

Lincoln Avenue SSA #35-2015
Commission Meeting Minutes - January 30, 2024
Lincoln Common, 2345 N. Lincoln, North Conference Room

Commissioners Present: Kenneth Dotson, Mark Davis, Benn Hamm, Mike Hochhauser, Kevin Greco

Commissioners Absent: Edda Coscioni, Tiffany Jozwiak

LPCC Staff: Kim Schilf, Joe Bergin

Public Forum: None in attendance

43rd Ward Alderman's Office: Alderman Timmy Knudsen, Chief of Staff McKay Murphy

Call to Order

Meeting called to order by Dotson at 9:08 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to approve the October 25, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

Public Forum – n/a

Special Guest – Alderman Timmy Knudsen

Alderman Knudsen shared updates on current neighborhood projects and crime.

Financial Report (Davis)

- In 2023, we received \$450,505.73 in 2022 tax levy to fund our 2023 budget. The 2022 levy asked for in our 2023 budget was \$434,838 and we received \$15,668 over in levy. We'll follow up with the City to see if there was an error, but in years past we have also received more levy than requested.
- At the end of 2023, we wrote a check for \$137,202.75 to Landscape Forms for the purchase of 4 arches. There may be a small additional fee for a custom color.
- The current balance as of 1/29/23 is \$191,131.72.
- Our current account balance reflects payment to the City/Yellowstone Landscaping for approximately \$64,098 for summer and winter landscaping. The City bills us at the beginning of the year for both landscape seasons.
- We paid for half of the total snow plowing in 2023 and will be paying the remaining half in 2024.
- A big portion of our 2024 budget will be utilized by the Under L project as we still have many expenses left (electrician, installation, etc.)

Action Items (Schilf)

2024 Officer Elections

Motion to approve Kenneth Dotson as Chair, Mark Davis as Treasurer and Edda Coscioni as Secretary. Motion Seconded, Motion unanimously approved.

4th Quarter report.

Motion to approve the 4th Quarter report. Motion Seconded, Motion unanimously approved.

Program Manager Report (Schilf)

Chicago Sculpture Exhibit Update: The Commission decided to put sponsorship of this program on hold due to budget constraints in 2024. The Commission will revisit sponsorship in future years.

Contracts:

- Litter Abatement- Cleanslate is currently on their winter schedule and are out 3 days a week: Wednesday, Saturday, and Sunday. The 2024 contract has been adjusted to reflect a higher priority on quality and thoroughness of service.
- Landscaping- planters and baskets looked good this season. We used Moore/Yellowstone through the city contract again.
- Snow removal contracts with Christy Webber are in effect. They have been out at least twice for snow removal and we utilized one of our salting services to request salting overnight before a freeze.
- Holiday Decorations – Liberty Flag & Banner provided our pole decorations and greenery this year and they looked really good. Décor was installed and removed on time.
- Weeding – We did not receive any weeding proposals last fall for 2024. Cleanslate had stated they were not rebidding. We did receive 3 bids in January, but each of the proposals fell outside our budget. Joe and Kim will talk to Cleanslate again about rebidding, with services to begin in May 2024.

Streetscape:

- Under L Improvements- Purchase order has been signed and arches have been paid for in 2023. We are currently working through the electrical connection process and planning for a late summer/early fall installation. We had a Zoom call with Landscape Forms (the arch fabricator) last week and are working with a manager to complete the arch design before production.
- Wayfinding signage – 16 signs should be installed in early spring 2024. There was a delay this fall due to a staffing change at the signage company.
- Façade rebate program – Bad Apple was conditionally approved for a rebate on 1/15/24. Junior Chef Kitchen was conditionally approved for a rebate on 11/21/23. Neither project has been completed yet.
- Façade rebate discussion – Commission discussed possible amendments to eligibility requirements for businesses applying for additional rebates in the same year. Program Manager will send proposed changes to the Commission for feedback. The Commission discussed whether a requirement should include a time frame requirement or a requirement based on the requested amount.

Public Safety:

- Safety Rebate – Junior Chefs Kitchen was conditionally approved for a rebate. They have completed the installation of security cameras, scheduled a site visit with the LPCC, and submitted receipts. The rebate will be paid this week.

Miscellaneous

- It was suggested that we explore improving/activating the store windows at the old CVS location since the store will likely be vacant for a few years. Kim and Joe are looking into how that can be done.
- Ensuring everyone is aware of the Air and Water Show taking place on Friday, August 9.

Marketing

Annual events – These upcoming events are being planned for Lincoln Avenue.

- Health and Wellness Weekends, June 1 and 2; August 24 and 25
- Lincoln Park Uncorked – wine stroll – Thursday, September 12
- Spooktacular, October 26

Upcoming events:

- Business After Hours – Wednesday, January 31st, 5:30 PM at Five Iron Golf
- Lincoln Park 2024 – Annual Meeting – Thursday, February 8 at 8:00 AM at Whirlyball
- Savor Lincoln Park – March 20 at Theater on the Lake

Next Meeting: Tuesday, April 16, at 9:00 a.m.

Motion to adjourn meeting. Motion seconded. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 10:19 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Joe Bergin.