

SSA #10 Back of the Yards Commission Meeting Minutes
Thursday, May 28th, 2020
1:00 p.m.
Virtual Zoom Meeting

Commission Present

Emilio Carrasquillo, Chairman
Salvador Benitez
Lucas Kristen
Jose Chavez
Juan Martinez

BYNC Staff Present

Craig Chico, President
Fabiola Flores, Program Manager
Gisela Nevarez, Bookkeeper
George Cardoso, Maintenance Supervisor

Commission Absent

Terri Cox
Jerry Mazzei

Chairman Carrasquillo called the meeting to order at 1:06 p.m. Chairman Carrasquillo seeks a motion to approve the meeting minutes for April 28, 2020. First motion was made by Commissioner Lucas Kristen, seconded by Commissioner Jose Chavez. All in favor and the meeting minutes are approved unanimously.

Chairman Carrasquillo asked Program Manager, Fabiola to report on the next item on the agenda. Program Manager, Fabiola thanked all the Commissioners for accommodating their busy schedules on a short notice. She announced that recently the City confirmed that the SSA's have the ability to provide economic relief to our local businesses, therefore it was imperative to conduct this meeting as quickly as possible. Unfortunately, many of the businesses are on the verge of closing permanently and creating a program that could give them immediate financial assistance is imperative. Program Manager, Fabiola explained that we would call this program "SSA 10 Small Business Economic Relief Grant". She mentioned the process would be fairly simple for all the businesses within the SSA 10 boundaries. The requirements will also be as minimal as possible, however, they will be required to provide some documentation to prove businesses are up-to-date with their business license and within the SSA 10. Fabiola mentioned it would be a one-time disbursement to the recipient.

Program Manager, Fabiola mentioned she would conduct extensive outreach to make sure every business knows this grant is available to them. She explained that she will email all business owners, she and the crew will go door-to-door to every business, and she will follow up with phone calls before the deadline. Assistance will be available for those who need it. Program Manager, Fabiola explained that she has reviewed this year's budget in order to reallocate funding for the small business grant. She mentioned that we were able to allocate

\$26,000 from other line items into special events. Commissioner Kristen asked why \$26,000. Program Manager, Fabiola replied that after reviewing the budget and services, she believes that those categories are the best to reallocate money from without impacting our daily services. She added that at this moment, many businesses are not prioritizing adding signage or awning to their storefront. Also, we will be able to successfully complete a mural this summer with \$3,000. She explained that we are not completely removing the services and funding from the line items, we are just anticipating that the programs won't be utilized this year due to COVID-19. The areas that we would move the money from would be \$5,000 from 2.03 Awning Rebate, \$5,000 from 2.06 Public Art, and \$16,000 from Security Camera Rebate, it will be reallocated into 1.02 Special Events.

Chairman Carrasquillo thanked the SSA team for putting the application and flyer together. He also added that he likes that we are being mindful and not cutting services but only reallocating some money from those areas into the grant. Chairman Carrasquillo moved to seek a motion to approve the reallocation of \$26,000 from this year's 2020 budget coming from 2.03 \$5(K), 2.06 \$5(K), and 5.02 \$16(K) into 1.02 Special Events for the Small Business Economic Relief Grant. First motion was made by Commissioner Lucas Kristen, seconded by Commissioner Jose Chavez. A vote was taken and the motion passed unanimously.

With no further business to discuss, Chairman Carrasquillo asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting. First motion made by Commissioner Kristen, seconded by Commissioner Martinez, voted on and unanimously approved. Meeting adjourned at 1:28 p.m.

The Back of the Yards Neighborhood Council, in Compliance with the Illinois Open Meetings Act.