

Chatham Business Association, SBDI
Service Provider for SSA #51
800 E 78th Street
Chicago, IL 60619

Minutes of the 1st Quarter Commissioners Open Meeting

Wednesday, March 20, 2024 – 6:00 p.m.

Location: Help at Home, 806 E. 78th Street

Chicago, IL 60619

YouTube Meeting Link: https://youtu.be/TW3_WhKOk3c?si=jKyELRSO5y97RteV

Meeting was called to order at 6:28pm, by Melinda Kelly, Board President, Chatham Business Association, SBDI (CBA SBDI), Service Provider for Special Services Area #51

SSA Commissioners in attendance in person were: Veta Charles (TailorRite Cleaners), Veronica Clark (TCA Heath), Clarence Glover (Majestic Florist)

SSA Commissioners in attendance via Zoom were: Jackie Jackson (Fatburger)

SSA Staff in attendance in person were: Melinda Kelly - Board President CBASBDI; Jennipher Adkins – Interim Executive Director CBASBDI; Richard Willis – Financial Coordinator/HR Director CBASBDI; Cliff Borner – Field Program Manager SSA #51; Jason Swan – SSA #51 Program Manager

SSA Staff in attendance via Zoom were: Charles Edwards III – IT Program Manager, CBASBDI

Roll Call and Approval of Minutes: The meeting began with a roll call. A motion to approve the minutes at the end of the meeting was made and approved.

Committee Business

Two new committee members, (Veronica Clark (TCA Heath) and Jackie Jackson (Fatburger)) were introduced by Melinda Kelly.

Melinda Kelly explained the City of Chicago SSA Program and Open Meetings Act

Calendar of upcoming Commissioner's meetings were discussed as well as the date of the 2024 Mix and Mingle to be held April 25, 2024

Build to Business:

Program was introduced by J. Adkins – Melinda added that we may ask the city for assistance to identify addresses and create visual uniformity.

One Summer Chicago:

Program was discussed. Committee members were encouraged to begin the application process soon to take advantage of summer youth enrollment opportunities

Façade Improvement:

SSA Program was explained by CBASBDI staff.

Business Marketing Corridor Outreach:

Discussed Woodshop as the Business of the Month for April 2024.

Discussed proposed partnership with Art Institute of Chicago for banner placement throughout the SSA. Melinda Kelly recommended that we inquire about SSA #51 and CBASBDI branding on Art Institute banners

Social Media

Jennifer Adkins discussed CBASBDI Social Media Reference Guide. Jennifer also explained how CBASBDI Staff (Lourinda Chandler) could be of assistance in developing social media initiatives

Pending One Summer Chicago program would be an excellent opportunity to jump start social media campaign

Melinda asked if we could find immediate help for SSA business' for social media campaign.

Public Way Maintenance

Cliff Borner discussed public way maintenance. Discussed reinstatement of Day crew and Weekend Crew (6 day coverage)

Street Cleaning

900 bags (55 Gallon bags) of garbage were collected. This equates to, 49,500 Gallons of garbage have been collected and removed from the streets of SSA #51 in the last three months. We one two street cleaning staff member and re- hired a previous staff member.

Areas within the SSA #51 that were cleaned include: 75th Street (Indiana to Drexel), 79th Street (Cottage to 95th Street), 79th Street (Greenwood to Indiana), Cottage Grove (75th Street to 95th Street), and Vacant lots located

on 75th Street, 79th Street, 95th Street and Cottage Grove Avenue.

Will reinstitute programs that were dormant during COVID pandemic period

Discussed city initiatives reinforcing bus stops on 75th between King and Cottage.

79th St will be closed for work between Cottage Grove and St. Lawrence between July 2024 and April 2025.

Veronica Clark expressed concern about potential business closure related to 79th St. closure. Melinda said we would work to identify target dates for work to allow us to coordinate with local entrepreneurs. Potentially invite alderman to discuss at upcoming CBA meeting.

Safety programs

Discussed the importance of cameras and lighting evaluations throughout the City.

CBA will create a resource list for businesses not using or not using the most current technology.

OMEC (Office Management Emergency Contact) mentioned as a resource.

Previous private security service initiatives have been ineffective in the past due primarily to an inability to coordinate security activities with the Chicago Police Department (CPD) – It should be noted however that Private security may now be able to detain until suspected persons until the arrival of CPD

Cyber security was identified as an SSA priority.

Melinda Kelly discussed the value of walkability within the SSA

New business discussed

Chatham guide book was introduced and approved

Springfield advocacy trip was discussed. CBA was the only advocate organization for Black owned businesses present at the summit

Building to Business Vacancy Abatement Initiative

One Summer Chicago

Meeting Minutes dated 10/18 and 11/8 accepted.

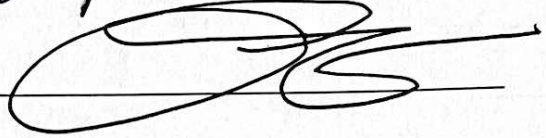
Meeting adjourned 7:11pm

Minutes taken by:

Executive Director (Int), Jennipher Adkins

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Jennipher Adkins", written over a horizontal line.

Chairman, Veta Charles

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Veta Charles", written over a horizontal line.