

IZEA, Inc.
Form 10-Q
May 15, 2013
Table of Contents

UNITED STATES
SECURITIES AND EXCHANGE COMMISSION
Washington D.C. 20549

FORM 10-Q

(Mark One)

QUARTERLY REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the quarterly period ended March 31, 2013

TRANSITION REPORT PURSUANT TO SECTION 13 OR 15(d) OF THE SECURITIES EXCHANGE ACT OF 1934

For the transition period from _____ to _____

Commission File No.: 333-167960

IZEA, INC.
(Exact name of registrant as specified in its charter)

Nevada
(State or other jurisdiction of
incorporation or organization)

37-1530765
(I.R.S. Employer
Identification No.)

1000 Legion Place, Suite 1600
Orlando, Florida
(Address of principal executive offices)

32801
(Zip Code)

Registrant's telephone number, including area code: (407) 674-6911

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant (1) has filed all reports required to be filed by Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to file such reports), and (2) has been subject to such filing requirements for the past 90 days. Yes No

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant has submitted electronically and posted on its corporate Web site, if any, every Interactive Data File required to be submitted and posted pursuant to Rule 405 of Regulation S-T (§ 232.405 of this chapter) during the preceding 12 months (or for such shorter period that the registrant was required to submit and post such files). Yes No

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Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a large accelerated filer, an accelerated filer, a non-accelerated filer, or a smaller reporting company. See the definitions of “large accelerated filer,” “accelerated filer” and “smaller reporting company” in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act.

Large accelerated filer

Accelerated filer

Non-accelerated filer (Do not check if a smaller reporting company)

Smaller reporting company

Indicate by check mark whether the registrant is a shell company (as defined in Rule 12b-2 of the Exchange Act).

Yes No

As of May 10, 2013, there were 7,145,526 shares of our common stock outstanding.

Table of Contents

Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q for the period ended March 31, 2013

Table of Contents

| | Page |
|--|-----------|
| <u>PART I. FINANCIAL INFORMATION</u> | |
| <u>Item 1. Financial Statements</u> | |
| <u>Consolidated Balance Sheets as of March 31, 2013 (unaudited) and December 31, 2012</u> | <u>3</u> |
| <u>Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Operations for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012</u> | <u>4</u> |
| <u>Unaudited Consolidated Statement of Stockholders' Deficit for the three months ended March 31, 2013</u> | <u>5</u> |
| <u>Unaudited Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012</u> | <u>6</u> |
| <u>Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements</u> | |
| <u>Item 2. Management's Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations</u> | <u>20</u> |
| <u>Item 3. Quantitative and Qualitative Disclosures About Market Risk</u> | <u>26</u> |
| <u>Item 4. Controls and Procedures</u> | <u>27</u> |
| | |
| <u>PART II. OTHER INFORMATION</u> | |
| <u>Item 1. Legal Proceedings</u> | <u>28</u> |
| <u>Item 1A. Risk Factors</u> | <u>28</u> |
| <u>Item 2. Unregistered Sales of Equity Securities and Use of Proceeds</u> | <u>29</u> |
| <u>Item 3. Defaults Upon Senior Securities</u> | <u>29</u> |
| <u>Item 4. Mine Safety Disclosures</u> | <u>29</u> |
| <u>Item 5. Other Information</u> | <u>30</u> |
| <u>Item 6. Exhibits</u> | <u>31</u> |
| | |
| <u>Signatures</u> | <u>32</u> |

Table of Contents

PART I - FINANCIAL INFORMATION

ITEM 1 - FINANCIAL STATEMENTS

IZEA, Inc.

