



## **MBA Membership Meeting Minutes, Thursday, March 13, 2014**

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

**Secretary's Report:** February minutes were approved as presented.

**Treasurer's Report:** Treasurer Daniel Shelton reported in past month MBA's income:\$300; expenses: \$113.40 and as of Feb. 28, 2014 a balance of \$23,823.58.

**Guest Speaker:** Bill Peterman, CEO/CFP, Peterman Financial Group: 2014 Market Forecast Report

- Gives a market report to his clients at this time each year.
- The S&P 500 was up 30% in 2013. Gold prices were down 28%. Although overall prices are up, the market is "not out of the woods as yet". No forecaster on his list is predicting a down market in 2014.
- Unemployment remains a major issue but the level is same as 30 years ago.
- The Feds vow to keep interest rates unchanged until unemployment is below 6.5%.
- European Governments compensated for their impending economic collapse by driving interest rates to super low levels following the USA's lead.

What to watch for in 2014:

- Federal Reserve exit – probably in 2015, at which time interest rates and inflation will rise.
- Money Flow is at all time high going *into* equity funds and *out* of bond funds.
- Revenue and Earnings growth is solid right now.
- Obamacare: no clear understanding as yet of the real financial impact.

### **Government Update:**

Alderman Ward 7: Joe McMenamin:

- HyVee's Grand Opening is anticipated in two months. Currently: 4,000 applications for part-time and 2,000 for full-time have been submitted. HyVee will increase their part-time high school employees' hourly rate \$1.00 following their graduation.

Alderman Ward 6: Cory Jobe:

- Recognized MBA's committed efforts with development of Scheels and HyVee.
- \$10,000 in Ward 6 Fund grant money will be awarded this year to Ward 6 residents.
- The 3<sup>rd</sup> Annual Ward 6 Block Party is scheduled for Sunday, June 1<sup>st</sup>.
- Announced City Council is on verge of acquiring old YWCA block area and encouraged MBA members to attend Council meeting on 3/18 to support purchase.

### **Announcements:**

- HyVee awarded \$750 grants for Community Gardens to each of the following: MacArthur Park Apartments, Franklin Middle School and Butler Elementary.
- Welcomed new MBA members: AMCO Fence and Flip Flop Consignments.
- Local First will host a Shredding Event April 19<sup>th</sup> in the Salvation Army Parking Lot.
- Southside Christian Church is sponsoring a 5K Run on March 29<sup>th</sup>. Funds will be directed to building a school in Africa.
- MBA will sponsor a MacArthur Boulevard Clean Up either Saturday, April 26<sup>th</sup> or May 3<sup>rd</sup>. Final details will be forthcoming. MBA members are needed to assist in this project.

Meeting adjourned at 8:45 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,  
Julie Dirksen, Secretary