

# GREEKTOWN SSA#16 SEPTEMBER 26, 2019 MEETING MINUTES

## Commissioners Attending

Frank J. Caputo, (FC)  
Tom Bonanno  
Anastasia Makridakis, (AM)  
Eve Moran, (EM)  
Alex Theoharis, (AT)  
Marc Washor, (MW)

## Commissioners Absent

Tom Paspalas  
Lorraine Rieff Liakouras

## Others Attending

Rod Burch, (RB), Exec. Director WCA  
Dean T. Maragos, (DTM), Advisor  
Susan Downs, (SD), via phone  
Roxanne Boldt, Westgate Condo Assoc.  
Keith McCormick, Hellenic Museum  
Maria Mitchell-Tsourapas, Greektown Ed. Found.

**I. Call To Order, Roll Call** – The meeting was called to order at 2:11 p.m. A quorum was present.

**II. Community Participation** – RB stated that Drinkhaus has been closed. RB extended an invitation to sign-up online to ensure receipt of important neighborhood emails and notices.

**III. Review and Vote on Approval of May 23, 2019 Meeting Minutes** – Minutes from the May 23, 2019 Meeting were reviewed. There was a motion by EM, seconded by AM, to approve the May 23, 2019 meeting minutes as written. The motion passed unanimously.

## **IV. New Business**

### **A. Commissioners**

#### **a. Commissioner Resignation (Ceasar Melidis)**

There was a motion by FC, seconded by EM to accept the resignation of Caesar Melidis as an SSA#16 Commissioner. The motion passed unanimously.

#### **b. Commissioner Renewals (Frank Caputo, Anastasia Makridakis, Alexander Theoharis, Thomas Paspalas, Marc Washor)**

The commissioners need to get their information to the City to get renewed.

#### **c. Potential Commissioners (Joel Rieff, Peter Vitogiannis, Gerda Varkuleviciute, Maria Mitchell-Tsourapas, Nicholas Kriarakis)**

The above potential commissioners have all applied and we will be kept apprised of their application progress.

- B. Establish Greektown Security Committee – Chair Nicholas Kriarakis –** There was a motion made by AM and seconded by FC to proceed in forming a Greektown Security Committee to review AGB shift reports, make recommendations and liaise with the Chicago Police Department. The motion passed unanimously. It was suggested to have recently retired Officer Nick Kriarakis act as Chair of the Greektown Security Committee and report to the SSA every month. Mr. Kriarakis is considering. The SSA will begin determining the exact structure and a proposed frequency and will report its progress to the commission.
- C. Administrative Assistant Services– Independent Contractor (Susan Downs)** There was a discussion about Susan Downs, Independent Contractor. Motion made by AT, seconded by EM to accept the Independent Contractor contract for Susan Downs. The motion passed unanimously.
- D. Chicago Greektown Educational Foundation Sponsorship/Advertising (\$15,000) –** FC stated that Maria Mitchell-Tsourapas representing the Chicago Greektown Educational Foundation presented information to the commission about the important work the Foundation continues to do in support of Greek Language Education throughout Chicago. Ms. Mitchell-Tsourapas highlighted the advertising proposal (\$15,000). There was a motion by MW, seconded by EM to approve the \$15,000 advertising expenditure. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. Shopper’s Reward Gift Card Replacement –** Susan Downs reported that a \$55 replacement gift card is necessary. Motion made by AT and seconded by AM to continue the gift card program. The motion passed unanimously. RB said they are refining the procedure on the gift card program.
- F. Floral Baskets – City of Chicago Proposal (\$12,096.40 – 64 Hanging Baskets) –** FC stated that there are 64 hanging baskets and the cost for the planting and maintenance of them is \$12,096.40. There was a motion by AT, seconded by EM to pay the \$12,096.40. The motion passed unanimously.
- G. Greektown Fencing – QC Enterprises Proposal (\$6,469.51) –** FC reported that the proposal included labor and material to install the fence for \$6,469.51. The pillar fence will be on the North Side of Quincy. There was a motion by EM, seconded by FC to approve the \$6,469.51 expenditure. The motion passed unanimously

## V. Old Business

- A. Decorative Piggyback Lights – City of Chicago Proposal (\$43,200) -** FC stated this invoice was approved by the commission a year ago, and that after RB gave FC the check an attempt was made to have the City fund the project. The City did not fund the project, but will honor the original proposal of \$43,200. Chicago Bureau of Electricity said they will pay the original invoice of \$43,200. Installers will act ASAP after they give them the check. RB stated that now the new outlet for the SSA Christmas and other lights the City will pay the electric bill. There was a motion by AM, seconded by MW to pay the \$43,200 City of Chicago proposal to install piggyback decorative LED lights throughout Greektown. The motion passed unanimously.

- B. Ratify Columbus Day Float Sponsorship/Advertising (\$3,000)** – There was a motion by AT, seconded by AM to ratify sponsorship of advertising (\$3,000) and a Merchants of Greektown float in the Columbus Day Parade. The motion passed unanimously.
- C. Orpheus Hellenic Folklore Society 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event Advertising (\$2,500)** – SD highlighted the helpfulness of the Orpheus Hellenic Folklore Society (OHFS) in various and important Greektown marketing segments. An advertising sponsorship of OHFS' 30<sup>th</sup> Anniversary Event would provide placement of the SSA logo on a step and repeat banner, on advertising collateral, as well as social media mentions and placement on their website. There was a motion made by AT, seconded by FC to accept the proposal of a \$2,500 advertising sponsorship. The motion passed unanimously.

## **VI. Reports & Updates**

### **A. Chairman Frank Caputo Update**

- a. Greektown Christmas Ceremony – A meeting of the Christmas Ceremony Planning Committee will be scheduled for next week. The event will start at 3:00 p.m. on Sunday, December 8<sup>th</sup>. Additional details will be shared with the commission at the October 24<sup>th</sup> meeting.
- b. National Hellenic Museum – FC explained that he met with two individuals from the National Hellenic Museum. A lack of participation with the community was discussed and a request was made that "Greektown Chicago" be added to all Museum marketing materials. Keith McCormick expressed his desire to mend any rifts existing between the Museum and the community indicating his desire to include servers from the Greek Islands at the upcoming Kouzina event.
- c. FC explained that he is concerned with the recent illness/deaths associated with vaping and wondered about expressing concern to the owners of Mythical Smokes. AM stated that she had concerns but has found the shop to be very well run and extremely clean. AT feels that it is beyond the scope of our duties as an SSA.

### **B. Program Manager/Sole Service Provider Updates**

- a. Financial Update – RB provided a financial update.
- b. Security Update – RB reiterated that the SSA will move forward to define the exact structure and frequency of the SSA Security Committee.
- c. Elysian Field – The Elysian Field will most likely be dedicated in the Spring of 2020.
- d. Lyft Program – RB reported there is still a problem on insurance issues and he will report at the next meeting.

e. Walgreens Cameras – FC wanted Walgreens' cameras to be established. It was stated we will contact Walgreens.

f. Vaping – The City may pass an ordinance outlawing vaping.

**VII. Adjournment** – At 4:05 p.m. there was a motion by FC, seconded by AT, to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The next SSA #16 Commission Meeting is October 24, 2019 at 2:00 p.m.