



MBA Membership Meeting Minutes, Thursday, December 14, 2017

Welcome: President Michael Higgins called the meeting to order at 7:45 a.m.

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

Treasurer's Report: For November 2017: Income: \$627; Expenses: \$1,781.12;

Balance: \$20,385.78

Board Reports: Nominating Committee, David Farrell, Chair

- Nominating Committee: David Farrell, MBA member
 - The 2017 Slate of Officers: President, Michael Higgins; Vice President, Julie Dirksen; Treasurer, Daniel Shelton; Secretary, Loretta Durbin
 - At large members: Fred Coombe, Katie Davison, Doug Dougherty, John LeValley, and Jess Weitzel.
 - Motion was made to vote on 2018 slate. Membership approved the slate as presented by voice vote.

2017 Highlights on the Boulevard: President Higgins

- President Higgins recognized 2017 investments made by entities located on MacArthur: \$2M for renovations and new signage at South Side Christian Church, a new StarCrest Cleaners' facility, National Rent to Own's new façade, and looking ahead, the anticipated opening of Free Press Coffee.
- Congratulated businesses voted Best in Springfield in the Illinois Times: Ace Bicycle Shop, Roy's Alterations, Hy Vee, StarCrest Cleaners, Gyros Stop, The Wardrobe, Monster Pawn Shop and New Age Tattoos.
- Reviewed Bites on the Boulevard events: increased from 3 to 4 the number of Bites events giving Springfield a greater sense of community; set a record for the number of food trucks at a single event when 9 participated; attracted large crowds and stimulated other neighborhoods to hold their own food truck events; and stimulate interest by food truck vendors 2017 to become brick and mortar businesses.
- Appointed a committee to work to ensure that the most appropriate alternative for our neighborhood is chosen from the IDOT Infrastructure Improvement Plan and that its implementation is made a priority by the State and City, if a transfer of jurisdiction occurs.

MBA Annual Awards: Michael Higgins and Julie Dirksen

Key to the Boulevard's Success

- Skip Costa, retired owner of Roy's Custom Tailors for 37 years and Kim Dixon, retired owner of the Wardrobe for 15 years.

Outstanding MBA Civic Member

- Neighborhood Police Officer Tami Russell, who will have a new assignment, kept us updated monthly on what was happening on her beat and provided valuable information about crime prevention that is posted on MBA's website. She introduced our new NPO Mike Badger.

Outstanding New MBA Business Member

- Chris Hanken and Vic Lanzotti, owners of Pie's the Limit. Pie's the Limit is an excellent dining option for the neighborhood. Chris attends monthly membership meetings and is an active member of the Association. During our fall cleanup, Pie's the Limit donated pizza for more than 20 student volunteers.

Outstanding MBA Education Member

- Terrance Jordan, Principal of Black Hawk Elementary School, MBA's first educational partner raised enough money at a 2016 Bites event to purchase 100 backpacks and school supplies for students. He also participated in this year's Bites event to benefit local schools and attends MBA monthly meetings regularly.

Outstanding MBA Community Volunteer Team

- Linda Cox, Monica Davis, Laurie Farrell, Sue Hage, Sue Manson and Pat Ryan who have devoted hundreds of hours to the After School Program at the Boulevard Townhomes by tutoring, mentoring and creating an onsite library for the children who live in the complex.

Presentation by Co-Chairs of Bites on the Boulevard: Katie Davison and Jess Weitzel

- Because of the success of the 2016 Bites on the Boulevard fundraiser for Black Hawk Elementary, MBA expanded the idea to include a sponsored neighborhood school at each Bites event this year. In addition to funds raised by the schools at the events, MBA presented a \$1000 check to each school--Butler Elementary School, Blessed Sacrament School, Black Hawk Elementary School and Franklin Middle School.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:19 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,
Loretta Durbin, Secretary