

SSMMA BUSINESS MEETING
MAY 20, 2021 - ZOOM
MEETING MINUTES

1. CALL TO ORDER

Mayor Kolosh called the ZOOM meeting to order at 6:01 p.m. followed by the Pledge of Allegiance and introductions in the chat box. New Mayor Fred Bilotto of Blue Island introduced himself.

2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Kolosh asked for a motion to approve the April 15, 2021 meeting minutes. Mayor Reinbold moved to approve the Minutes and it was seconded by Mayor Braun, motion was approved.

3. PRESIDENT'S REPORT

A. Kolosh called on Nominating Committee Member Mayor Reinbold to present the 2021-2022 Recommended Slate of Officers:

President	Bob Kolosh	Thornton
Vice President	Ron Gardiner	Glenwood
Secretary	Patricia Eidam	Lansing
Treasurer	James Ford	Country Club Hills
Cook County At Large	Sheila Chalmers-Currin	Matteson
Cook County At Large	Vernard Alsberry, Jr.	Hazel Crest
Will County At Large	Joseph Roudez	University Park
Immediate Past President	Vacant	

The Executive Committee will consider amending the By-Laws to change from Immediate Past President to Past President so that there will never be a vacancy on the board. This In addition to the officers above, the following Committee Chairs and representatives of the Management and Finance Committee will make up the Executive Committee:

Transportation Chairman	Mike Einhorn	Crete
Public Safety Chairman	Bob Kolosh	Thornton
Legislative Chairman	Rick Reinbold	Richton Park
Housing Chairman	Jonathan Vanderbilt	Park Forest
Management & Finance Co-Chair	Regan Stockstell	Richton Park
Management & Finance Co-Chair	Anthony Burton	Matteson

Kolosh asked for a motion to approve the 2021-2022 Recommended Slate of Officers. Mayor Alsberry moved and it was seconded by Mayor Roudez, motion was approved. Congratulations to all new and existing officers, they will take office on June 17, 2021. Thanks to all committee members moving on and for serving SSMMA and for the Nominating Committee for their work.

B. Reinbold reported that the Executive Committee took action to name Mayor Kolosh as President early due to the departure of former President Ward. Filling the President's position is in the By-Laws. We thank him for his service the past several years and congratulations to new SSMMA President Kolosh.

C. Every four years President Preckwinkle provides statutory consent on an appointment of a south suburban Cook County representative to the CMAP Board, following SSMMA's recommendation. The Executive Committee supports the reappointment of Mayor Reinbold. Kolosh called for a motion

to approve the recommendation of Mayor Reinbold to the CMAP Board. Mayor Roudez moved and it was seconded by Joe Wiszowaty (Mayor Burgess' proxy), motion was approved. Director DeLaurentiis will issue a letter to President Preckwinkle requesting Mayor Reinbold's reappointment for another four year term. Mayor Einhorn expressed that he would also like to stay on as CMAP board member since there are 2 positions available. There will be a discussion at the Executive Committee about CMAP's request to be racially sensitive in their appointments.

- D. Superintendent Johnnie Thomas gave a presentation on the proposal for a Training Facility at Rich East High School in Park Forest and was joined by other superintendents in the area. Six high school districts have joined together to propose the Southland Career and Technical Education Center (SCTEC). The SCTEC will provide career, credential, license, and certificate options for high school students. The areas of programs proposed are: Aviation; Construction Trades; Information Technology; Manufacturing Trades; Public Safety and; Urban Agriculture. Please send a letter of support to Dr. Thomas and any suggestions on moving this opportunity forward. A discussion followed and a motion was made to send a letter of support for the SCTEC from SSMMA. Mayor Einhorn moved and it was seconded by Mayor Reinbold, motion was approved.

4. EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT

- A. Director DeLaurentiis recognized outgoing officers: President Tyrone Ward, Robbins; Mayor Gene Williams, Lynwood; Mayor Paul Braun, Flossmoor; Mayor Greg Szymanski, Beecher; and expressed thanks to Management and Finance Co-Chair Administrator Doug Beckman, Thornton.
- B. The Incoming Officers Gala on June 18 has been canceled. We will hold a regular board meeting on June 17 at 6:00 as usual via Zoom. Kolosh ask for a motion to approve the update Meeting Calendar as presented. Mayor Alsberry moved and it was seconded by Mayor Gardiner, motion was approved.
- C. The FY2020 Audit has been completed and approved by our Executive and Management and Finance Committees. There were no findings or management letters issued and it was a clean audit. Thanks to SSMMA's Shay Tyner and Melissa Doud for working closely with the auditors and putting financial systems in place for internal fiscal oversight.
- D. SSMMA and Comcast are hosting a Newly Elected Officials Webinar on Saturday, June 12, 2021. All newly elected officials and officials that need a refresher course are invited to attend. Tinley Park Manager David Niemeyer and Matteson Administrator Anthony Burton have volunteered to present along with Odelson & Sterk Attorney John Murphy. Registration is now open.
- E. CMAP's Deputy Executive Director Stephanie Phifer gave a presentation on recommendations for zoning and housing needs. CMAP's goal is to provide options and tools to communities for a variety of areas. Meeting the housing needs of residents through all stages of life seems to be a common need and the discussion on this topic is just beginning. Please give CMAP suggestions and comments on how to move this forward and if this is even a priority for your municipality. A discussion followed.