Consolidated Balance Sheets

| | March 31, 2013 (Unaudited) | December 31, 2012 |
|---|----------------------------------|----------------------|
| Assets | | |
| Current: | | |
| Cash and cash equivalents | \$ 130,252 | \$ 657,946 |
| Accounts receivable | 600,780 | 426,818 |
| Prepaid expenses | 127,758 | 162,565 |
| Deferred finance costs, net of accumulated amortization of \$30,408 and \$25,923 | 28,693 | 1,877 |
| Other current assets | 8,703 | 11,627 |
| Total current assets | 896,186 | 1,260,833 |
| Property and equipment, net | 101,178 | 113,757 |
| Intangible assets, net of accumulated amortization of \$63,776 and \$59,276 | 13,500 | 18,000 |
| Security deposits | 5,178 | 9,048 |
| Total assets | \$ 1,016,042 | \$ 1,401,638 |
| Liabilities and Stockholders' Deficit | | |
| Current liabilities: | | |
| Accounts payable | \$ 1,390,916 | \$ 1,163,307 |
| Accrued expenses | 248,777 | 187,868 |
| Unearned revenue | 1,022,602 | 1,140,140 |
| Compound embedded derivative | — | 11,817 |
| Current portion of capital lease obligations | 18,524 | 17,638 |
| Current portion of notes payable | 268,890 | 75,000 |
| Total current liabilities | 2,949,709 | 2,595,770 |
| Capital lease obligations, less current portion | 5,236 | 10,212 |
| Notes payable, less current portion | — | 106,355 |
| Warrant liability | 10,230 | 2,750 |
| Total liabilities | 2,965,175 | 2,715,087 |
| Stockholders' deficit: | | |
| Series A convertible preferred stock; \$.0001 par value; 240 shares authorized; 5 shares issued and outstanding | — | — |
| Common stock, \$.0001 par value; 100,000,000 shares authorized; 7,145,526 and 6,186,997 issued and outstanding | 714 | 619 |
| Additional paid-in capital | 21,737,405 | 21,489,354 |
| Accumulated deficit | (23,687,252) | (22,803,422) |
| Total stockholders' deficit | (1,949,133) | (1,313,449) |

| | | |
|---|-------------|-------------|
| Total liabilities and stockholders' deficit | \$1,016,042 | \$1,401,638 |
|---|-------------|-------------|

See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.

3

Table of Contents

IZEA, Inc.
 Consolidated Statements of Operations
 (Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------|
| | 2013 | 2012 |
| Revenue | \$1,385,275 | \$1,613,654 |
| Cost of sales | 576,102 | 659,281 |
| Gross profit | 809,173 | 954,373 |
| Operating expenses: | | |
| General and administrative | 1,574,592 | 1,783,981 |
| Sales and marketing | 94,169 | 161,826 |
| Total operating expenses | 1,668,761 | 1,945,807 |
| Loss from operations | (859,588) | (991,434) |
| Other income (expense): | | |
| Interest expense | (15,466) | (16,744) |
| Loss on exchange of warrants | (732) | — |
| Change in fair value of derivatives, net | (8,124) | 90,987 |
| Other income (expense), net | 80 | 1 |
| Total other income (expense) | (24,242) | 74,244 |
| Net loss | \$(883,830) | \$(917,190) |
| Weighted average common shares outstanding – basic and diluted | 6,811,654 | 966,340 |
| Loss per common share – basic and diluted | \$(0.13) | \$(0.95) |

See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.

4

Table of Contents

IZEA, Inc.

Consolidated Statement of Stockholders' Deficit
(Unaudited)

| | Series A Convertible Preferred Stock | | Common Stock | | Additional Paid-In Capital | Accumulated Deficit | Total Stockholders' Deficit |
|---|--|--------|--------------|--------|----------------------------------|------------------------|-----------------------------------|
| | Shares | Amount | Shares | Amount | | | |
| Balance, December 31, 2012 | 5 | \$— | 6,186,997 | \$619 | \$21,489,354 | \$(22,803,422) | \$(1,313,449) |
| Conversion of notes payable into common stock | — | — | 773,983 | 77 | 124,534 | — | 124,611 |
| Exchange of warrants for common stock | — | — | 4,546 | — | 732 | — | 732 |
| Fair value of warrants issued | — | — | — | — | 7,209 | — | 7,209 |
| Stock issued for payment of services | — | — | 180,000 | 18 | 76,116 | — | 76,134 |
| Stock-based compensation | — | — | — | — | 39,460 | — | 39,460 |
| Net loss | — | — | — | — | — | (883,830) | (883,830) |
| Balance, March 31, 2013 | 5 | \$— | 7,145,526 | \$714 | \$21,737,405 | \$(23,687,252) | \$(1,949,133) |

See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.

