



MBA Membership Meeting Minutes, Thursday, August 11, 2016

Welcome: President Michael Higgins called the meeting to order.

Secretary's Report: One correction to May minutes was presented. Corrected minutes were approved.

Treasurer's Report: As of July 31, 2016, Balance: \$17,916.83; Income (June & July): \$1,901.20; Expenses (June & July): \$2,470.89

Guest Speaker: Michelle Knox, President, WindSolarUSA,

- WindSolar USA sells solar systems for homes and commercial buildings at reduced costs.
- Investment payback: 5 years with incentives for homeowners. 3 years with incentives for commercial businesses.
- Incentive agreement plans (tax credits and rebates) will expire December 31, 2016. Purchasers have up to one year thereafter to install the system.

Local Government Update:

Ward 7 Alderman: Joe McMenamin

- Mayor Langfelder will hold Ward 7 Town Hall meeting Thurs. Sept. 29th - 5:30 to 7:30 p.m. at Hope Presbyterian Church on Wabash.
- The Boulevard Townhomes (formerly MacArthur Park Apartments) Open House: Thurs. Sept. 15th - 11 a.m. to 2 p.m. Remodeling includes 180+ units, new Community Center and road resurfacing.
- City has strengthened housing code: re. weed and other offenses. Offenders will be fined, even if they fix the problems, after 3 violations within a period of time.
- Starcrest Cleaners anticipates receiving City Council waiver approval for new MacArthur Blvd. facility.
- Infrastructure road improvements will be made on Dial Court at Butler School.
- Ruler Food: option to purchase former Esquire property extends to late September.

Jerome Mayor: Michael Lopez

- New strip mall coming in 1500 block of Wabash

Neighborhood Police Officer: Tami Walcher

- MacArthur Boulevard Townhomes: Only two service calls in July.
- City wide rash of car break-ins. Urged locking car doors.

Updates:

Bites on the Boulevard: Katie Davison

- Bites Aug. 9th : Back to School donations raised approximately \$850 for school supplies and backpacks for Black Hawk students.
- MBA purchased 75 backpacks from HyVee at a discount and school supplies on sale from local merchants.

- South Side Christian Church will provide additional school supplies for Black Hawk students.
- Generators failed for two food trucks at Bites. May need to upgrade power supply.

CleanUp/GreenUp Grants: Jess Weitzel

- MBA grant application period will be extended through fall. MBA grant program provides 25% reimbursement for signage and/or landscaping improvements that go beyond City requirements up to \$500 maximum.

South Side Christian Church: Daniel Shelton

- Church is undertaking \$2 million building improvement project. A completion date of January 2017 is anticipated.

Announcements:

+Terrence Jordan, Principal, Black Hawk School: thanked MBA and South Side Christian Church for donating back-to-school supplies. Eighty-five to ninety percent of Black Hawk students are low income.

+ICON Chair, Carol Kneedler: Public forums will be held to gather input for future land use rules in Springfield. **Regional Neighborhood Network Conference (RNNC):** Sept. 29th – Oct. 1st in Champaign. Workshops will be held re: neighborhood improvements led by experts in urban and neighborhood development.

+ Big Block Bash, South Side Christian Church: Sun. Aug. 28th - noon to 2:00 p.m.

+ Bike Friendly Neighborhood Plan will be announced at September MBA meeting.

Respectfully submitted,
Loretta Durbin, Secretary