



## **MBA Membership Meeting Minutes, Thursday, August 14, 2014**

**Welcome:** President Jen Dillman brought the meeting to order.

**Secretary's Report:** June minutes were approved as presented. (No July meeting.)

**Treasurer's Report:** as of July 31, bank balance is \$24,702.

**Guest Speaker:** Jennifer McDaniel, District 23, spoke about the HumpFest to be held Wednesday, September 17 in the parking lot of Standard Mutual Insurance to benefit the Cochlear Implant Awareness Fund. For a \$25 ticket, there will be food, beer, a fashion show and camel rides. The event is family friendly from 4:30-6:30pm, and the band will play from 6-10pm. Parking will be at the Esquire Theater across MacArthur Boulevard. Tickets are available at Hy-Vee, District 23 or online. MBA is sponsoring the event in lieu of an MBA fall social event.

### **Government Update:**

Alderman Ward 7: Joe McMenamin:

- Spoke about the former Esquire Theater property, saying it's good to have it in the news to highlight the potential of the property. Discussed the recent proposed development of a strip mall on the property by Chris Stone and an expanded proposed development plan including residential housing provided by architect Larry Quenette.
- Promoted the formation of a MacArthur TIF advisory committee.
- Mentioned possible renewal efforts at the McDonald's and Federated Funeral Directors properties.

Alderman Ward 6: Cory Jobe:

- Talked about a short-term partial solution to the MacArthur / Williams Boulevard crossing at Washington Park, describing a plan for a new crosswalk with flashing lights and enhancement of the sidewalk to the east of MacArthur.
- Mentioned his campaign for re-election as Ward 6 Alderman and a donation of \$25,000 from campaign funds to the Ward 6 Fund.
- Indicated 90% of Springfield City staff consider an Inspector General function is needed.

### **Project Updates:**

- Several new board members are needed for upcoming MBA Board elections; a Nominating Committee will be formed.
- The Believe in MacArthur Foundation needs several more board members and will then be submitted for not-for-profit status.
- Jen Dillman said the MacArthur Park Apartment Community Gardens will be doubled in size, the after-school program is going well, and a new basketball hoop is being installed.
- The South Side Christian Church will hold their Big Block Bash on Sunday, September 28 from 6-8 pm in their parking lot. The event is free, with live music, food, bounce houses and games. Business sponsors for games and gift certificates are needed.
- Springfield ICON will host representatives from the City of Peoria to speak about neighborhood redevelopment and their new Coordinator of Neighborhood Redevelopment on Monday, August 25 at 6:30pm at the Dove Center.

Next meeting will be September 11, 2014.