



MBA Membership Meeting Minutes, Thursday, April 12, 2018

Welcome: President Michael Higgins called the meeting to order.

Secretary's Report: March minutes were approved as presented.

Treasurer's Report: Will be presented in May.

Guest Speaker Presentation: Steve Schoeffel, Planner, Sangamon Mass Transit District (SMTD)

SMTD revised its transportation routes following a comprehensive study with the goal of achieving efficiency and improving service by reducing wait times, increasing the number of routes and becoming user friendly. The District held 8 open houses in February for residents to review changes.

- The bus exchange at 5th and Capitol will move to an off-street site on 11th Street between Adams and Washington Streets.
- To assist the disabled and promote Downtown, the District initiated a Downtown shuttle.
- Because of increased train traffic, routes had to be re-designed to reduce wait times and to maintain the goal of a 30-minute pick-up schedule at bus stops. (Note: Ninety-minute wait schedules will be reduced to 60 minutes.)
- Changing routes increased service to 10,000 more people and added access to workplaces that employ 8,000 workers.
- Day and nighttime service gaps are being eliminated.
- Bus service outside the taxing district can only be extended to areas in Springfield by agreement from the City and following approval in an election by residents in the new area.
- SMTD plans to educate and promote city residents to take the bus, increase the number and size of bus shelters and in the future implement new fare technology.

Local Government Update

Alderswoman Kristin DiCenso, Ward 6

- The City budget allocates \$7 million from video gaming receipts for street repairs.
- There are 90 miles of alleys in Springfield. The budget to repair alleys is \$300,000 with each ward receiving \$37,000 for its alleys.
- CWLP will resume trimming trees to clear power lines.

Alderman Joe McMenamin, Ward 7

- Street potholes are filled yearly but alleys have eroded and need attention.
- A list of vacant city-owned properties for sale is available. Potential buyers can place a bid with the Department of Planning and Economic Development.
- Congratulations to: David Farrell for being honored by UIS for years of volunteer service to the University; Lynn McMenamin, Alana Reynolds and Pam Griffin for recognition from Slow Food for creating the Butler School garden and Terrance Jordan, Principal of Black Hawk Elementary School, as nominee for Principal of the Year.
- C. T. Yang is selling his properties.

Jerome Mayor Michael Lopez

- Graffiti has damaged property along Wabash Avenue and the bike path.
- Business owners are complaining about loud music in Chatham Square.
- Famous Liquor on Wabash wants to hold wine tastings.

Announcements

- MacArthur Boulevard Spring Cleanup Day, Sat. May 5, 9-11 a.m. Blessed Sacrament School parking lot. Arrive at 9:00 a.m.
- Springfield Earth Awareness Day Saturday, April 21, 1-5 p.m., 40 exhibitions on the environment, Old State Capitol grounds.
- Black Hawk Elementary School is participating in a statewide Penny Drive for the Illinois Bicentennial. State Drive funds will be used to purchase Lincoln documents.
- Blessed Sacrament School's Fundraiser, April 21, 12-5 pm, at Engrained Brewing.

- Local First Springfield's (LFS) shredding and re-cycling day, Saturday, April 21, 10-1p.m, Bunn Capital on Stevenson Drive. Also LFS is sponsoring a small business marketing workshop, April 26, 8-9:30 a.m., Inn at 835.
- Sangamon CEO, a program to encourage young entrepreneurs, is sponsoring a Shark event April 23, at the Bank of Springfield Center.
- Scheels and YMCA are sponsoring, Healthy Kids Day, April 28, 10-2 p.m.
- Bike Downtown, April 28. Downtown streets will be closed to vehicle traffic.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:42 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Loretta Durbin, Secretary