



**South Side Christian Church Community Room
2600 South MacArthur Boulevard
Thursday, September 12, 2019**

September Meeting Minutes

1. **Welcome** – Michael Higgins
 - a. Meeting convened at 7:40am

2. **Board Reports**
 - a. Secretary’s Report – Jess Weitzel
 - i. No changes
 - ii. Motion made by Val Yazell, seconded by David Farrell, all approved
 - b. Treasurer’s Report – Jess Weitzel for Justin Creasey
 - i. No changes
 - ii. Motion made by David Farrell, seconded by John LeValley, all approved

3. **Speaker:** Polly Poskin, Springfield ICON, “Addressing Problem Properties”
 - a. ICON focuses on Springfield’s inner city older neighborhoods
 - b. Three focuses around “problem properties”
 - i. Waste, recycling, and bulky item pickup
 - ii. Nuisance abatement ordinances – largely revolves around noise issues and are enforced by the Springfield Police Department
 - iii. Abandoned properties/neglected maintenance
 1. Not a focus on undermining individual’s property rights; ICON’s goal is to support neighborhoods and the quality of life in inner city neighborhoods
 2. The City of Springfield has a complaint-driven system in place to address property concerns, but this relies on community members to lodge complaints
 - a. The process then goes to the City’s Administrative Court
 - i. This process is focused on resolution of the issue, not enforcement or capturing fees associated with the citation
 3. ICON efforts around Problem Properties

- a. ICON formed a Problem Properties committee 2-3 years ago to track these properties
 - b. This led to ICON regularly attending Administrative Court
 - 4. “3 Strikes Rule” passed several years ago
 - a. When a property has violated city ordinances three occurrences (can’t be same violation, must occur on different *dates*) within a 24-month period, the previously waived fees (if the violation as abated/remediated) are then due
 - b. This was passed to try and better crack down on “repeat offenders”
 - c. Under Darryl Harris’ supervision, this ordinance is being more stringently enforced
 - c. Q&A:
 - i. Is there an existing list of items that constitute the most common items? ICON will work to provide this.
 - ii. How can individuals report issues? Call 789-2167.

4. Local Government Update

- a. Alderwoman, Ward 6: Kristin DiCenso
 - i. Working with ICON on a non-owner occupied property registration; focus on it as an accountability measure
 - ii. Center for Health and Housing – Ald. DiCenso is supportive because it’s much needed
- b. Alderman, Ward 7: Joe McMenamain
 - i. Chris Gregg, new Hy-Vee Store Director
 - ii. Federated Funeral Director’s property – Ald. McMenamain has reported this property several times
 - iii. Bill Barton purchased two apartment buildings west of Franklin Middle School; looking to invest \$300,000 to make improvements to the units
- c. Mayor, Village of Jerome: Michael Lopez
 - i. Jerome issued a letter of support for recreational marijuana sales, will vote on September 17, 2019 – simply in need of the revenues
 - ii. Shop N’ Save on Wabash and Chatham Road – currently leased as a car sales lot, rotation of seasonal stores
- d. Board Member, Sangamon County: Lisa Hills – no report
- e. Mayor, City of Leland Grove: Mary Jo Bangert – no report
- f. Springfield Neighborhood Police Officer: Mike Badger
 - i. Strength of the neighborhoods around the Boulevard will impact the Boulevard so Officer Badger’s primary focus is on policing the neighborhoods

5. Announcements

- a. Local events:
 - i. Oak Ridge Cemetery Tree Tour, October 26th with arborist Guy Sternberg
 - ii. Oak Ridge Cemetery Historic Walk, October 6th
 - iii. ICON and DSI screening documentary event of “Citizen Jane” on Monday, September 23rd at 5:30pm at Lincoln Library
- b. Introduction of Hy-Vee Store Manager, Chris Gregg
 - i. Came from Canton, Illinois; been in the position for about 5 weeks

6. Adjourned at 8:35am

Respectfully submitted,

Jess Weitzel
MBA Board Secretary