5

Table of Contents

IZEA, Inc.
Consolidated Statements of Cash Flows
(Unaudited)

| | Three Months Ended March 31, | |
|--|------------------------------|-------------|
| | 2013 | 2012 |
| Cash flows from operating activities: | | |
| Net loss | \$(883,830) | \$(917,190) |
| Adjustments to reconcile net loss to net cash used for operating activities: | | |
| Depreciation and amortization | 21,564 | 26,652 |
| Stock-based compensation | 39,460 | 34,410 |
| Stock issued for payment of services | 39,105 | — |
| Loss on exchange of warrants | 732 | — |
| Change in fair value of derivatives, net | 8,124 | (90,987) |
| Cash provided by (used for): | | |
| Accounts receivable, net | (173,962) | 154,303 |
| Prepaid expenses and other current assets | 74,760 | 118,874 |
| Accounts payable | 227,609 | 66,275 |
| Accrued expenses | 66,704 | 91,665 |
| Unearned revenue | (117,538) | (46,037) |
| Deferred rent | — | (6,855) |
| Net cash used for operating activities | (697,272) | (568,890) |
| Cash flows from investing activities: | | |
| Security deposits | 3,870 | — |
| Net cash provided by investing activities | 3,870 | — |
| Cash flows from financing activities: | | |
| Proceeds from issuance of notes payable, net | 169,798 | 474,700 |
| Proceeds from exercise of stock options | — | 1,099 |
| Payments on notes payable and capital leases | (4,090) | (8,518) |
| Net cash provided by financing activities | 165,708 | 467,281 |
| Net decrease in cash and cash equivalents | (527,694) | (101,609) |
| Cash and cash equivalents, beginning of year | 657,946 | 225,277 |
| Cash and cash equivalents, end of period | \$ 130,252 | \$ 123,668 |
| Supplemental cash flow information: | | |
| Cash paid during period for interest | \$ 1,856 | \$ 2,481 |
| Non-cash financing and investing activities: | | |
| Fair value of compound embedded derivative in promissory notes | \$— | \$ 12,151 |
| Fair value of common stock issued for future services | \$47,220 | \$— |
| Fair value of warrants issued | \$7,209 | \$— |
| Conversion of notes into common stock | \$124,611 | \$— |

See accompanying notes to the unaudited consolidated financial statements.

6

IZEA, Inc.
Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

NOTE 1. SUMMARY OF SIGNIFICANT ACCOUNTING POLICIES

Unaudited Interim Financial Information

The accompanying consolidated balance sheet as of March 31, 2013, the consolidated statements of operations for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012, the consolidated statement of stockholders' deficit for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and the consolidated statements of cash flows for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012 are unaudited but include all adjustments that are, in the opinion of management, necessary for a fair presentation of our financial position at such dates and our results of operations and cash flows for the periods then ended in conformity with U.S. generally accepted accounting principles ("US GAAP"). The consolidated balance sheet as of December 31, 2012 has been derived from the audited consolidated financial statements at that date but, in accordance with the rules and regulations of the United States Securities and Exchange Commission ("SEC"), does not include all of the information and notes required by US GAAP for complete financial statements. Operating results for the three months ended March 31, 2013 are not necessarily indicative of results that may be expected for the entire fiscal year. These unaudited consolidated financial statements should be read in conjunction with the consolidated financial statements and notes thereto for the fiscal year ended December 31, 2012 included in the Company's Annual Report on Form 10-K filed with the SEC on March 29, 2013.

Nature of Business and Reverse Merger and Recapitalization

IZEA, Inc. (the "Company"), formerly known as IZEA Holdings, Inc. and before that, Rapid Holdings, Inc., was incorporated in Nevada on March 22, 2010. On May 12, 2011, the Company completed a share exchange pursuant to which it acquired all of the capital stock of IZEA Innovations, Inc. ("IZEA"), which became its wholly owned subsidiary. IZEA was incorporated in the state of Florida in February 2006 and was later reincorporated in the state of Delaware in September 2006 and changed its name to IZEA, Inc. from PayPerPost, Inc. on November 2, 2007. In connection with the share exchange, the Company discontinued its former business and continued the social media sponsorship business of IZEA as its sole line of business. The Company's headquarters are in Orlando, FL.

The Company is a leading company in the growing social media sponsorship ("SMS") segment of social media where a company compensates a social media publisher to share sponsored content within their social network. The Company accomplishes this by operating multiple marketplaces that include its premier platforms SocialSpark and SponsoredTweets, as well as its legacy platforms PayPerPost and InPostLinks. In 2012, the Company launched a new SMS platform called Staree and a display advertising network to use within its platforms called IZEAMedia. The Company's advertisers include a wide range of small and large businesses, including Fortune 500 companies, as well as advertising agencies. The Company's premier platforms are the focus of its current business for which it is actively developing new features. The Company generates its primary revenue through the sale of SMS to its advertisers. The Company fulfills the SMS transaction through its marketplace platforms by connecting its social media publishers such as bloggers, tweeters and mobile application users with its advertisers. The Company also generates revenue from the posting of targeted display advertising and from various service fees.

