

West Town Chicago Chamber of Commerce
Special Service Area (SSA) Reconstitution / Expansion Community Meeting
Monday, January 13, 2014 at 6:00 p.m.

Minutes

Present: Advisory Committee: Stel Valavanis (Chair), Greg Mack, SSA Commission: Linda Alcala

WTCC Executive Director – Kara Salgado

SSA Program Manager – Kace Wakem

SSA Reconstitution Consultant – Kimberly Bares & Noah Gordon

City of Chicago – Annie Coakley, Department of Planning & Development

Alderman Offices: None

I. Presentation Start: Kara Salgado welcomed everyone and began presentation at 6:20pm.

II. Power Point Presentation:

- Overview of Special Service Areas: Annie Coakley (DPD) gave overview Special Service Areas. Answered some questions from audience.
- Stel Valavanis explained SSA maps, introduced Advisory Committee, the SSA Commission, reviewed need for the SSA, the SSA Vision, the SSA's current initiatives, surrounding SSAs and the steps of the Reconstitution so far.
- Linda Alcala explained current initiatives funded by SSA 29, Discussed photos of Façade Rebate, West Fest, West Town Art Walk & Banners. Discussed PR metrics, Sidewalk cleaning & snowplowing metrics.
- Kace Wakem reviewed surrounding SSAs, Reconstitution progress to date, Community Outreach, and the Needs Assessment survey results
- Stel Valavanis reviewed the proposed 2015 budget & budget pie chart, compared it to the 2011 overall all SSAs budget pie chart to show that our budgets are in line.
- Kimberly Bares reviewed what the SSA will cost them, how the budget is created, how the property tax works, understanding your property tax calculator, tax rate comparisons & tax caps between SSAs, tax cap scenarios, impact of SSA levy on property taxes.
- Greg Mack discussed priorities for the 5 years & next step in the reconstitution process.
- Kimberly Bares reviewed TIFs and moderated the Question & Answer section.

III. Question & Answers:

- Questions were asked about the personnel budget, overlapping TIF districts and if makes sense to keep TIF districts within SSA territories, how to get involved, more detailed survey metrics, more detailed cost of reconstitution expenses, questions about the façade rebate & graffiti programs.

Next Meeting Date: Monday, January 21, 2014, 11:00am at the Ukrainian Institute of Modern Art