate \$1,000 for five boats. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Reports & Updates

- A. Zapwater Communications –**

Taste of Greektown - Molly reported the Taste of Greektown priority of 30 press placements on that event. All outlets were covered. Delilah was on t.v. and Roz Varon on ABC also covered the event. There was newsletter content on the event. Melanie stated there were many influencers treated to Greek food at Spectrum. We received 150,000 free social media impressions.

2018 Chicago Marathon – The marathon will be Sunday, October 7th at 8:00 a.m. Zapwater will have a tent with signs and markers and will be there from 8 a.m. to 2 p.m. They will have flyers from all the restaurants and will report at the next SSA meeting.

- B. AGB Security Reports** – FC said there was a written report given at the meeting and we met with Capt. Salmon and discussed additional comments on safety. Capt. Kevin Salmon said there was one arrest for vagrancy and reported on the activities in the community. There is a new vehicle with lights on top of the car that will be instituted by the security force. There is still a problem with vagrants by Taco Burrito and Walgreens. Walgreens must establish an external patrol.

There was a shoplifting arrest made at Walgreens. FC stated the police are patrolling on bicycles in the 12th District which is assisting the security measures.

C. Jane Byrne Circle Interchange – FC spoke on IDOT and stated they will be done by June 30, 2019 and the bridge will be done by 2022.

D. Strategic Plan – The first draft was given by Nick Kalogeresis.

1. Nick stated he is looking at business development of Greektown to diversify its base.
2. Streetscape Improvements – Gladys Street Mall and Plaza was discussed.
3. Full time staff with business activity should be instituted by the SSA possibly through the West Central Association.

VI. Community Participation –

Chairman Update - FC stated that day trippers are parking their cars along Halsted Street taking up valuable and numbered spots. He stated he issued a letter to Reggie Stewart, Alderman Burnett's assistant about the possibility of installing parking meters to help remedy the day parking problems. EM questions whether we should hand it over to the City without thinking it through a bit more. EM reminded the commission that she paid a \$60 ticket for one of the artists despite the fact that FC wrote a letter stating the artist was in Greektown on official business.

There was a discussion on DrinkHaus concerning them being open Friday, Saturday and Sunday. Security said they will watch them carefully to make sure they do not have private parties with promoters.

VI. Adjournment - At 5:00 p.m. there was a motion made for adjournment by FC, and seconded by EM. The motion passed unanimously. The next SSA #16 Commissioner meeting is October 25, 2018.