

# **GREEKTOWN SSA#16**

## **JULY 15, 2025 MEETING MINUTES - FINAL**

### **Commissioners Attending**

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

### **Others Attending**

Patti Doyle, (PD), Exec. Director WCA  
Tia Angelos, (TA), Program Director  
Dean T. Maragos, (DTM), Advisor  
Janet Kashuba, National Hellenic Museum

### **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** – Janet Kashuba from the National Hellenic Museum was in attendance.

**III. Review and Vote on Approval of SSA #16 Minutes from June 17, 2025** – There was a motion by EM and seconded by TP to defer this matter to the next SSA meeting on September 23, 2025. The motion passed unanimously. EM, TA and PD will review the minutes and provide a draft at the next meeting.

### **IV. New Business**

- A. **2026 Budget**– After much discussion, there was a motion made by EM and seconded by TP to approve the 2026 Workplan and revised Budget. The motion passed unanimously.

There was one revision, to clarify that the Sole Service Provider (SSP) compensation is \$26,000 and the Program Director wage is \$89,000. PD stated she will send the revised budget drafts to the Department of Planning & Development today.

There was a motion by EM and seconded by TP to approve the West Central Association as the Sole Service Provider for 2026. The motion passed with 5 in favor and 1 abstained.

- B. **Website Contract Renewal** – There was a motion made by EM and seconded by TP to approve the Lynchpin SEO renewal contract from August 1, 2025 to July 31, 2026. The motion passed unanimously.

There was a further motion to have Lynchpin revise the website. Motion made by EM and seconded by TP. The motion passed unanimously.

- C. **Social Media Contract Renewal** – TA explained to the Commissioners that the renewal contract for Social Media from Heron Agency is moving from \$2,000 to \$2,080 per month. Heron will no longer be doing the newsletter. (This assignment goes to TA). After much discussion, there was a motion by AM and seconded by EM to approve a one-year contract for Heron Agency and have a 30 to 90 day cancellation clause included. The

contract will be for \$2,080 per month and only for our Social Media. PD will be contacting Noreen from Heron.

- D. RFP's – EM noted that, in the coming months, we will be doing an RFP for monument repair and also an RFP for social media company. There was a motion to prepare such items, made by EM and seconded by TP. The motion passed unanimously.
- E. Holiday Lights Renewal - TA explained that Illuminight had a two year contract that is up for renewal. The company's original price was \$40,000 for 2025 but for 2026 it is \$42,000. There was a motion made by EM and seconded by AM to approve the 2-year contract at the \$42,000 rate. The motion passed unanimously.
- F. SSA 16 Activation/Support at Taste of Greektown – There was an agreed statement by CV that there was \$29,000 in the approved budget for the SSA to support the Taste of Greektown. There was also discussion about SSA 16 Activation at Taste of Greektown and TA will address it her report below.
- G. "Chicago Does" Proposal – TA introduced the benefits of marketing and advertising with the "Chicago Does" program. This matter will be brought up for further discussion at the next meeting.

## **V. Reports & Updates**

### **A. Chairman Report –**

- 1. EM thanked everyone for understanding the Workplan and Budget 2026 & the revisions to the Budget 2025. She also gave thanks to the Alderman for his review and approval. EM stated that PD is sending them off to the DPD.
- 2. EM stated the "Streetscape Project" installation dates are not yet finalized but getting close. EM is looking to August at the earliest but waiting for a final viable schedule.
- 3. Work will begin in late August with TA on revising both the Façade & Security Rebate materials and also with PD on select RFPs in line with our budgetary & efficiency concerns. There is no meeting in August which will give us time to prepare on these matters.

### **B. Art Chair Report –**

- 1. EM stated the Urns have gotten the SSA good TV and radio press.
- 2. Elizabeth informed us that "Midwest Living" magazine is planning a piece on the urns for their Fall issue.
- 3. TA arranged for photographs of urns by Yanni Dimoulis to support the article.
- 4. A map of urn placements was prepared by Connie.

### **C. Program Director Report/Sole Service Provider Report –**

- 1. TA stated the SSA will have a presence at Taste of Greektown with a tent arranged by the Greektown Chamber for the SSA at no cost. This activation will bring in more

newsletter subscribers by scanning a QR code to receive a shopping bag. There will also be a backdrop of Santorini at our tent to have attendees take fun photos.

2. There has been an increase in graffiti on our planters. TA has used a can of blue paint matching the planters to cover up the black "tags". The 34<sup>th</sup> ward has also helped by calling into the 311 Graffiti blasters when they see markings on walls.
  3. There are a handful of Commissioners up for renewal in December. TA would like the Commissioners to send her their renewal as soon as possible because it takes 3 to 4 months to process.
  4. The DPD sent TA some information on a small business grant opportunity from American Express. She has shared this with our merchants.
- D. Security Committee Report – TA met with the 12<sup>th</sup> District Police after the last "Coffee with a Cop" on June 17<sup>th</sup> in regard to the increase of homeless individuals sleeping on sidewalks and behind business dumpsters. TA will report at the next meeting about any plans for daytime foot patrol.

**VI. Adjournment** – At 4:00 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 September 23, 2025, at 2 p.m. at the SSA office.