# Uptown SSA #34 Advisory Commission Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, April 15<sup>th</sup> 2025 – 4:30pm Uptown United Office 4619 North Broadway

Commissioners Present: Terry Tuohy (Chair), Matthew Ruffi (Treasurer), Noreen Keeney

(Secretary), Kelly Cheng, Dominic Irpino, Nick Pinto, Todd Allen Israel, Lesley Showers, Karl Sullivan

Commissioners Absent: Patti Hutzel (Vice-Chair),

Others in Attendance: Justin Weidl, Sarah Wilson, Greg Carroll, Andy Pillman, Rosa Gamboa,

Scott Kruger, Tom Bravos

### 1. Welcome and Call to Order

a. Tuohy called meeting to order at 4:32pm.

#### 2. Public Input

a. Scott Kruger introduced himself and shared information about the Uptown Library Garden.

# 3. 2024 Audit Report

a. Thomas Bravos of Bravos & Associates presented a 2024 Audit Report.

No issues arose and books are presented fairly.

Motion to accept March 18th minutes.

Motion: Ruffi Second: Keeney

**VOTE:** Approve – All Oppose – None **Motion Passes** 

### 4. Approval of Minutes

On acceptance of minutes for the below meeting:

Motion to accept March 18th minutes.

Motion: Ruffi Second: Cheng

**VOTE:** Approve – All Oppose – None **Motion Passes** 

# 5. Budget and Financial Report

a. Weidl presented a financial report.

i. Balance Sheet and Budget v Actuals looks healthy for this time of year.

# 6. Public Art Grant Program

a. Weidl presented a \$1,500 application from Jonathan Belair for a Patti Smith themed mural on the garage door of The Bachelor apartments on Clifton Avenue.

Motion to approve grant request from Jonathan Belair.

Motion: Ruffi Second: Irpino

**VOTE:** Approve – All Oppose – None **Motion Passes** 

o. Weidl presented a \$5,000 application from Molly Z for up to 20 storefront murals.

Motion to approve grant request from Molly Z.

Motion: Ruffi Second: Keeney

**VOTE:** Approve – All Oppose – None **Motion Passes** 

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Weidl presented a \$10,000 request for up to 32 mural panels for the Graceland Cemetery Wall.

Motion to approve \$10,000 for Graceland Wall mural panels.

Motion: Cheng Second: Keeney

**VOTE:** Approve – All Oppose - None **Motion Passes** 

# 7. Curb Appeal Rebate Program

Weidl presented an application from Broadway Bikes for new signage at 4653 North Broadway.

Motion to approve rebate of \$3,405 for Broadway Bikes.

Motion: Cheng Second: Keenev

**VOTE:** Approve - All Oppose - None **Motion Passes** 

b. Weidl presented an application from Haibayo Café for new signage at 1132 W Argyle Street.

Motion to approve rebate of \$5,000 for Haibayo Cafe.

Motion: Irpino **Second:** Keeney

VOTE: Approve – All Oppose - None **Motion Passes** 

Weidl presented an application from the Uptown Library for garden renovations.

Motion to approve rebate of \$1,211.77 for Uptown Library.

Motion: Cheng Second: Ruffi

**VOTE:** Approve – All Oppose – None **Motion Passes** 

Weidl presented an application from Le Village for new signage at 4021 North Broadway.

Motion to approve rebate of \$3,405 for Broadway Bikes.

Motion: Irpino Second: Cheng

VOTE: Approve – All Oppose – None Motion Passes

# 8. 2025 Budget Amendment

a. Weidl presented a 2025 Budget Amendment that would increase the TIF Rebate Fund from \$4,028 to \$221,530 based off of information from the City of Chicago DPD.

Motion to approve 2025 Budget Amendment.

Motion: Ruffi Second: Cheng

**VOTE:** Approve – All Oppose – None

### 9. Community Event Grant Program

a. Weidl presented an application from Uptown United for an additional \$60,000 for the Argyle Night Market. This is contingent upon Uptown United not receiving DCASE funding.

Motion to approve request for \$60,000 for the Argyle Night Market.

Motion: Second: Tuohy Cheng

VOTE: Oppose - Ruffi **Motion Passes** Approve - All

- Weidl presented a \$5,000 application from Yoga Body Elements for Yoga on the Triangle.
  - Ruffi recommended tabling this item until the funding and budget for the Argyle Nigfht Market is finalized.

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### 10. Streetscape Maintenance Program

- a. Weidl presented a quote for six (6) trash receptacles for \$10,000.
  - i. Ruffi suggested working with Israel on the opening and model as well as working with Task Force groups on the graphics for the Cans.
  - ii. Ruffi also suggested an additional \$2,000 budget for graphics and branding.

Motion to approve \$12,000 budget for six (6) trash receptacles.

Motion: Ruffi Second: Keeney

**VOTE:** Approve – All Oppose – None **Motion Passes** 

- b. Weidl presented a quote for a Polars Ranger for \$13,200.
  - i. Ruffi commented that this piece of equipment would enable staff to internally address many streetscape issues that are currently burdensome and costly.
  - ii. Israel commented that this could be used as a branding and marketing item.
  - iii. Cheng commented that a snowplow or other add-ons could be purchased in the future.

iv. Ruffi suggested and additional \$4,300 for branding and maintenance.

Motion to approve \$17,500 budget for a Polaris Ranger.

Motion: Ruffi Second: Cheng

**VOTE:** Approve – All Oppose – None **Motion Passes** 

# 11. 2026 Work Plan & Budget

- a. Weidl presented a draft 2026 work plan and budget.
  - Ruffi and Cheng commented that Streetscape Maintenance should be prioritized over Special Events.

### 12. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 6:23pm.

Minutes Submitted By: Justin Weidl, Director of Neighborhood Services