



SSA #25 Commission Meeting Minutes
March 19, 2024
Nuevo Leon Restaurant
3657 W 26th Street, Chicago, IL. 60623
9:00 AM

- Welcome and Call Meeting to Order
 - a. SSA #25 Chairman Juarez Sr. calls the meeting to order at 9:10 AM
- SSA #25 Commissioner Roll Call
 - a. SSA #25 Commissioners in attendance: Richard Juarez Sr., Elena Duran, Claudia Rodriguez, Mike Moreno Jr., and Ric Porrez
 - b. SSA #25 Commissioners absent:
 - c. SSA #25 Commissioners excused: Francisco Menchaca
 - d. Staff in attendance: Jennifer Aguilar, Blanca Soto, and Veronica Peña
- Approval of Agenda
 - a. Commissioner Porrez motions to approve the meeting agenda as presented, Commissioner Rodriguez seconds; all approved.
- Public Input (review guidelines for public input below)
 - a. Beronica Martinez - Illinois Vehicle Insurance, Graciela Garcia – Little Village Community Council, and Francisca Brant – Little Village Community Council.
- Approval of SSA #25 February Meeting Minutes
 - a. Commissioner Moreno Jr. motions to approve the SSA #25 February meeting minutes as presented, Commissioner Duran seconds; all approved.
- SSA #25 Commission Meeting Attendance Tracking Log
 - a. Commissioner Rodriguez, 1 attended & 1 excused
 - b. Commissioner Duran, 1 attended & 1 excused
 - c. Commissioner Menchaca, 2 excused
 - d. Commissioner Moreno Jr., 1 attended and 1 excused
 - e. Commissioner Porrez, 2 attended
 - f. Chairman Juarez Sr., 2 attended
 - g. Commissioner Hernandez, 1 excused, 1 absent
 - h. Chairman Juarez Sr. suggested the idea of doing some meetings in the evening to accommodate some SSA #25 commissioner schedules.
 - i. Blanca mentioned that they used to have evening meetings on the schedule, but the quorum was not being met and the SSA #25 Commission had decided to stick to morning meetings.
 - j. SSA #25 Commission meeting will be kept as is, third Tuesday of every month.
 - k. Chairman Juarez Sr. informs the SSA #25 Commissioners of updates regarding Commissioner Menchaca, stating his attendance for 2023 was 3 attended and 9 missed.
 - l. Commissioner Porrez motions to send a letter to Commissioner Menchaca, thanking him for his services, and notifying him of his removal from the SSA #25 Commission based on the bylaws and lack of participation. Commissioner Duran seconds: all approve.

- m. Jennifer to draft the letter and share it with Chairman Juarez Sr. for review.
- SSA #25 February 2024 Financial Reports
 - a. As of 2/29/2024 \$67,067.95 has been deposited into the SSA #25 bank account.
 - b. As of 2/29/2024 \$17,201.40 has been expensed out from the SSA #25 2024 budget of \$377k.
 - c. Payment checks made in February 2024 are as follows: \$532.44 to Independent Recycling for the monthly garbage pick-up and \$7,186.49 to the Fiscal Agency, LVCC for the monthly personnel and management admin fee.
 - d. Commissioner Porrez motions to approve the SSA #25 financials as presented, Commissioner Moreno Jr. seconds; all approve.

NEW BUSINESS:

- SSA #25 Commissioner Jose Hernandez resignation letter
 - a. Chairman Juarez Sr. shared with the SSA #25 Commissioners that on February 29, 2024, LVCC Executive Director, Jennifer Aguilar, and SSA #25 Program Director Blanca Soto along with himself met with Jose Hernandez at the LV Chamber of Commerce Office to discuss Commissioner Hernandez commitment to the SSA #25 and Commissioner Hernandez presented his resignation letter to the SSA #25 effective immediately, but also thanking both the LVCC and SSA #25 for their understanding and their support.
 - b. Chairman Juarez Sr. thanked Commissioner Hernandez for his many years of dedication to SSA # 25 and for also contributing his support to other local community youth events.
 - c. Blanca, and Executive Director, Jennifer Aguilar also thanked Commissioner Hernandez for all his contributions, volunteer work, and commitment to the SSA #25.
 - d. Blanca is to email a copy of Commissioner Hernandez's letter to Jennifer Magallanes at the City of Chicago/SSA Department for their records.
- Baltazar Enriquez, Little Village Community Council – 9:30 am
 - Mother's Day Special Event Proposal
 - a. Graciela Garcia is in attendance to expand on behalf of the Little Village Community Council's Mother's Day event proposal request.
 - b. Graciela expands on the Little Village Community Council's Mother's Day special event proposal to the SSA #25 Commissioners.
 - c. Amount of event support requested is \$4,700.00.
 - d. Commissioner Rodriguez asked for clarification on the amount requested for the manicure line item on the proposal after Graciela mentioned they were receiving some donations on that particular line item. Graciela clarified that they will still need to pick up the cost of that specific line item (manicures).
 - e. Blanca asked if the Community Council was also asking the Little Village Chamber of Commerce for funding support as they were mentioned in the proposal.
 - f. Graciela said, she believed that was a mistake as she did not write the proposal and it was Lily's first time typing up a proposal.
 - g. Commissioner Duran explains the process of approving special event support funding to the attendees.
 - h. SSA #25 Commissioners thank the Little Village Community Council for attending and expanding on their event proposal and notify them that they will be notified with a decision soon.
 - i. Chairman Juarez Sr. recuses himself from any comments or decision-making regarding the proposal presented, citing ongoing litigations and the need to verify the true membership of the Little Village community council.
 - j. The proposal from the Little Village Community Council was denied as it does not align with the mission of the SSA, particularly in terms of beautification efforts.
 - k. Commissioner Porrez motions to reject the Little Village Community Council's Mother's Day Event Proposal. Commissioner Rodriguez seconds the motion; all approve.
 - l. Jennifer will draft a letter and share it with Commissioner Porrez for review to send over to the Little Village Community Council.

