



Design Committee minutes approved

Design Committee

Feb. 3, 2009

Mission: Make Six Corners physically attractive to consumers

Item	Information	Action
Attendance	Present were (4) :Marc Sussman, Rich Lang, Joe Angelastrri and Ed Bannon	NA
Approval of minutes	The minutes were not included in the agenda packet, so approval was tabled until the March meeting.	Tabled.
Landscaping bids	The committee reviewed the landscaping bids for 2009. Christy Webber was the lowest bidder. References were checked and all gave positive reviews. Also, the Christy Webber bid was double checked to ensure the vendor understood the service requirements. The committee agreed to select Christ Webber.	Ed B. to inform all bidders of the results. And to inform commissioners of recommendation before April meeting.
Streetscape	Ed B. informed the committee that the start date of the streetscape has been moved back to Sept. 1, so the previously planned roll-out of a Six Corners streetscape meeting seemed too early. A strategy and work plan are still being drafted. Joe A. suggested getting clarification on what work would be done on Cicero this summer. The work described to date is the widening of Cicero, but Joe A. says all the work including the sidewalk replacement, lightpoles etc should be done to ensure the least disruption.	Ed B. to check on Cicero work.
Athletico mural	Chairman Nick Tufano is the lead on this project, but he is not available tonight.	Tabled
Panhandling abatement	Ed B. reported little progress on this project, but expects some by next month when the warmer panhandling months return. The association is trying work with the local security company -- Citywide Security Group -- to hire a security guard that Six Corners would find and manage. Marc S. suggested another vendor that performed some security work at Klee Plaza.	Ed B. to contact Citywide Security Group. Marc S. to provide contact info.

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Snowplow review	<p>The committee discussed the snow plow performance to date because snow plowing was a high budget item in 2008 and snow has been heavy this winter so far. Ed B. presented a table showing snow falls and other weather conditions that would explain why the association plowed or did not plow. For example, early in December when it snow, the association did not pay for plowing because the temperatures were high enough to melt the snow. In another example, Ed B. felt plows should have been called in in early January, but he and the vendor held off because more snow was expected quickly and so much money had already been spent on plowing this winter. Unfortunately, the snow took about 12-18 hours longer to arrive than expected, which resulted in a two business days of messy conditions. Given that the December and January snow falls were double the norm, it's been tough to keep up with the snow and stay within budget.</p> <p>Marc S. suggested a lower-cost alternative during light snows i.e. day laborers with shovels. Even though it might take a little longer, it could cost less and make the call to bring in service easier. He also suggested more clarity in writing on what services the contractor is providing and that information should be made clear to the businesses. It's important for businesses' expectations to be clear so they can plan accordingly.</p> <p>Businesses on the Six Corners e-mail list are now notified as soon as possible about the snow plow plans. The committee will re-examine the scope of services for next year's snow plow RFP.</p>	Revise snow plow RFP.

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New business	<p>Marc S. asked about plans for better signs to the Laporte parking lot, especially in light of the streetscape. Past efforts to hang banners on the city lightpoles were discussed. Joe A. noted that the city formerly funded a lighted sign hung on Lorch Bros., 4936 W. Irving Park Road, on the northeast corner. The committee decided to follow a two-track approach -- review the streetscape plans and research private property sites where additional signs could be hung.</p> <p>The relocation of CTA stops was discussed, specifically on southeast bound Milwaukee. Moving the stop from north of Irving to south of Irving could mitigate traffic tie-ups on Milwaukee. The change had been previously examined but concerns were that not enough space is available for a bus stop south of Irving due to a loading zone for the Chicago Eye Institute, 3982 N. Milwaukee., and because the property owner north of Irving resisted the idea of moving the bus stop.</p> <p>Marc S. asked about volunteer recruitment efforts. Ed B. said the explicit efforts are performed mainly by Ed B. and Vince M. when they make person visits to businesses. We also try to publicize our own efforts and projects with an expectation that some people will take in interest in helping. Marc S. suggested that better definition of each committee's mission might attract more volunteer interest.</p>	<p>Research sign locations.</p> <p>Check loading zone status.</p> <p>Post 2009 work plans on website.</p>
Adjournment	<p>The meeting was adjourned at 7:10 p.m. The next meeting of the Design Committee was called for 6 p.m., , at Las Tablas, 4920 W. Irving Park Road.</p>	