Reverse Stock Split

On July 30, 2012, the Company filed a Certificate of Change with the Secretary of State of Nevada to effect a reverse stock split of the issued and outstanding shares of its common stock at a ratio of one share for every 40 shares outstanding prior to the effective date of the reverse stock split. Additionally, the Company's total authorized shares of common stock were decreased from 500,000,000 shares to 12,500,000 shares and subsequently increased to 100,000,000 shares in February 2013. All current and historical information contained herein related to the share and per share information for the Company's common stock or stock equivalents issued on or after May 12, 2011 reflects the 1-for-40 reverse stock split of the Company's outstanding shares of common stock that became market effective on August 1, 2012.

Principles of Consolidation

The consolidated financial statements include the accounts of IZEA, Inc. as of the date of the reverse merger, and its wholly owned subsidiary, IZEA Innovations, Inc. (collectively, the "Company"). All significant intercompany balances and transactions have been eliminated in consolidation.

Going Concern and Management's Plans

The opinion of the Company's independent registered public accounting firm on the audited financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2012 contains an explanatory paragraph regarding substantial doubt about the Company's ability to continue as a going concern.

The Company has incurred significant losses from operations since inception and has a working capital deficit of \$2,053,523 and an accumulated deficit of \$23,687,252 as of March 31, 2013. Net losses for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and for the

IZEA, Inc.

Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

year ended December 31, 2012 were \$883,830 and \$4,672,638, respectively. The Company's ability to continue as a going concern is dependent upon raising capital from financing transactions. The Company's financial statements have been prepared on the basis that it is a going concern, which assumes continuity of operations and the realization of assets and satisfaction of liabilities in the ordinary course of business. The financial statements do not include any adjustments that might result if the Company was forced to discontinue its operations.

Revenues generated from the Company's operations are not presently sufficient to sustain its operations. Therefore, the Company will need to raise additional capital to fund its operations and repay its \$75,000 promissory note (see Note 2) through various financing transactions in order to continue its operations. Financing transactions may include the issuance of equity or convertible debt securities, obtaining credit facilities, or other financing alternatives. On February 4, 2013, the Company issued 773,983 shares of its common stock to settle the remaining balance owed of \$112,150 on its \$550,000 senior secured promissory note. On March 1, 2013, the Company secured a credit facility with Bridge Bank N.A. whereby it can receive advances up to \$1.5 million based on 80% of eligible accounts receivable. Additionally, on April 11, 2013, the Company entered into an unsecured loan agreement with a director of the company. Pursuant to this agreement, the Company received a short term loan of \$500,000 due on May 31, 2013. The note bears interest at 7% per annum with a default rate of interest at 12% based on a 360 day year. The volatility and sharp decline in the trading price of the Company's common stock over the past year could make it more difficult to obtain financing through the issuance of equity or convertible debt securities. There can be no assurance that the Company will be successful in any future financing or that it will be available on terms that are acceptable.

Future financings through equity investments are likely to be dilutive to existing stockholders. The terms of securities the Company may issue in future capital transactions may be more favorable for its new investors. Newly issued securities, warrants and restricted stock awards may include preferences, superior voting rights and privileges senior to those of existing holders. Further, the Company may incur substantial costs in pursuing future capital and/or financing, including investment banking fees, legal and accounting fees, printing and distribution expenses and other costs. The Company may also be required to recognize non-cash liabilities in connection with certain securities it may issue, such as convertible notes and warrants, which will adversely impact the Company's financial condition. The Company's ability to obtain needed financing may be impaired by such factors as the overall level of activity in the capital markets and the Company's history of losses, which could impact the availability or cost of future financings. If the amount of capital the Company is able to raise from financing activities, together with its revenues from operations, is not sufficient to satisfy its capital needs, the Company may have to curtail its marketing and development plans and possibly cease operations.

Cash and Cash Equivalents

For purposes of the statement of cash flows, the Company considers all highly liquid debt instruments purchased with a maturity of three months or less to be cash equivalents.

Accounts Receivable and Concentration of Credit Risk

Accounts receivable are customer obligations due under normal trade terms. Uncollectability of accounts receivable is not significant since most customers are bound by contract and are required to fund the Company for all the costs of an "opportunity", defined as an order created by an advertiser for a publisher to write about the advertiser's product. If a portion of the account balance is deemed uncollectible, the Company will either write-off the amount owed or provide a reserve based on the uncollectible portion of the account. Management determines the collectability of accounts by regularly evaluating individual customer receivables and considering a customer's financial condition, credit history and current economic conditions. The Company does not have a reserve for doubtful accounts as of March 31, 2013 and December 31, 2012. Management believes that this estimate is reasonable, but there can be no assurance that the estimate will not change as a result of a change in economic conditions or business conditions within the industry, the individual customers or the Company. Any adjustments to this account are reflected in the consolidated statements of

operations as a general and administrative expense. The Company did not have any bad debt expense for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012.

