

Tuesday, March 21st 2023

Zoom Meeting: Call-in number: +1 (312) 626-6799

Meeting ID: 576 780 3698 | Password: 032739 | 4:30pm

Commissioners Present: Terry Tuohy (*Chair*), Patti Hutzel (*Vice-Chair*), David Rettker (*Treasurer*), Kelly Cheng, Dominic Irpino, Matthew Ruffi, Lesley Showers,
Commissioners Absent: Noreen Keeney (*Secretary*), Winston Feng, Erin Hoang, Nick Pinto, Karl Sullivan
Others in Attendance: Justin Weidl (*Uptown United*), Thomas Bravos (*Bravos & Associates*)

1. Welcome and Call to Order

- a. Tuohy called meeting to order at 4:33pm.

2. Public Input

- a. None

3. Approval of Minutes

On acceptance of minutes for the below meeting:

Motion to accept February 14th 2023 minutes.

Motion: Cheng

Second: Ruffi

VOTE: Approve – All

Motion Passes.

4. 2022 Audit Presentation, Review, and Approval

- a. Bravos presented the 2022 Uptown SSA #34 Audit performed by Bravos & Associates.
 - i. The audit has no findings or exceptions.
 - ii. Ruffi inquired about recommendations for improved internal controls.
 1. Bravos recommended monthly reviews of the General Ledger.

Motion to approve 2022 Uptown SSA #34 Audit performed by Bravos & Associates.

Motion: Ruffi

Second: Rettker

VOTE: Approve – All

Motion Passes.

5. Budget and Financial Report

- a. Weidl presented a financial report.
 - i. Balance Sheet as well as Budget v Actuals looks typical for this time of year.

6. 2024 Budget Discussion

- a. Weidl mentioned that he will begin to prepare the 2024 budget and offered Commissioners an opportunity to provide direction. No direction provided at this time.





7. Security Rebate Program

- a. Weidl presented a security rebate application from Irpino Real Estate for a security camera and alarm system at 4234-4238 North Broadway.

Motion to accept security rebate application from Irpino Real Estate.

Motion: Ruffi

Second: Cheng

VOTE: Approve – All

ABSTAIN: Irpino

Motion Passes.

8. Community Event Grant Program

- a. Weidl presented a community event grant application from the Uptown Chamber of Commerce for a Centennial Celebration at Racine Plaza on May 5, 2023.

Motion to accept community event grant application from Uptown Chamber of Commerce:

Motion: Cheng

Second: Irpino

VOTE: Approve – All

Motion Passes.

9. Curb Appeal Rebate Program

- a. Weidl presented a curb appeal rebate application from Tapestry 360 for new garden beds to be installed at 845 W Wilson Avenue.

- i. Tuohy mentioned that Tapestry 360 will be relocating within the next year or two.
- ii. Ruffi commented that cedar planters are very expensive and there may be more cost effective materials for planter.

Motion to accept curb appeal rebate application from Tapestry 360:

Motion: Ruffi

Second: Rettker

VOTE: Approve – None

Oppose - All

Motion Fails.

- b. Weidl presented a curb appeal rebate application from Uptown Taproom for a new sidewalk café enclosure at 1265 W Wilson Avenue.

- i. Hutzl asked if there was enough space left for pedestrian traffic on Wilson Ave.
- ii. Weidl responded that the City of Chicago requires 6 feet of clearance.

Motion to accept curb appeal rebate application from Uptown Taproom:

Motion: Irpino

Second: Ruffi

VOTE: Approve – All

Motion Passes.

10. Public Art Grant Program

- a. Weidl presented an update on approved and potential public art grant projects.
 - i. A mural at The Portrait (4501 N Sheridan Road) has selected three finalist and anticipates a \$20,000 project budget. They plan to request a \$10,000 grant.
 - ii. A mural at 4619 N Broadway has selected Jesse Hora and is currently reviewing designs. The mural will likely cost \$10,000 - \$15,000.



- b. Weidl presented a public art grant request from Darius Dennis to paint a mural on the north facing wall of Cornerstone Community Outreach on Clifton Avenue.

Motion to approve \$20,000 for mural by Darius Dennis.

Motion: Ruffi **Second:** Rettker

VOTE: Approve – All **Motion Passes.**

- c. Weidl recommended allocating the remaining \$853 in the public art budget to the Graceland Cemetery project to allow for additional art panels to be painted as a part of Uptown Art Week.

Motion to approve \$853 additional to the Graceland Walls project mural panels.

Motion: Cheng **Second:** Rettker

VOTE: Approve – All **Motion Passes.**

ii. Next Meeting

- a. Next meeting is scheduled for Tuesday, April 18th, 2023, at 4619 North Broadway (Uptown United Office) at 4:30pm.

12. Adjournment

Motion to adjourn at 6:00pm:

Motion: Cheng **Second:** Rettker

VOTE: Approve – All **Motion Passes.**

Minutes Submitted By: Justin Weidl, *Director of Neighborhood Services*