5. COMMITTEE REPORTS

A. LEGISLATIVE COMMITTEE

Mayor Reinbold reported on the following topics:

1. Watching:
 - HB 3739-Lead Service Line Inventory and Replacement-IML neutral, monitoring
 - SB 2298-TIF-oppose
 - SB 1697-GATA-IML initiative, support
 - Southland Reactivation Act, optimistic for a shell bill to advance
- Action alerts went out for:
- HB 2568 (Public Safety Employee Benefits Act)-oppose

- SB 170 (Vegetable Garden Protection Act)-oppose
2. SSMMA has been working with the COG Coalition on Local Government Distributive Fund (LGDF). Representative DeLuca and 24 legislators signed on to oppose the 10% cut and in support of full restoration. A letter was issued to Governor Pritzker on behalf of the COGs and his office is hearing us, our efforts are having an impact. President Preckwinkle joined a press event covered on Facebook Live, Crains, Daily Herald, WGN and others and will be shared by SSMMA.

Mayor Alsberry reported that there were 4 other mayors including himself that spoke to the media at this press event in support of the legislators that are supporting us on the restoration of LGDF. President Preckwinkle headed the briefing and knows that it is detrimental to the municipalities to face cuts to LGDF that is used to fund services such as police/fire protection, roads, etc.

Reinbold continued, indicating the message seems like it is being heard and IML is also aggressively educating legislators and pressing this issue statewide. If you have not passed a Resolution in your municipality please do so and send it to SSMMA and your legislators.

B. PUBLIC SAFETY COMMITTEE

Mayor Kolosh reported on the following COVID-19 topics:

1. A positive report-May 14 began the Bridge Phase allowing gatherings of all sizes and large events to take place. Phase 5 is expected on June 11. 64% of IL adults have received at least one vaccination. IL positivity rate is 2.2%.
2. The American Rescue Plan's Treasury Guidance is coming in slowly. SSMMA has/will continue to share. The National League of Cities held an information session and we will send out the recording if you were not able to attend. Guidehouse consultants are working with Cook County and a webinar is planned for more details on eligible expenses.
3. Walgreens, Governors State University and SSMMA partnered on a vaccine clinic held last Saturday for Pfizer and Johnson and Johnson vaccines. There were 400 people vaccinated and the second event will be held on June 6 for the second dose of Pfizer. Grand Prairie Services is holding a clinic in Chicago Heights and information will be in our newsletter.

C. TRANSPORTATION COMMITTEE

Mayor Einhorn and Leslie Phemister reported on the following topics:

1. The Capitol Bill list is updated and has been sent out. Please use this list when speaking with your legislators, there are only 10 days left in session.
2. Senator Duckworth has an online application available for federal dollars deadline, June 1, 2021 and are looking for regionally significant projects located in underserved communities that will have positive impacts on those communities. There is a wide variety of project types and need to utilize the funding immediately. Please contact Leslie for help with the application.
3. There was a meeting with David Woodruff from Canadian National on the CN/KCS merger and traffic in our area and what the real interest/intentions on the purchase of Kansas City Southern in connecting Mexico. Nothing is happening right now, some other railroads are expected to push back. The Metropolitan Mayors Caucus sent a packet on the implications for review.
4. Status updates are due by the end of June for the STP.

D. HOUSING COLLABORATIVE

Sarah Kobetis reported on the following topics:

1. Please join us or send a proxy for the next Housing Committee meeting on June 10 at 9:00

a.m. via Zoom.

E. ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT/CSEDC

Reggie Greenwood reported on the following topics:

1. The manufacturing community and Amazon are desperately looking for workers. They are looking for ways for the companies to promote themselves in order to gain workers, possibly a video format to share and spread in the communities. Please let Reggie know any suggestions for how to get people to apply for the available jobs.
2. The industrial development community is still healthy and are looking for sites for major developments all over the region.
3. The e-commerce shared office space, 4343 Ascending House, in Matteson is looking for tenants and partners. Nicor has been a great partner on this project and has done a lot of work at the location. Amazon may also jump in on the project.

6. REGIONAL AGENCY REPORTS

Jim Garrett of the Chicago Southland Convention and Visitors Bureau reported the industry is rebounding very well, everything is up and that means more tax dollars are collected. Last March occupancy was 43% and this March it's up to 70%. Hotels and restaurant staffing is at a very low level so they are helping as they can. Welcome to new mayors and they will be reaching out on how to partner.

7. OTHER

Mayor Alsberry reported that Cross Point Park in Hazel Crest has many events happening this summer, visit <https://prpopups.com/events/> for more information.

8. ADJOURNMENT

Kolosh asked for a motion to adjourn. The motion was moved by Mayor Roudez and seconded by Mayor Einhorn, meeting was adjourned at 7:26 p.m.