



— OLD TOWN —
SPECIAL SERVICE
— AREA 48 —

**SSA 48 Old Town –Commission Meeting
Teleconference/Zoom Meeting--COVID-19
Wednesday, January 19, 2022
5:30pm**

Commissioners and Staff present: Linda Fleener -Executive Director, Rachel Rubinson - Marketing & Membership Coordinator,
Alex Christenson, Judy Erwin, Don Klugman, Peter O'Brien, Mark Proesel, Paul Purewal, Caroline Shoenberger, Jennifer Tremblay

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:33pm by Peter O'Brien.

Pursuant to the applicable law and the Commission Chair's determination that attendance by remote means is necessary because an in-person meeting is not practical or prudent due to the declared public health disaster caused by COVID-19, this meeting is conducted by videoconference *via Zoom*.

2. Roll Call

Quorum

3. Introduction of Guests

Captain Salmon, AGB
Brady Gott, Cleanslate
Jeremiah Posedel, Resident
Keith Stolte, Resident
Amy Keller, Resident
Elizabeth Donovan, Resident

4. Review of DRAFT MINUTES from SSA 48 Commission Meeting on 10/20/2021

- a. **MOTION TO APPROVE meeting minutes from SSA 48 Commission Meeting on 10/20/2021 by Ms. Erwin, seconded by Ms. Tremblay. The motion carries.**

5. Financial Report

Mr. Proesel reported the finances of SSA 48 as of November 31st, 2021.

Present Balance as of Nov. 31: \$393,915.70

Total Income: \$482,950

Expenses:

Advertising & Promotion: \$500

Operation & Administrative: \$76,512.86

Public Way: \$134,753.80

Aesthetics: \$92,756.32

Economic Development \$25,129.55
Safety Programs: \$80,861.60

Expenses Total: \$289,514.13
\$104,401 in the Bank as of Nov. 31st

Ms. Shoenberger inquired about the percentage of money that needs to be spent, relative to the money kept in the bank per year. Ms. Fleener stated she will check with the bylaws and report back to the SSA Commissioners.

6. Committee Reports

- a. Executive Committee – Mr. Peter O’Brien, Chairman
 - i. Discussion on 2022 Commission Meeting Schedule

Mr. O’Brien reviewed the 2022 Commission Meeting Schedule dates: January 19th, April 27th, July 12th, and October 19th. Ms. Fleener confirmed these dates do not interfere with any holidays. Mr. O’Brien noted the dates are scheduled for Zoom, but can be changed to in-person meetings, depending on the status of COVID-19.

1. MOTION TO APPROVE 2022 Meeting Schedule by Mr. Klugman, seconded by Mr. Christenson. The motion carries.

- ii. Discussion on 2021 Audit Services Contract

Ms. Fleener reviewed the audit services contract for the 2021 fiscal year (found in the SSA meeting packet). Ms. Fleener noted that Eilts & Associates performed a satisfactory audit for SSA 48 last year. The estimated quote for this year’s audit is \$3,000. If the Commissioners vote to approve the contract, Joy Coombes would work on the audit, as she has done in years past.

Mr. O’Brien inquired if the audit could be completed prior to the April 27th meeting; Ms. Fleener noted Joy indicated that would not be a problem.

1. MOTION TO APPROVE 2022 Audit Services Contract for the Fiscal Year 2021 Audit by Ms. Shoenberger, seconded by Mr. Klugman. The motion carries.

- b. Public Way Committee – Mr. Alex Christenson, Committee Chair
 - i. Discussion on Contract for Litter Abatement

Mr. Christenson noted the litter abatement contract includes cleaning up plant beds and removing and disposing of signage on light poles. Renewing the contract will cost \$40,660 (a 4% increase). This amount is within the budgeted amount: \$42,000.

Mr. Gott provided a background on Cleanslate. He noted Cleanslate is part of Cara (parent organization) and has been around for 31 years. Cara aids individuals

experiencing homelessness by providing job experience; Cara has employed over 4,000 individuals since 2005. Mr. Gott noted Cleanslate has typically worked well with many SSAs in the past, and SSAs have been a tremendous job creator for the organization.

Ms. Tremblay inquired whether Cleanslate could be in the neighborhood before or after holidays, since this year, some holidays fall on the days Cleanslate is scheduled to be in Old Town. Mr. Gott replied Cleanslate can arrange to be in Old Town consistently the day before or after the holiday, as long as there is approximately a week's notice given ahead of time.

Mr. Gott noted that the current contract does not include a revision made last year (the revision was written in ink on the document before signing). Mr. Gott noted he could send over a revised contract, or the same revision could be added to this year's contract in ink as well.

Mr. Klugman inquired about graffiti removal. Mr. Gott replied Cleanslate has been implementing graffiti removal since 2011; Cleanslate typically addresses signal boxes, light poles, and utilizing spray on non-porous surfaces. Mr. Christenson suggested contacting the City for any major graffiti removal requests, as the city will remove it for free.

1. MOTION TO APPROVE 2022 Litter Abatement Contract with Clean Slate by Mr. Christenson, seconded by Mr. Proesel. The motion carries.

- c. Residential Committee – Mr. Mark Proesel, Committee Chair
 - i. Discussion on Contract for Security Services

Mr. Proesel noted from March 12th through the end of the year, on Friday and Saturday nights, there are typically 5 armed AGB guards in the neighborhood. From the middle of March through the end of the year, there will be two armed guards and one vehicle as well.

Mr. Proesel noted the price per officer is \$30.76 per hour, a 3% increase from the previous contract. Mr. Proesel noted AGB patrols from the North side of North Avenue, from North Park to Clark, and the South side of North from Orleans to Clark Street.

Mr. Salmon (AGB Captain) provided an overview of the current status of AGB. Mr. Salmon noted AGB has been busy every weekend. There has been an increase in medical calls - there were four medical calls within a 20 minute period on New Year's Eve. Mr. Salmon noted officers are trying to find ways to curb public alcohol consumption, as those incidents have increased as well.

Mr. Proesel inquired if AGB officers noted a difference in traffic flow or security challenges now that the expanded outdoor dining program has ended (as of October). Mr. Salmon replied there seems to be an uptick in illegal parking, and a lot of time and energy is spent keeping people out of the street and keeping the ubers flowing.

Mr. Salmon noted AGB just met with the 18th District Police; there isn't any manpower to spare.

Mr. O'Brien asked Mr. Salmon to speak to the additional officers on the street, provided by the restaurants. Mr. Salmon noted there were 3 additional officers stationed at Burton Place, North Avenue, and Division; having the additional officers worked well.

Ms. Shoenberger inquired if there had been an increase in arrests. Mr. Salmon noted there hasn't been an increase, as it's been difficult to secure arrests right now. However, any major incidents typically get a separate incident report that is sent to the OTMRA.

Mr. O'Brien requested Mr. Salmon is added to the 18th district walkthroughs that typically occur throughout the year.

1. MOTION TO APPROVE 2022 Security Services Contract with AGB Investigative Services by Mr. Proesel, seconded by Mr. Purewal. The motion carries.

7. New Business

Mr. Stolte noted, as a resident of Burton Place, he is concerned about safety, especially as it pertains to public intoxication.

Mr. Posedel inquired about next steps regarding safety and security in the neighborhood. Mr. Salmon replied that getting the Chicago Police Department more involved in the neighborhood could be a good start. Additionally, residents are able to call AGB directly to share their concerns. Mr. O'Brien suggested Mr. Posedel attend CAPS meetings to advocate for more resources devoted to the Old Town neighborhood.

8. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 6:30pm.