

GREEKTOWN SSA#16

MAY 20, 2025 MEETING MINUTES - FINAL

Commissioners Attending

Eve Moran, (EM)
Frank J. Caputo, (FC)
Lorraine Rieff-Liakouras, (LL)
Anastasia Makridakis, (AM)
Tom Paspalas, (TP)
Constantine Vitogiannis, (CV)

Others Attending

Patti Doyle, (PD), Exec. Director WCA
Tia Angelos, (TA), Program Director
Dean T. Maragos, (DTM), Advisor
Andrew Burton, President of 770 W. Gladys Lofts
Elizabeth Neukirch, Elizabeth Neukirch PR Consulting

Commissioners Absent

Maria Tsourapas

I. Call to Order, Roll Call – The meeting was called to order at 2:00 p.m. A quorum was present.

II. Community Participation – There was no community participation.

III. Review and Vote on Approval of SSA #16 April 22, 2025 – There was a motion made by LL and seconded by TP to approve the April 22, 2025 and the May 13, 2025 meeting minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

IV. New Business

- A. Elizabeth Neukirch PR Contract Renewal – Elizabeth Neukirch gave her presentation. The Commissioners commented on the excellent job Elizabeth has been doing. There was a motion by LL and seconded by TP to approve the new contract from July 1, 2025 to July 1, 2026 at \$3,500.00 per month. The motion passed unanimously.
- B. Garmat Cleaning Sidewalk Contract Renewal – The proposal from Garmat was to get an increase from \$2,805 to \$2,925 per month for their services. CV wants to establish a system next year to monitor the punching in and out of the attendant. There were questions concerning the veracity of the time being submitted by the company. There was a motion made by EM and seconded by TP to renew the Garmat contract for next year. The motion passed unanimously.

FC stated that he wanted to thank Alderman Conway for the receptacles given in the Greektown area from the City.
- C. Façade Rebate 2025 – TA stated that they have to update the RFP for the Façade Rebate Program and we would defer this matter to the next SSA meeting.
- D. TOG Rebate 2025 – There were discussions concerning the lack of transparency in the operations for this event. The commissioners wanted to get an analysis of what the participation fees were, where the funds go once they are collected by the operator. We need to get information from Bruce Buzil who is the manager of Special Events Management. TA needs to get in contact with the Greektown Chamber of Commerce to get additional information for the next meeting on June 17, 2025. The discussions also stated they wanted to get information from the Greektown Chamber of Commerce.

There were many ideas also affiliated with this event concerning the festival agreement and raffles for hoodies and/or t-shirts. Patti Doyle will report to the SSA on the funds flow.

- E. Q1 2025 Performance Report – The Q1 2025 Performance Report was reviewed. There was a motion made by EM and seconded by LL to accept the Q1 2025 Performance Report. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. 2026 Workplan and Budget – The Budget is due July 31, 2025. This will report on what the goals were and the actual events that happened to achieve the goals. The SSA will review the draft of the Workplan and Budget. There was a motion by AM and seconded by FC to review the Workplan and Budget at the next meeting. The motion passed unanimously.

V. Reports & Updates

A. Chairman Report –

EM stated the following:

1. A final check for \$62,860.23 was issued & delivered to CDOT for Streetscape Project.
2. Lease & space arrangements set by DTM, and TA handled move.
3. Furniture donated to SSA by FC.
4. New public art coming soon. Potential to develop & sell “art” T-shirts for TOG. Pull out a winning ticket at each TOG restaurant for shirt?
5. *Upcoming:* May do an event around completed “streetscape” project. This project lends itself to a ribbon cutting event. Imagine drone camera shots and possibly a DJ. The ribbon cutting event will not interfere with the TOG event. EM said we need to get neighborhood groups and individuals more involved.
6. *Proposal Procedures for SSA:* All proposals/requests invited: BUT, must be in writing & supported. Send in “timely” fashion to TA, EM & CV.
7. *Two “Urgent” Projects:* 1) Repair the Monroe Temple pieces. The Mertes Company and another Historical Preservation company will be part of an RFP to repair the limestone. 2) There is a condition with broken streetlight bottoms. There are missing units and in summertime rodents occupy them. Dan Luna, the Alderman’s Chief of Staff was present and stated he will address this problem at the next meeting after he has a chance to discuss it with the City of Chicago Streets & Sanitation Department. Dan agreed with EM that one solution would be to screen the bottoms so that nothing can get inside the bottom.
8. *Security Rebate* – EM will speak with TA and DTM to discuss recent Security Rebate action and this will be presented at the next meeting.

9. TA, CV & EM will create and maintain an "Action Sheet" on all important items addressed by the SSA.
- B. Art Chair Report – EM stated there will be new public art soon. On May 26, 2025, two new sculptures CSE sculptures will be installed in Greektown. Further, the artists are completing work on Urns. The expected install date is June 2nd.
- C. Program Director/Sole Service Provider Report – TA stated the City hanging baskets were installed, new flags were put up at Elysian Field and we await the rest of the flags on Halsted to arrive and be installed. TA is also working with the City and The Van Buren to plant new trees at the Van Buren Apartments. On June 5th there will be a ribbon cutting for the new Public Art project in Greektown, i.e., The Flowering Grecian Urns. Elizabeth N. stated there is a press release & media push to announce the June 5th ribbon cutting at Elysian Field.
- D. Security Committee Report – The Security Committee report will be given at the next meeting.

VI. Adjournment – At 3:03 p.m. there was a motion by EM and seconded by TP to adjourn the meeting. The motion passed unanimously. The next SSA #16 Commissioner meeting will be on June 17, 2025, at 2 p.m. at the SSA office.
cv stated everything is fine