

**WEST TOWN SSA #29-2014 Commission Meeting
MINUTES**

Meeting held on Zoom
Thursday, September 2, 2021 10:00 AM

In attendance: Michael Van Dam (Resident, SSA Chair), Julia Skuibida (American Family Insurance), Nora McCarthy (Gallery 2052), Jenny Rossignuolo (Property Owner), Sara Dulkan (Chicago Truborn), Evan Muellner (Pie Eyed Pizzeria), Erin Ludwig (WTSSA), Susan Aldous (WTCC), Sara Bemer (WTCC), and Erin Lester (Resident)

Call to Order:

- The meeting of the West Town SSA #29-2014 Commission is called to order at 10:15am by Michael Van Dam (SSA Chair).
- *Pursuant to the applicable law and my 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. This meeting will be recorded.*

Public Forum:

- Erin Lester introduced herself. She is a nursing student at UIC and interested in community health. (Resident, UIC)

Admin and Finances

Review & Motion: Minutes from Meeting: July 1, 2021

- Approved, all in favor (Evan 1st, Nora 2nd)

Review: Financial Reports: Review Reports

Review & Motion: 2021 Quarter 2 Report: Review Report

Approved, all in favor (Sara D. 1st, Jenny 2nd)

- 2020 EAV released
 - Higher than estimate, city staff will change the final number for the ordinance
- Chamber staffing
 - Kara out on extended leave
 - Susan in the office part time with extended maternity leave
 - Sara moving, last day October 1
- Trash Can Program - Discussion / Timeline / Map / RFP
 - Review RFP, provide edits by Sept 15 for approval at October Commission meeting

Rebate / Grant Programs

- **Applications for Review**
 - Facade Rebate - **Review & Motion** - 1062 W Chicago Ave - Windy City Cafe
 - Approved, all in favor (Nora 1st, Jenny 2nd)
 - Facade Rebate - Completed
 - **Review & Motion:** 1959 W Chicago Ave - El Metro Cafe - \$6,750

- El Metro has not provided the follow up documentation that the WTSSA has requested, despite multiple requests.
 - Dismissal of funding approval (Jenny 1st, Nora 2nd), all in favor
- Finished Public Art Projects
 - 1914 W Chicago Ave - West Town Bakery/Ouizi Mural \$10,821 - Completed
 - **Review & Motion:** Added expenses to Ouizi mural (\$1000 for two nights of security, \$999 for anti-graffiti sealant)
 - Approved, all in favor (Jenny 1st, Nora 2nd)
 - Remaining sealant from Ouizi mural - Discussion
 - Chicago & Lessing mural
- **Approved Facade Projects still in progress**
 - Facade - 1001 W Chicago Ave - Urban Market - In process - \$15,000
 - Update: Construction almost finished.
 - Façade – 1721 W. Chicago Ave – Ice Cream Shoppe – In process.
 - Update: Construction almost completed, waiting on roll down door
- **Approved Security Projects still in progress**
 - Security – 1721 W. Chicago Ave – Ice Cream Shoppe – In process.
 - Security materials are ready, waiting to submit them until the facade is completed.
 - Security - 1959 W Chicago Ave - El Metro Cafe - In process.
 - Security rebate amount requested: \$2,999.99 (but only provided enough documentation for \$2,249.99)
 - Discussion - El Metro moved, no signs of installation, no documentation
 - **Discuss & Motion:** Dismiss funding approval
 - Funding approval dismissed (Sara D. 1st, Evan 2nd), all in favor
- **Approved Public Art Projects still in progress**
- **Public Art Program**
 - **Review & Motion:** 1710 W Chicago - Chicago Auto Repair
 - Total amount requested: \$4,248
 - Installation during West Town Art Walk
 - Approved, all in favor (Evan 1st, Nora 2nd), Sara recused
 - **Review & Motion:** Chicago and Lessing Live Installation WTAW - Nic Fonte
 - Amount requested: \$1,000
 - Installation during West Town Art Walk
 - Work examples:
 - <https://www.instagram.com/p/CSroHeWsME-/>
 - <https://www.instagram.com/p/CMOeDFisiZV/>
 - <https://www.instagram.com/p/CPDn0kcMzXz/>
 - Approved, all in favor (Nora 1st, Jenny 2nd), Sara recused

Programs Report

- Commercial Development Committee Meeting
 - Thursday, July 8th at 9:15am via Zoom
 - Letter of Support for Bar Nettare Garden at 1953 W Chicago Ave
- Member Mixer at On Tour Brewing (1725 W Hubbard St)
 - Tuesday, July 13th from 5-7pm
- Dancing in the Streets August 6-8
- West Town Art Walk - Applications due August 9:
<https://westtownchamberofcommerce.formstack.com/forms/2021wtaw>
 - In 2021, the West Town Art Walk has expanded to include the ENTIRE West Town Chamber of Commerce service area (Division to Hubbard, Halsted to Kedzie).
 - **Discuss:** "Kara Queen of West Town" painting
 - Painting to be put in Kara's office
 - Esperanza to be featured in WTCC office
- Public Art Committee Meeting
 - Thursday, August 19 at 11:00 am via Zoom
 - Discussed Public Art Program and new initiatives

New Commissioner Recruitment / Term Limits

- Reminder: SSA Commissioners having served over term limit will step down at end of year for at least one year: Michael, Jenny, Chris, Sara, Steven
 - Julia, Evan, Adam, and Nora will step down in 2023 (and Michael, Jenny, Chris, Sara and Steven could serve again in 2023 after having taken a year off)
 - Taylor Olds, new owner at Urban Source
- Two year term limits / new Commissioners serving in January 2022 / rotate every two years
- Nominate five new 2022 Commissioners The Plantier 858 N Ashland– owner - An Chin; Resident - Nadia Coronado; 1423 W Chicago, building owner/business owner The Stoop
 - Nominees are invited to attend Public Forum and Committee meetings of interest until appointed.
- Anticipated timeline:
 - Today: Brainstorm on new commissioners
 - October: Officially nominate commissioners for anticipated vacancies
 - Applications post nomination will be sent to the Chamber by the November meeting - we can send them to the city, and the city will have all of November and December to approve their application/work out any debt clearance/send the nominated candidates their official appointment to the Commission.

Old Business

- Updated Public Art applications and artist/building owner sign up forms linked on website
- Public Way Use Permit ordinance change approved - waiting to hear about next steps from the city

Meeting adjourned at 11:09am (Jenny motioned 1st, Evan 2nd), all in favor

Next regular SSA Commission Meeting Date: **Thursday, October 7, 2021 at 10am**