

Member Meeting Minutes
Thursday, November 9, 2023
South Side Christian Church

Meeting convened at 7:39 AM

1. Welcome: Michael Higgins, President

Weather report.

2. Board Reports

a. Secretary report – Bill McMahon

i. Approval of October membership meeting minutes

Moved & seconded.

b. Treasurer – Adam Cook

i. Treasurer's Report as of October 31, 2023

Moved & seconded.

3. Speaker: Dave Fuchs, the Director of Public Works

- Some storm debris is still out there. Working on it.
- Branch pickup is ongoing.
- On the job since May.
- Employees at Public Works are dedicated professionals.
- By 9:00 Thursday night > storm all major roads were cleared. By 9:00 Friday, the secondary streets were cleared. Everything was mulched. Team did great. Mayor did great.
- Public Works meets with IDOT on a quarterly basis. Beginning to do the MacArthur Boulevard engineering study now.
- Storm sewers on the Boulevard are going to need a lot of work. The dryer it gets, the more we get animals living in the sewers. Racoons, etc..
- Everything between the sidewalk and curb is the responsibility of the city.
- Q: How can the city maintain such a large stretch of land along the Boulevard?
- A: We rely on citizens calling it to our attention.

- A: Mayor is creating a “Zone Manager” approach for delivery of services. Two hired. Three still to be brought on board.
- Q: Speeding on the Boulevard is an issue.
- A: Can’t really speak to this issue as it is a police matter. But each ward is getting new radar equipment.
- Now is the time to reach out to IDOT, state reps, etc.
- Member comment: Appreciate how much traffic calming has worked in Washington Park.
- Also worked on Walnut street. Scheduled to also be done on MLK Drive.
- Member comment: Bike paths are extensive and are being well maintained.
- Once the railroad moves, the plan is to turn the then-vacant 3rd street railroad right-of-way a pedestrian/bike/park.

4. Local Government Update

a. Ward 6 report, Jennifer Notariano

- We are getting the speed-reader signs. Ward Six is getting five (5) of those. The Boulevard will get one of them (or two?)
- Budget season is approaching. Let her know where you think money should go.
- Beat Five has a new officer.

b. Ward 8 report, Erin Conley: Invited, not present.

c. Mayor, Village of Jerome: Michael Lopez

- Former Shop-N-Save location is planned to be a convenience store, Wash-n-Go laundry, 3-4 other stores, maybe some other stuff. Maybe a medical location. Maybe a coffee shop.
- Maybe a TIF district in Jerome.
- Meeting with Doris Turner to ask for funding for fixing Iles Avenue.
- Thanks to Dave Fuchs and Mayor Buscher for help during the storm.
- Hy-Vee Veterans Day event tomorrow.

d. Mayor, City of Leland Grove: Mary Jo Bangert : Invited, not present. DROP HER

e. Board Member, Sangamon County: Tony Del Giorno: Invited, not present.

5. Announcements/Other Business

- a. Board officers will renew for another year.
- b. Solicit membership for the names of or updates on new businesses.
- c. The December meeting will be the annual year-end member meeting. It is anticipated that it will be held at the usual time at South Side Christian Church and will be catered by Hy-Vee
- d. Julie Dirksen: When we work with the schools to do cleanups, we never know if inclement weather is going to interfere until the day of, as happened on the last scheduled cleanup.
- e. Reach out to members we haven't seen in awhile,

Meeting adjourned at 8:24

Thanks to Adam Cook for the coffee sponsorship!