



**MacArthur Boulevard Business Association
Monthly Meeting Minutes
American Red Cross
1045 Outer Park Drive
April 14, 2011 - 7:30 am
DRAFT**

Welcome Vice President David Farrell brought the meeting to order at 7:40am.

Treasurer's Report - We have around \$16,500 in the bank.

Secretary's Report - March minutes stood approved as presented. 52 out of our 114 members need to renew.

Government Update

City of Springfield

Debbie Cimarossa, Ward 7 Alderman, said the MBBA is important to the City of Springfield. She has introduced a resolution to adopt the MacArthur Master Plan on April 19.

Jen Dillman, Sangamon County Board Member, said the 20-member MacBac Committee will meet on 4/20, and she will meet with State Senator Bomke to present a Master Plan booklet & get MacArthur "on the radar" for potential future state funding. Jen mentioned the redistricting of Sangamon County for the County Board.

Cory Jobe, Alderman Elect, Ward 6

Cory intends to be an active member of the MBBA, to partner with new Ward 7 Alderman Joe McMnamin, to listen and also take action. He reiterated the need for incentives for developers to invest in MacArthur and indicated that TLM, the owners of the former Kmart, are interested in redeveloping or selling the property.

Joe McMnamin, Alderman Elect, Ward 7

Joe said the MBBA is one of the most important organizations in Ward 7, expressed his intent to work with Debbie as the new President of the MBBA, and to listen and work successfully with various stakeholders.

MBBA President Election

The Board accepted the resignation of Cory Jobe, MBBA President for the past 3.5 years, on April 11. Cory will be our new Ward 6 Alderman. The Board presented Debbie Cimarossa to the membership as the nominee for MBBA President. Cory Jobe moved; Mike Higgins seconded; by unanimous vote Debbie was elected. Cory was presented a director's chair with "Cory * Mac * Jobe" as a token of appreciation for his years of service to the MBBA.

Project Updates

Artist Market

Laurie Farrell said plans continue for the fifth annual Artist Market, to be held 2 Saturdays – June 4 and June 11 from 9am to 2pm at Town & Country Shopping Center. 19 artists are signed up, new signs and banners have been created, 2 food vendors and musicians are signed up.

Adopt-A-Street Cleanup

Julie Dirksen is planning the spring cleanup in partnership with Butler School. Volunteers to assist the schoolchildren are welcome. The cleanup will be done on Saturday, May 14 from 8:30-11am.

Streetscape

A discussion on streetscape started with expression of the need to contact the developer of the new Scheels store to encourage more greenspace, and in the discussion that followed, Paul O'Shea said the current landscape ordinance could be improved. Paul followed up after the meeting with additional information to answer questions about the approval process. See www.shoponmacarthur.com for more information.

MacArthur Area News

- **The Paper Boutique** now open – offering paper crafting, scrapbooking, custom invitations, stationery and photography – they are the newest MBBA member.
- LaLoma Mexican Restaurant is now open in Town & Country Shopping Center.
- City Trends, a national clothing store is now open in T&C Shopping Center.
- Hometown Pantry is open at the corner of South Grand & MacArthur with coffee, snacks & lottery tickets.
- ACE Bike Shop will sponsor their annual **Average Joe's Bike Ride** on April 17 at noon. A drawing for a bicycle will be held at 3pm. See more info at www.shoponmacarthur.com.
- The Capitol Area Independent Business Alliance will host a **shred event** April 21 from 4:30-7pm in the former Kmart parking lot; cost is a case of food for the Salvation Army. See localfirstspringfield.com.
- **South Side Christian Church Big Block Bash** July 17; sponsors are needed – deadline June 20. See more info at www.shoponmacarthur.com.
- Scheels' opening is scheduled for June 25; Hibachi Grill in the Town & Country Shopping Center is remodeling; the former bank building at the corner of OuterPark & MacArthur has been purchased.
- IDOT is measuring at the intersection of Laurel & MacArthur. Debbie Cimarossa will find out details.

Other News

- The Springfield Arts Association is circulating a survey to assess interest in a Visual Arts Center. See more info at www.shoponmacarthur.com.

Adjournment The meeting adjourned at 8:40 am. Thanks to Debbie Cimarossa, our breakfast sponsor this month. Submitted By Carol Kneeder, Board Secretary