



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

December Meeting Minutes

1. **Welcome** – Michael Higgins
 - a. Meeting convened at 7:41am

2. **Speaker(s)**: Illinois General Assembly Senator Steve McClure, Illinois General Assembly Representatives Mike Murphy and Tim Butler
 - a. McClure: MacArthur Boulevard is on the 5 year IDOT plan after new capital bill was approved; proud to vote for bill and will advocate for the funds to be released for projects in the area; ongoing effort to address corruption and ethics in the General Assembly
 - b. Butler: been involved with efforts along MacArthur Boulevard for a long time (previously worked for Rep. Ray LaHood) and committed to moving work on MacArthur Boulevard forward; concern over IDOT's current bandwidth to handle all the work necessitated by the new capital plan and 5 year plan and believes IDOT will need to staff up in order to move new projects along
 - c. Murphy: proud to vote for capital bill with a focus on MacArthur Boulevard and the 3rd Street rail corridor; has already spoken with District Engineer and is happy to continue liaising with MBA

3. **MBA Business**
 - a. Secretary's Report – will be presented and approved at January 2020 meeting
 - b. Treasurer's Report – will be presented and approved at January 2020 meeting
 - c. 2020 Board Elections
 - i. Board slate:
 1. President: Katie Davison
 2. Vice President: Michael Higgins
 3. Treasurer: Justin Creasey
 4. Secretary: Jess Weitzel
 5. Members at large: Julie Dirksen, Doug Dougherty, Loretta Durbin, Chris Hanken, Caleb Leach, Denise Perry

- ii. Motion to accept board as presented made by Misty Buscher
 - 1. Seconded by Val Yazell
 - 2. All approved
- d. New President remarks
 - i. Katie thanked Michael for 3.5 years of service as President and tremendous amount of support for MBA in general; MBA has a strong working board and is excited about moving forward; strategic planning effort by board last winter means we will be focusing on key items (communications, advocating for policies that impact the Boulevard); never been a better time to live and do business in this area

4. Local Government Update

- a. Alderwoman, Ward 6: Kristin DiCenso
 - i. Happy holidays to all
 - ii. City Council continues to discuss homelessness, Pillsbury, and decommissioning units at the power plant
- b. Alderman, Ward 7: Joe McMenamin
 - i. Happy holidays to all
- c. Mayor, Village of Jerome: Michael Lopez
 - i. No word on Shop N' Save yet
 - ii. Number of small businesses continuing to develop in Jerome
 - iii. Please lock car doors and call the police when there's suspicious activity
- d. Board Member, Sangamon County: Lisa Hills
 - i. Happy holidays to all
 - ii. Working on unincorporated Sangamon County ordinance on garbage service and fly dumping
- e. Mayor, City of Leland Grove: Mary Jo Bangert – absent, no report
- f. Springfield Neighborhood Police Officer: Mike Badger
 - i. Happy holidays to all
 - ii. Armed robberies tend to pick up this time of year so business owners please be vigilant; Marked and unmarked vehicles are out trying to head off these incidents
 - iii. Continue to make sure to lock cars

5. Announcements

- a. Don't forget to renew membership
- b. Home for the holidays boxes still available
- c. Happy holidays from MBA

6. Adjourned at 8:14am

Respectfully submitted,

Jess Weitzel, MBA Board Secretary