



63rd Street Growth Commission

SSA Meeting

April 18, 2013

Present: J. Blue (community resident), Gint Cepenas (Cepenas Law Offices), Sheldon Rice (State Farm Agent), Manuel Jimenez (Marquette Bank), Nick Kollias (GSDC), Rob Navarro (GSDC)

Absent: David Richardson (Nerry & Richardson), Shabbir Karimi (Kuhl's True Value), Sofia Villareal (Toni's Bridal Design), Jean Lopez (West Lawn Realty), Art Lukowski (Oil Express), David Supanic (Lawn Lanes), William Jackson (Jackson Funeral Home), Laurie Sedio (M.F.S.), Ruby Gonzalez (BMO Harris Bank), Mark DiValerio (People Gas)

Meeting is called to order at 9:15 am by Sheldon Rice.

Approval of March 21, 2013 Minutes and Financials

Sheldon Rice and Gint Cepenas both presented the budget and minutes. Both pass unanimously.

Financial Updates:

Nick explained the \$68,000 charge for the first wave of the WiFi project from Western to Kedzie; it included the antennas placed on business roof tops that will provide Chicago Lawn community WiFi. Sheldon Rice expresses interest for his building to participate in roof top antennas. Nick explained the benefits of the free WiFi; it gave free internet to thousands of people going through our corridor. Nick discussed the maintenance cost would be around \$25,000 per year.

Security Updates

Nick discusses a busy month of gang crime related incidents reported by our security team in the Chicago Lawn Community. Sheldon mention the City of Chicago is talking about extra security tactic teams getting involved strictly with gangs. Manuel Jimenez inquired what the cost would be for more patrol at the corners of Artesian and 63rd Street because there is a lot of activity at that intersection. Gint made everyone aware that in New York a stop and frisk program was implemented. Sheldon expressed his thoughts to favor possession of hand guns. Manuel stress the law has not stopped people from carrying concealed guns. Nick recollected an incident a few years ago when Sergio (Sergio Jewelry Store) shot two robbers. Manny felt all Pawn stores in the area sells stolen merchandise.

SSA #59

Sheldon asked how SSA #59 has been running. Nick talked about the City of Chicago having an issue with paying vendors directly. GSDC is still waiting for a response from the city.

Rebates

There was an example of a review for approval for Los Payasos façade rebate that did not get approved. It was brought up by Manuel that the building was foreclosed and owned by Marquette Bank. It was brought up by the board to have two more estimates for the scope of work to be done for Los Payasos for a possible review for approval.

Additional Update:

Nick mentioned possible purchase of the True Value Building.

Manuel Jimenez adjourned the meeting.