

**Lincoln Avenue SSA #35-2015
Commission Meeting Minutes
April 18, 2023
Zoom**

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

Commissioners Absent: Tiffany Jozwiak

LPCC Staff: Kim Schilf, Jessica Wobbekind

Public Forum: Darwin Mintu

Alderman's Office: McKay Murphy

Call to Order

Called to order by Dotson at 9:03 a.m.

Approval of Minutes

Dotson asked for and received approval of the minutes from the January 24, 2023 meeting.

Motion to approve the January 24, 2023 meeting minutes. Motion seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

Public Forum – none

2022 Audit Presentation

- Darwin Mintu from Ripple Tax reviewed the audit standards with the commission and walked through the 2022 SSA audit. This is the draft, not the official report but the report will confirm that the financials are correct.
- The summary of audit findings states that there were no findings noted in the 2022 financial audit statement.

Motion to approve the 2022 audit. Motion seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

Reports

- I. **Financial Report (Davis)**
 - i. Everything is looking good, we have about \$300k in the bank.
 - ii. We received about \$440k from the 2021 levy which is the full requested levy plus a little more. Most of the second half of the installment came in late December; we also received about \$60k in January.
 - iii. We have received about \$160k of the 2022 levy, this is about 36% of the 2022 levy, so we are expecting a little bit more for this first installment of the property taxes.

- iv. Our big expenses in the 1st Quarter were the 2023 half of snow removal payments for the 2022-23 season contract, 3 months of our litter abatement contract and the 2023 landscaping contract which we paid in full.

II. **First Quarter Report (Wobbekind)**

- i. Wobbekind reviewed what's included in these quarterly reports and shared the 1st quarter report with commissioners.

Motion to approve the 2023 1st Quarter report. Motion seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

Action Items

III. Pressure Washing Vendor

- 1. We received three bids for Pressure Washing. A bid from Cleanslate, Pressure Washing System, and Quality Pressure Washing.
- 2. Hamm recommends going with Cleanslate because we will save \$5,000 and can pay for a touch up later in the year when it fades.
- 3. Coscioni, Greco and Hochhauser agree, thought Cleanslate did a good job.

Motion to approve Cleanslate as the 2023 pressure washing vendor. Motion seconded. Motion unanimously approved.

New Business

- I. The Commission discussed the 2024 budget. The draft budget will be reviewed in May and submitted to the City by June 2.
 - i. Hamm recommended we consider projects aimed at slowing traffic on Lincoln Avenue.

Program Manager Report (Wobbekind)

II. Contracts:

- i. Litter Abatement- Cleanslate is on their Summer schedule beginning April 1, they are out 5 days a week- Monday, Wednesday, Friday, Saturday and Sunday. They were out a week or so ago giving extra attention to cleaning under the garbage cans, they look good and hopefully moving forward they will be able to maintain them better
- ii. Landscaping- winter plantings in the planters and baskets have been removed soon and the spring plantings will go in in the next month or so, we are working with the City again, they are using Moore Landscapes.
- iii. Snow removal contracts are in effect through May 1.

III. Streetscape:

- i. Under L Improvements- we are working through the construction process, it is more complicated than anticipated and more expensive. Currently working through the electrical connection process.
 - ii. We have sent edits to the designer of the map for the Wayfinding Signage.
 - iii. Bike Racks – ordered 10 and paid for them in 2021, the city will be installing them soon, they have been delayed slightly.
 - IV. We are exploring a subscription with a company that provides mobile data for the neighborhood. This will allow us to better understand who is coming to the area, where they are coming from and going to, how long they stay and what types of trips they make within the area while they are here. It can be as specific as a day to as general as a year. We can compare over time, going back to 2017. This will be very helpful in our marketing and understanding who to target. We are considering a split cost between the two SSAs and the Chamber and will have more details next month.
 - V. We started a GroupMe chat to help businesses on Lincoln Ave communicate quickly and easily with each other about issues related to public safety. Commissioners are encouraged to sign up.
2. Wobbekind reminds Commissioners to make sure to complete both the city and county ethics forms, they are due May 1.
 3. Economic Development Report
 - I. Open- Gong Cha bubble tea, 2233 N Lincoln
 - II. Opening this week, Innovative Care (third location), 2662 N Lincoln
 - III. Coming Soon(ish)-
 - i. Bad Apple, a Lincoln Sq restaurant in the John Barleycorn space
 - ii. Umi, dispensary in the old Salt & Pepper space, were approved for a zoning change, now they need to apply for a special use permit. The LPCC wrote a letter in support of the project.
 4. **Marketing and Events Report, delivered by Wobbekind**
 - I. We are working on a website refresh to make the website look more current and to improve the functionality, the SSA pages are getting updated as a part of this.
 - II. We are finalizing our Annual Events calendar and will report back in May. Events will include:
 - i. Health and wellness, June and September
 - ii. Wine stroll, September
 - iii. Spooktacular, October
 - III. Event Summary-
 - i. We hosted Savor Lincoln Park in March, it went really well and had great attendance, approximately 450 people attended.

IV. Upcoming events

- i. Toast & Tacos: The Future of Restaurants- today, 1-4 pm at Takito Kitchen here on Lincoln Ave. This will feature a panel of successful restaurateurs from the Lincoln Park and Lakeview Roscoe Village Chambers of Commerce focusing on technology, growth and adapting to changing times.
- ii. Coffee and Commerce, with the SBAC and Lakeview Roscoe Village Chamber at the Reveler, 3403 N Damen, 9 am on Wednesday, April 19th.
- iii. Uncorked Wine Stroll is coming up, May 10th (Wednesday), on Armitage and Halsted- sold 120 tickets so far.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, May 16, 9 a.m., Lincoln Common

Motion to adjourn meeting. Motion seconded. Unanimously approved.

Meeting adjourned at 10:02 a.m.

Minutes respectfully submitted by Jessica Wobbekind