Chatham Business Association, SBDI

Service Provider for SSA #51

800 E. 78th St Chicago, Illinois 60619

(SSA) Area #51 Open Commissioners Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, June 14, 2023 – 12:00. p.m.

Meeting was called to order at 12:16 p.m., by Jennipher Adkins, Interim Executive Director, Chatham Business Association, SBDI, Service Provider for Special Service Area #51.

SSA Commissioners in attendance were: Chairman, Veta Caldwell-Charles (Tailor-rite Cleaners), Pat McCoy (Help At Home), Clarence Glover (Majestic Florist), Lamont Smith (Sizzlin Skillet).

SSA Staff in attendance were: Jennipher Adkins, Interim Executive Director, Melinda Kelly, President, Charles Edwards, Chief IT Ambassador, Rachel Hawkins, SSA #51 Program Manager, Cliff Bonner, SSA #51 Field Manager.

SSA #51 Commissioner Clarence Glover, motions the reading of March 22 ,2023 Open Meeting minutes and enter into record, Chairman Veta Caldwell-Charles seconds. Minutes were approved.

**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.**

Chatham Business Association, SBDI Interim Executive Director Jennipher Adkins covers agenda topics with Commissioners.

**Services Usage Second Quarter Report**

Jennipher Adkins discusses the Local Buy budget from the previous year and potential changes to include other items such as value cards, public art campaign, corridor report, new business, and future plans.

**Budget Update**

Mr. William Hughes is providing an update on the budget despite recent hip surgery. The audit is complete, but the focus is still on the budget. The 2023 Budget Summary Exhibit A was shared, indicating minor changes to it in 2024. A special budgetary meeting is planned for next week.

**Service Report and Events**

Review of recent events, including the successful Mix & Mingle on April 27, 2023. Call for suggestions to improve future events. Overview of the ongoing marketing plan, business of the month recognition, and promotions.

**Public Way Aesthetics**

Cliff Borner discusses recent improvements, including planters and pavement work. Need to address planters on 75th street and replace outdated banners. Proposal to buy new decorations and engage Bannerville for installation.

**Holiday Decorations**

Discussion on holiday decoration plans, including wreaths and bows. Proposal to involve Bannerville for installation and permit process.

**Facade Improvements**

Overview of current applications and proposal to create a flyer to promote the Facade Enhancement program.

**Cybersecurity Consultations**

Melinda Kelly shared details about free business consultations on cybersecurity provided by AGB Security.

**Aggression Sensor Program**

Discussion on the Aggression Sensor program and its challenges. Decision not to proceed due to functionality issues.

**Marketing and Real Estate Efforts**

Overview of efforts to market vacant buildings and collaborate with Chicago State University students.

**Aldermanic Partnerships and Development Initiatives**

Update on the partnership with Alderman Mitchell's ward for community development initiatives.

**Quick Reference Funding Guide**

Presentation of the 2023 Vol. 1 e-book featuring information on various lenders and access to capital.

**Other Business and Announcements**

Discussion on various topics, including potential art installations, in-person commissioner meetings, and upcoming events.

**Meeting Conclusion**

Jennipher Adkins concluded the meeting at 1:20pm.