



MBA Membership Meeting Minutes, Thursday, September 8, 2016

Welcome: Vice President Julie Dirksen called the meeting to order.

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

Treasurer's Report: August 31, 2016 Balance: \$18,8657.64; Income: \$2,158.00; Expenses: \$1,002.19. \$916 collected for backpacks for Blackhawk School and a \$100 gift card to Staples.

Guest Speaker: Alana Reynolds, Slow Food Springfield, Butler Elementary School Community Garden

- With financial support from Hy Vee, students helped plant and maintain two gardens.
- Goals are to incorporate gardening into school curriculum, sell produce, involve more students, teachers and parents with the garden.
- October 15 Butler Fall Fest to feature a slow foods table with sample recipes from the Copper Pot. Eighty-three volunteers are needed.

Local Government Update:

Ward 7 Alderman: Joe McMenamin

- Thanked Kyle Thornsborough, Hy Vee Store Director, who is leaving in October to manage a Hy Vee store in Minnesota.
- Pies the Limit nearly ready to open.
- Mayor Langfelder to 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 1 p.m. Public is invited.
- Starcrest Cleaners ready to start construction on MacArthur Blvd. facility.
- Infrastructure road improvements completed on Dial Court at Butler School.

Jerome Mayor: Michael Lopez

- New 10,000 square foot retail mall planned for 1500 block of Wabash.
- Out-of-state developer interested in Flooring Depot property.
- Spartan Valley Olive Oil and Asian Market stores doing a good business.
- Due to increased business at the new Asian Store, more traffic congestion on Wabash.
- Shop and Save sales are down.
- Video gaming doing well.
- Child safety concerns because of parked cars on private road leading into Boulevard Town Homes from Iles Ave.
- Traffic speed will be monitored on Iles.

Announcements:

- Doug Dougherty announced MBA Board adopted resolution to make area bicycle and pedestrian friendly.
 - Bike path behind Franklin Middle School leading to trails is in bad shape. Working to set up meeting with Director of Public Works Mark Mahoney and Superintendent Jennifer Gill.
 - Working with the City to improve bike safety on road west of Knights of Columbus.
- Daniel Shelton announced MBA drive to update memberships by Jan. 1. MBA can accept payments by credit card and online also.
- Julie thanked everyone for their donations to purchase backpacks and back to school supplies for Black Hawk School.
- Julie also thanked Kyle Thornsborough, Hy Vee Store Director, and wished him success in his new position with Hy Vee in Marshall, Minnesota.
- Kyle acknowledged the great relationship he's enjoyed with MBA, expressed his sadness at leaving but said MBA will enjoy a good working relationship with his replacement.
- Give Julie Dirksen your ideas for a MBA Fall Mixer.
- MacArthur Clean-up Sat. Sept. 24th. MBA and Blessed Sacrament School volunteers will meet at BSS parking lot at 8:45 a.m. Additional volunteers are needed.
- **Regional Neighborhood Network Conference (RNNC):** Sept.29th – Oct.1st in Champaign. Workshops will be held re: neighborhood improvements (policing, collaboration, leveraging events, marketing, nuisance property) led by experts in urban and neighborhood development.

Respectfully submitted,
Loretta Durbin, Secretary