



SSA #25 Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 16, 2021

VIA ZOOM

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/87848347325?pwd=V2ZieUtRRRElzQIB4WVBHRncvKzJVUT09>

Meeting ID: 878 4834 7325

Passcode: 579249

Dial In # 312.626.6799

9:00AM

AGENDA

9:00AM

- Welcome and Call Meeting to Order
The meeting of the SSA #25 Commission is called to order.
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 cause by COVID-19, this meeting is conducted by videoconference.
 - a. Meeting called to order at 9:24am
- SSA #25 Commissioner Roll Call
 - a. SSA #25 Commissioners present: Michael Moreno Jr., Ric Porrez, Elena Duran, Francisco Menchaca, Richard Juarez Sr., Pascual Villarreal
 - b. SSA #25 Commissioners absent: Claudia Rodriguez and Jose Hernandez
 - c. LVCC Staff present: Blanca Soto, Marisa Alcantar and Ivette Trevino
- Approval of Agenda
 - a. Commissioner Duran motions to approve the agenda as presented, Commissioner Juarez Sr. seconds; all approve.
- Approval of SSA #25 February 16, 2021 Meeting Minutes
 - a. Commissioner Juarez Sr. motions to approve the SSA #25, 2/16/21 meeting minutes as presented, Commissioner Villarreal seconds; all approve.
- Approval of SSA #25 February 2020 Financial Reports
 - P&L, Balance Sheet
 - Expense Tracking Budget
 - a. As of 2/28/21, \$14,969.52 has been expensed out.
 - b. Received a total of \$23,667.32 in property tax revenue in February.
 - c. Commisisoner Menchaca motions to approve the SSA #25 financials as presented, Commisisoner Duran seconds; all approve.

NEW BUSINESS:

- a. SSA 2021 Virtual Forum
 - a. Annual meeting for all SSA Commission chairs, Executive Directors and Service Provider staff to review best practices and discuss policies and program updates will be scheduled sometime in April via zoom. Once the city sends out an update, Blanca will email the Commisisoners.
- b. SSA #25 2021 Special Event Sponsorship
 - a. SSA #25 Special Event Sponsorship announcement will be shared through social media channels.
 - b. Deadline to submit proposals will be on 4/30/21 and will be allowed to attend the meeting on 5/18/21 if they wish to expand on their event proposal.
 - c. Commissioner Menchaca asked for clarification on the Shop Local requirement efforts.
 - d. Commissioner Duran mentioned Organizations whom apply for the SSA #25 Sponsorship are encoranged to shop local with funds received by the SSA # 25 to support small businesses.
 - e. All special event requirements are listed on the announcement flyer.

OLD BUSINESS

- c. SSA #25 Commissioner Renewal Updates
 - a. City of Chicago is still processing applications and checking for any city debt.
 - b. Blanca to follow up with Jennifer Magallanes for City Council approval process as it was done in person before.
- c. Manuel Perez Jr, Memorial Plaza
 - a. Commissioner Duran refreshed the SSA #25 Commisisoners with a meeting that was held with Office Ramirez and creating a business liaison. A lot of issues continue to happen, but need help/assistance from other community leaders.
 - b. Commissioner Duran, Blanca and Kim also had a meeting at CDOT to bring up these issues that continue to happen.
 - c. Commissioner Duran mentions this is a big issue and we need to get the City and Police department involved as nothing seems to be happening.
 - d. Manuel Perez Jr. Memorial Plaza had a lot more activities/events taking place in 2019, which help with keeping the plaza active in a positive way. Commissioner Duran suggest to try to find ways to get creative and activate at the plaza, she suggested to reach out to the bakery and possible offer coffee/pastries in the plaza in the mornings.
 - e. Possible arts and crafts activations to take place.
 - f. With the pandemic taking a big hit in the community and all over the city, more homeless/drinking activity has taken place in the plaza.
 - g. Commissioner Porrez mentioned that the solution might be to encourage people to activate in the day/night at the plaza, possible some night Zumba classes every Monday, Tuesday and Wednesday night with police present. Also some possible music classes during the week.
 - h. Commissioner Porrez reminds the SSA #25 Commissioners that the plaza is a public space and we can't kick anyone out.
 - i. Commissioner Menchaca signs off as he needs to go into another meeting.
 - j. Chairman Moreno Jr. apologizes for joining in late to the meeting and thanks Commissioner Porrez for conducting the meeting on his behalf.
 - k. Chairman Moreno Jr. wanted to address the past Subcommittee Manuel Perez Jr. Memorial Plaza meetings. There is varies views and what should go in theplaza.

- l. In previous meetings, there has been discussions to bring something vibrant back to the community to be able to reinvest in the community through the plaza.
 - m. Chairman Moreno Jr. would like the Manuel Perez Jr. Memorial Plaza Subcommittee to continue to meet.
 - n. Commissioner Porrez is willing to sit in the subcommittee and gain more organizations to have more activities at the plaza.
 - o. Commissioner Duran mentioned the subcommittee last met in 2019, they did not meet in 2020 because of the COVID – 19 pandemic. During the 2019 Learning Landscape installations by Metropolitan Family Services, Kim Close and the volunteers, they were harassed by homeless and drunk men who were hanging out at the plaza during that time.
 - p. Commissioner Duran mentioned we need other organizations and entities to join in these efforts and work together.
 - q. Chairman Moreno Jr. mentions again that we need to see were the Manuel Perez Jr. Memorial Plaza Subcommittee left off in 2019, but is pretty sure there was a 2020 meeting that took place as he recently heard about a committee meeting, he didn't recall exact details.
 - r. Chairman Moreno Jr. said he never received an email invite from the subcommittee to attend meetings regarding the plaza. He was not aware of when the meetings took place.
 - s. The committee was created in 2019, subcommittee members were Elena Duran, Francisco Menchaca, Gerardo Duran, Rogelio Villa, Dan Alberti and Abundio Zaragoza.
 - t. Kim Close used to organize the subcommittee meetings, she is now the COO at the Little Village Community Foundation.
 - u. Blanca to connect with Kim on where she left off with the members of the committee.
 - v. Chairman Moreno Jr. will look into who in the community is currently having or taking the lead in meetings regarding the Manuel Perez Jr. Memorial Plaza as he heard there was a subcommittee meeting two weeks ago.
- Public Input
 - a. Commissioner Porrez wanted to thank Richard Juarez Sr. and Lawndale Christian Health Centers for having a very quick and well organized COVID -19 vaccination system in place.
 - b. Staff was very friendly and his experience with having his parents register and receiving their vaccination there was excellent.
 - c. Commissioner Porrez also asked to please keep sharing information for PPP to our small business owners as the application closes on March 19th. He would like to see a lot of business owners to take advantage of this opportunity available. Money is still available for businesses.
 - d. Commissioner Duran was pleased with her experience on receiving the COVID -19 vaccine at Lawndale Christian Health Centers. Wonderful staff and very helpful and friendly. Excellent service.

Meeting adjourned: Commissioner Porrez motions to adjourn meeting at 10:05AM, Commissioner Duran seconds; all approve.