

**GREEKTOWN SSA#16
OCTOBER 25, 2018 MEETING MINUTES**

Commissioners Attending

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

Others Attending

Rod Burch ("RB"), Exec. Director WCA
Dean T. Maragos, ("DTM"), Advisor
Susan Downs
Leo Louchios, Greektown Ed. Found.
Aristithis Loukas, Loukas Development
Molly Mara, Zapwater

Commissioners Absent

Ceasar Melidis

I. Roll Call – The meeting was called to order at 3:00 p.m. There was a quorum present.

II. Review of Meeting Minutes – The September 27, 2018 Meeting Minutes were reviewed. FC stated under "F. Holiday Lights Proposal", instead of "The Hellenic Children's Choir" it should state "Students from St. George and Solon Greek School" and after "electrical control box on Van Buren", "and Monroe" should be added. There was a motion by TP and seconded by FC to accept the September 27, 2018 meeting minutes as amended. The motion passed unanimously.

III. New Business

- A. The Lakota Group – Proposal on Design of Planters/Trash Receptacles**– RB talked about how we would approach planters on sidewalks not hanging baskets and new trash receptacles. We need a designer and someone to look at different types of fabrications. The Lakota Group did submit a proposal in this area. Their proposal breaks down the tasks and fees for the services. There will be conceptual drawings, three different designs to choose from, different vendors and that information will be available as this project progresses. The SSA needs to assign a vendor and design. It is important to determine where and how many so we can determine our budget. It is important to remember there is limited space on the sidewalk for these receptacles. Lakota wants \$4,000 for their work. There will be a report on the Lakota Group planter/trash receptacle proposal at the next meeting.
- B. Ornamental Lights – City of Chicago Proposal** – FC gave the City of Chicago proposal which totaled \$43,200. FC passed the pictures around concerning the ornamental lights and explained why these lights located at the lower end of the poles will give more illumination to the street and add to the safety. FC stated these are LED lights. There are 30 poles that currently have LED lights and there are 30 fixtures. There was a motion by TB and seconded by EM to approve the proposal for \$43,200. The motion passed unanimously.

- C. Holiday Lights - Twin Electric Proposal** - FC explained the stringing of these lights on the east and west side of Halsted Street from Van Buren to Madison. The LED lights would cost \$59,540 the first year and \$40,280 the second year. FC stated that IDOT will remove the Van Buren fence to allow the Christmas tree lighting in addition to this lighting on the street. Alex Theoharis wanted delineation of the labor and material. There was much discussion on this matter. FC stated that there would be new electric control panels on Van Buren and Monroe that the City will pay for directly and there will be no permit fees for this project. After much discussion there was a motion by TB and seconded by EM to accept the proposal. The motion passed unanimously. There was a second motion made by RB to transfer \$20,000 from line item 1.02 "Special Events" in the budget to line item 1.06 "Holiday Decorations", and another \$20,000 transferred from line item 1.09 "Public Relations and Media Relations" to line item 1.06 "Holiday Decorations". Motion made by EM and seconded by TB. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. Lyft Service – Contract Approval** – Susan Downs (SD), FC and RB explained the program to the Commission concerning private lift service being used by the patrons in Greektown in lieu of the former Trolley Service Program. Attorney Dean Maragos (DM) read the proposal and contractual terms in the document that was given to him to review. He stated he was totally against any approval of this contract since it completely exonerates Lyft from any liability for anything. DM strongly requested of the SSA that we get a Certificate of Insurance naming the Special Service Area Tax Commission #16 and West Central Association as Sole Provider as the additional insured. At the meeting SD requested that of Lyft and Lyft stated they would not honor our request for Certificate of Insurance. DM then strongly stated that he was against this contract being signed with Lyft since in his opinion there was some liability that could attach to the SSA for negligent and other acts by Lyft totally out of the control of the SSA. The SSA stated they would review this for the next meeting.
- E. Flower Baskets – Fall Planting Proposal** – There was an explanation by FC concerning the Flower Basket Program. He stated there was a material decrease this year for the cost of the program which is \$8,822 versus last year's cost of \$14,000. There was a motion by TB and seconded by FC to pass the \$8,822 proposal. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. Midwest Hellenic Dance Festival – Sponsorship (\$400)** - There was a motion by TB and seconded by FC to ratify the vote for the \$400 made at the last meeting since the item was now on the agenda. The motion passed unanimously.
- G. Artist Event** – EM stated that five boats were ordered and they will put all boats in the restaurants by Thanksgiving. There is an Artist's Party after the election in November. The Greek Islands and Artos will be contributing all the food, drink and paper items necessary. Motion by EM and seconded by TB to pay \$500 to pay for this event at Dugan's. EM abstained from the vote and the motion passed unanimously.

IV. Old Business

- A. DrinkHaus & Taco Burrito King** – There was an incident concerning DrinkHaus. The SSA is gathering more information to determine what to do.

AGB Security Service stated that Taco Burrito King had previously stayed open past 4:00 a.m. and the SSA is monitoring that.

V. Reports & Updates

- A. Zapwater Communications** –

Molly reported that the Chicago Marathon event had great feedback. Press materials were given but no television crews showed up due to the congestion caused by the race. There is a grid feature in the Sun-Times in which there were videos of Greektown and the narrator "GEE" said she was very impressed with the Greektown preparation and showcase on that day.

The Tree Lighting ceremony will be on December 8th at 5:00 p.m. ABC-TV has been there in the past and Molly said they would try to get more television cameras to be there. SD reported the dinner will be at Athena for 120 people.

- B. AGB Security Reports** – AGB reported earlier in the meeting concerning DrinkHaus and Taco Burrito King.

- C. SSA Program Manager** –

RB is the SSA Program Manager and he addressed the expiring terms of commissioners Lorraine Liakouras, Alex Theoharis and Marc Washor. LL was on the phone and stated she had received her document of approval. RB said he will get more information from each of these individuals as soon as possible because it is a long drawn out process. LL stated she had completed all of the work but according to RB she has not been formally approved.

RB stated that there will be a second Open House for the Strategic Plan the first week in November and he will get back to us later on that.

The amended budget that was introduced to the City Council will be passed at the next City Council meeting.

RB stated that James Mason was hired as the new bookkeeper for the SSA #16 and Michael Roti is no longer the bookkeeper.

- D. 727 W. Madison** – TB asked if there was a liquor license there in a residential area. The SSA will be investigating this.

VI. Adjournment – At 4:30 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 November 15, 2018.