



**Ravenswood Community Council  
Greater Ravenswood Special Service Area Commissioners Meeting  
Thursday February 19<sup>th</sup>, 2015 at 2pm**

**Commissioners**

In attendance: Diane Walch, Paul Kartcheske, Dr. Andrea Stein, Megan Bunimovich

Public: Paul Link, Nick Yassan, Barbara Bolson, Ross Outten

Absent: Dave Berger

**Call to order**

Diane Walch

**Snow Removal**

Paul Link was concerned with Cleanstreet's follow up from the blizzard. Paul underscored the need to clear curb to curb because Ravenswood is so narrow Montrose to Berteau, putting cars at risk.

Diane thought the snow removal was adequate.

Overall, the group agreed the challenges & limitations learned over time would have to be taken into consideration when the SSA decides on a contractor next year.

Megan was in communication with the Alderman & the SSA will explore adding a 2" minimum signage for overnight parking along the strip of Ravenswood assist the plows in clearing the snow properly.

**December minutes**

**Motion: Dr. Andrea Stein first, Paul seconded**

**Financial**

Megan is exploring neighborhood banks. The best option appears to be MB Financial from a staffing & logistical perspective.

**Motion brought by Diane to approve the money to be moved set up the account in MB Financial. Dr. Stein 2<sup>nd</sup>**

## **Powerwashing**

- More limited scope in 2015 to reduce cost.
- Proposed focus will be on a one block radius at each L station & Metra station at Lawrence.
- Megan proposed to then alternate annually to main arteries & to stick with this rotation.
- Four vendors received the RFP.
- Two came back:
  - Pressure Wash Systems \$8600- based out of Cicero; used last year & people were very happy overall.
  - Pressure Wash Unlimited \$8800- based out of Chicago; have not worked with them before, but come highly recommended.
- Diane suggest staying with the same company if there were no complaints & moved to use Pressure Wash System again. All agreed.

**Diane made motion to hire PWS again, Paul seconded. Group agreed to contract them for late May or early June.**

## **New Commissioners**

- Nick Yassan from Rany Management
- Barbara Bolsen from The Night Ministry
- Both are finalizing applications.

## **Bike Racks/Corral**

- List of permits distributed. One was denied because of ADA limitations (sidewalks not wide enough): Begyle Brewery
- Turin Corral Update- The only commitment so far is from CDOT. If Turin agrees, we'll move forward with installation.

## **Chamber of Commerce**

- Ross stated new chamber grant was approved.
- There will be events & programs that will have the two organizations work in concert & those that will have to be separate.
- Two distinct boards will be formed. Gradually, overtime, they will be formally separate.
- Diane stated the GRCC will likely affect the reconstitution of the SSA & that it could eventually that governing body could switch to chamber, which is a common practice throughout the city.

## **Old Business**

### **New Commissioner Training**

- The city was called for training to be February 23<sup>rd</sup>. Since our new commissioners are finalizing their applications, the training will be done next year.

## **Greening of Ravenswood**

Ross: June 25<sup>th</sup> at Beyond Design again. Asked for help to expand reach & broadening our vendor reach. Beneficiaries potentially include community composting.

Location is the primary issue for composting, but there are potential spots being explored. Composting program will hopefully be announced at the Greening event

**Request for SSA to sponsor Greening. Paul K. motioned to repeat the same support as last year. 2<sup>nd</sup> by Diane .**

### **Inaugural Taste of Ravenswood**

- Ross introduced concept of Culinary/Brewery event
- Potential location Ravenswood Event Center in November
- Preliminary budget still being developed
- Open to support from SSA on this pilot event in the neighborhood

### **Reconstitution of SSA**

- Fall 2016 is when reconstitution will take place.
- The 2017 budget projected to have a reconstitution allocation.

### **RAW**

- New process in 2015
- Businesses sign up their site; artists sign up & get to choose from a list based on first come first serve.
- Goal was to avoid arduous process of placing artists.
- Same site map. Less tents this year to allow access emergency access to Domestic driveways.
- Proposal for Hayes Property being finalized

### **Other Fundraising & Events**

- Diane asked about Friday night food truck in ORK parking lot idea was evolving. Megan said RCC had a call into Garret Realty who owns the building about the idea.
- The Evangelical Church on Damen & Ainslie was also exploring a farmers market & approached RCC about partnering. That could also be a potential space for a round up.
- Dr. Stein asked about the Wilson/SW corner of Ravenswood as an option for a farmer's market. Spot has some limitations like gravel & rented out space for vehicles, but not ruled out.

### **New Commissioner Feedback**

- Nick wants to learn more about façade rebate for his area for etching graffiti & is happy to be helping in the area, specific to improvement or beautification.
- SSA Boundary review excluding residential: along Ravenswood tracks Addison to Bryn Mawr/ on Lawrence Clark to Leavitt/ Montrose Clark to Seeley/Irving Park from Ravenswood to Ashland/ Clark from Ainslie to Montrose/ Damen from Wilson to Ainslie/ Wilson Damen to Hermitage

### **Adjourn**

April 16<sup>th</sup> at 3:30pm at RCC