

Springfield ICON Membership Meeting
January 25, 2021
Zoom Conference

Present: Carol Kneedler, Jess Weitzel, Jill Steiner, Polly Poskin, Sue Scherer, Chris Richmond, Michelle Coffin, Chris Warwick, Paul O'Shea, Lynn McMenamin, Donna Mathis, Marty Vandiver

1. Convened at 6:08pm
2. Secretary's Report
 - a. Motion to approve October 2020 minutes as presented
 - i. No discussion
 - ii. Minutes approved
3. Treasurer's Report:
 - a. Balance: \$7,923.02
 - i. Income: \$222.71
 1. Membership dues \$20.91
 2. Annual Meeting sponsor ads \$201.80
 - ii. Expenses: \$165.76
 1. Annual Meeting Facebook ads \$110.00
 2. Annual Meeting PayPal fees \$2.71
 3. MailChimp email fees (5 months) \$53.05
 - b. All approved
 - c. 2020 Q4 report filed with ISBE on January 8
4. City Council Update – Carol Kneedler
 - a. Budget hearings will start Tuesday 1/26 after Committee of the Whole
 - i. Departmental meetings will take place over the next few weeks
 - ii. Tuesday 2/23 special meeting to pass fiscal year 2022 budget
 - b. On January 19, intergovernmental agreement signed with County for animal control passed 8-2
 - i. Alderwomen DiCenso and Conley against
 - ii. Alderman McMenamin was a reluctant yea, but thinks the City should take this service back over
 - c. Public Works Director Bottom – optimizing snow removal
 - i. Link to snow report, including tips for shoveling your driveway:
<https://www.springfield.il.us/Departments/PublicWorks/snowRemoval.aspx>
 - d. Ferguson Booth Kennedy Buildings project ongoing and the previously approved TIF agreement is under examination again as the developer's did not meet the 90 day requirement initially approved in September 2020
 - e. Next year's budget likely to be slightly worse than FY21 due to federal assistance which is not expected for next year
 - f. Urban Forestry Commission will be speaker for ICON on 3/29
 - g. 3 people of color appointed to Police oversight committee
5. Problem Properties Update
 - a. Last Problem Property meeting held January 14

- b. Proposed changes to ICON Platform Proposed Solutions to Garbage & Problem Properties pending approval of the problem property committee, include:
 - i. Properties that remain in Administrative Court year after year continue to be a focus and the changes proposed to handling those properties will include direct call outs to specific properties to loop in City Council
 - ii. Ongoing concern around multiple garbage haulers driving up and down streets and alleys
- 6. Discussion: 2021 Goals & Priorities
 - a. Vacancy on Steering Committee for a Budget Chair – focus on how the budget impacts older neighborhoods
 - b. Focus on community workshops/engaging the public more about policy changes that could better serve older neighborhoods – send any information or pertinent data to Jill Steiner
 - c. Annual Meeting – looking for a related debatable issue
 - d. The Next 10 project – over 400 ideas received during the open call period at the end of 2020; the TN10 steering committee is pulling those ideas around central themes and are working to develop an implementable action plan
- 7. Membership Open Discussion
 - a. Carol Kneedler – by-laws changes being considered
 - i. Dues to be due by Jan 31
 - ii. Good standing members definition: 3 meeting sin last 12 months, been a paid member for at least 30 days
 - iii. Steering Committee spending approval from \$150 to \$300
 - iv. Treasurer’s Report can be delivered electronically
 - b. Jill Steiner – volunteer position needed to complete a monthly newsletter
 - c. Rep. Sue Scherer – a bright spot of the pandemic is being able to attend more meetings across her district; thank you to ICON for its effort; please reach out via to Rep. Scherer with any questions or comments at either staterepsue@gmail.com or 217-877-9636; ILGA will come into session on Feb 10 in-person to mainly vote on new procedural rules under Speaker Welch – will include approval for committees to meet and vote virtually, other sessions virtual
 - d. Michelle Coffin – Iles Park neighborhood representative – renovations are coming from the Park District to Iles Park itself; have received inquiries about possible abandoned/vacant properties; will hold a neighborhood meeting as soon as weather permits an outdoor convening
 - e. A new dining concept to Springfield is coming to the former Gallagher’s/Charlie R’s lot: shipping containers converted to food stalls with communal seating – the project would be called The Railyard
 - f. Marty Vandiver – will be working on evaluating innovative projects under way in other cities and share those we consider exceptional with Springfield city officials
- 8. Unfinished Business
- 9. New Business
 - a. New Problem Properties Committee meeting February 11 at 5:30pm Zoom conference hosted by Carol Kneedler

- b. Next Steering Committee meeting February 15 at 5:30pm Zoom conference hosted by Carol Kneedler
 - i. OBM Director McCarty and Alderwoman Conley will present impacts of City budget on older neighborhoods
 - c. Next membership meeting March 29 at 6pm Zoom conference hosted by Carol Kneedler – guest speaker will be Jan Von Qualen, Chair of the Springfield Urban Forestry Commission
10. Adjourned at 6:59pm
- a. Motion to adjourn made by Jess Weitzel
 - i. Seconded by Chris Richmond
 - ii. All approved

Respectfully submitted,

Jess Weitzel
Springfield ICON Steering Committee Secretary