OLD BUSINESS:

- SSA #25 Commissioner renewals updates
 - a. Commissioner Moreno Jr. is in the “City Debt” review process and should have an update soon.
 - b. Chairman Juarez Sr. gives an SSA #25 Commissioner Menchaca update under the SSA #25 Commissioner attendance tracking log agenda line item above.
- SSA #25 Open House
 - SSA #25 Boundary Map
 - a. Norvetta Landon attended the SSA#25 Open House and shared she applied for an SSA in North Lawndale but was rejected due to the SSA #25 boundaries falling in her area in North Lawndale.
 - b. Blanca connected with Mark Roschen at the City of Chicago for clarification on the SSA #25 boundaries as Norvetta mentioned the SSA #25 covered Cermak from Pulaski to Kenton and Ogden Avenue from Pulaski to Kenton Avenue.
 - c. Blanca presents the SSA #25 Commissioners with a copy of the SSA #25 map.
 - d. The blue highlighted line on the SSA #25 map down Ogden Ave. from Central Park to Kenton Ave is the rail pin. The only portion of Cermak that is covered within the SSA #25 boundaries is that corner intersection only, which the SSA #25 is currently serving.
 - e. Cermak from Pulaski to Kenton Avenue is also not covered.
 - f. Blanca followed up with Norvetta on an email and also suggested reaching out to Mark Roschen if she had further questions per Mark as he mentioned that North Lawndale has not submitted an SSA application.
- Meeting with 22nd Ward Alderperson Michael Rodriguez and Department of Street and Sanitation 22rd Ward Superintendent, Al Cacciottolo Sanitation updates.
 - Additional support from Streets and Sanitation (January – March)
 - a. Al Cacciottolo was informed about the gap in service from Clean Slate during Jan-March. While he noted an increase in litter on the streets during these months, he mentioned that they have been trying their best to keep up with trash receptacles on 26th Street.
 - b. Jennifer inquired about sidewalk sweeping, to which Al mentioned they do so on special requests from the alderman, depending on available manpower.
 - Trash Receptacles
 - a. Jennifer discussed SSA #25's budget allocation of \$15K to refurbish current receptacles. However, due to damage, several receptacles need replacement.
 - b. Alderman Rodriguez agreed to assist by providing new trash cans in areas where they are missing, albeit they will be regular City of Chicago bins.
 - c. Al committed to replacing the liners of SSA receptacles incrementally until all are replaced.
 - Cleaning Street Poles
 - a. Commissioner Juarez raised concerns about flyers on street poles and asked if Streets and Sanitation could assist with cleaning or if fines could be imposed. Al directed attention to CDOT for such matters, suggesting 311 complaints for action.
 - Legislation regarding trash management
 - a. Jennifer inquired about penalties for landlords or business owners dumping trash on SSA receptacles. The alderman agreed to look into this.
 - b. Al proposed reaching out to Waste Management for special pricing to incentivize proper trash disposal.
 - c. Discussion ensued about an educational campaign, supported by the alderman, addressing landlords, street vendors, and business owners.
 - Street vendor trash issues
 - a. Jennifer raised the concern of street vendors dumping trash on SSA bins and proposed the idea of providing dumpsters at central locations dedicated to street vendors.

- b. Both Al and Alderman Rodriguez expressed apprehension about this solution, noting that it could exacerbate the issue by attracting fly dumping from other individuals.
 - c. Next Steps: Provide a list of locations needing trash cans to the Alderman's office.
 - d. Encourage business owners and partners to utilize 311 as a resource for complaints. Complaints received by 311 must be addressed by city departments.
 - e. Discuss the education campaign in the next meeting with SSA commissioners and formulate a strategy.
 - f. Ensure collaborative efforts between the Alderman's office and the Chamber for the campaign.
 - g. Explore alternative solutions to address street vendor trash dumping, considering the concerns raised during the meeting.
 - h. Continue discussions on this matter in future meetings to find a viable and effective solution.
- SSA #25 April meeting reminder
 - April 16, 2024 @ Taqueria Los Comales
 - a. April 16th SSA #25 meeting is scheduled at Los Comales Restaurant, but Blanca suggested moving the meeting to the Little Village Chamber of Commerce office as Gustavo Vidal will be in attendance to present the SSA #25 2023 audit.
 - b. SSA #25 Commissioners all agree to move the April meeting location to the Little Village Chamber of Commerce office.

Meeting Adjourned: Commissioner Duran motions to adjourn the SSA #25 Commission meeting at 10:31am, Commissioner Porrez seconds: all approved.

Guidelines for Public Input:

- The goal of public input is to ensure that all voices of the community are heard on matters pertaining to the work of Little Village SSA #25. The commission is not required to provide immediate response to questions nor concerns presented.
 - Public input will be available at the start of each SSA #25 meeting once SSA #25 Commissioner roll call has been made
 - The opportunity to speak during public input will be available for all those in attendance; however, speaking time may be limited depending on the number of attendees wishing to speak. The Commission will aim to limit this portion of the meeting to no more than 15 minutes.
- The public forum portion of SSA #25 commission meetings, as with all portions of the meeting, will proceed according to Robert's Rules of Order, most importantly:
 - No attendee may speak twice until everyone else wishing to speak has spoken once.
 - All remarks must be directed to the Chair.
 - Remarks must be courteous in language and deportment avoiding all personal remarks and never alluding to others by name or to motives.
 - One person may speak at a time, if not the presiding officer can call them out of order