Concentrations of credit risk with respect to accounts receivable are limited because a large number of geographically diverse customers make up the Company's customer base, thus spreading the trade credit risk. The Company also controls credit risk through credit approvals, credit limits and monitoring procedures. The Company performs credit evaluations of its customers but generally does not require collateral to support accounts receivable. At March 31, 2013, three customers accounted for 55% of total accounts receivable in the aggregate, each of which accounted for more than 10% of the Company's accounts receivable. At December 31, 2012, the Company had two different customers which accounted for 46% of total accounts receivable in the aggregate. The Company had no customers that accounted for more than 10% of its revenue during the three months ended March 31, 2013 and one customer that accounted for 19% of its revenue during the three months ended March 31, 2012.

IZEA, Inc.

Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

Property and Equipment

Depreciation and amortization is computed using the straight-line method and half-year convention over the estimated useful lives of the assets as follows:

| | |
|------------------------|--------------|
| Equipment | 3 years |
| Furniture and fixtures | 5 - 10 years |
| Software | 3 years |
| Leasehold improvements | 3 years |

Major additions and improvements are capitalized, while replacements, maintenance and repairs, which do not improve or extend the life of the respective assets, are expensed as incurred. When assets are retired or otherwise disposed of, related costs and accumulated depreciation and amortization are removed and any gain or loss is reported as other income or expense.

Revenue Recognition

The Company derives its revenue from three sources: revenue from an advertiser for the use of the Company's network of social media publishers to fulfill advertiser sponsor requests for a blog post, tweet, click, purchase, or action ("Sponsored Revenue"), revenue from the posting of targeted display advertising ("Media Revenue") and revenue derived from various service fees charged to advertisers and publishers ("Service Fee Revenue"). Service fees charged to advertisers are primarily related to inactivity fees for dormant accounts and fees for additional services outside of sponsored revenue. Service fees to publishers include upgrade account fees for obtaining greater visibility to advertisers in advertiser searches in the Company's platforms, early cash out fees if a publisher wishes to take proceeds earned for services from their account when the account balance is below certain minimum balance thresholds and inactivity fees for dormant accounts. Sponsored revenue is recognized and considered earned after an advertiser's opportunity is posted on the Company's websites and their request was completed and content listed, as applicable, by the Company's publishers for a requisite period of time. The requisite period ranges from 3 days for an action or tweet to 30 days for a blog. Customers may prepay for services by placing a deposit in their account with the Company. In these cases, the deposits are recorded as unearned revenue until earned as described above. Media Revenue is recognized and considered earned when the Company's publishers place targeted display advertising in blogs. Service fees are recognized immediately when the maintenance or enhancement service is performed for an advertiser or publisher. All of the Company's revenue is generated through the rendering of services and is recognized under the general guidelines of SAB Topic 13 A.1 which states that revenue will be recognized when it is realized or realizable and earned. The Company considers its revenue as generally realized or realizable and earned once i) persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, ii) services have been rendered, iii) the price to the advertiser or customer is fixed (required to be paid at a set amount that is not subject to refund or adjustment) and determinable, and iv) collectability is reasonably assured. The Company records revenue on the gross amount earned since it generally is the primary obligor in the arrangement, establishes the pricing and determines the service specifications.

Advertising Costs

Advertising costs are charged to expense as they are incurred, including payments to contact creators to promote the Company. Advertising expense charged to operations for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012 were approximately \$25,000 and \$62,000, respectively. Advertising costs are included in sales and marketing expense in the accompanying consolidated statements of operations.

Income Taxes

The Company has not recorded current income tax expense due to the generation of net operating losses. Deferred income taxes are accounted for using the balance sheet approach which requires recognition of deferred tax assets and liabilities for the expected future consequences of temporary differences between the financial reporting basis and the tax basis of assets and liabilities. A valuation allowance is provided when it is more likely than not that a deferred tax

asset will not be realized.

The Company identifies and evaluates uncertain tax positions, if any, and recognizes the impact of uncertain tax positions for which there is a less than more-likely-than-not probability of the position being upheld when reviewed by the relevant taxing authority. Such positions are deemed to be unrecognized tax benefits and a corresponding liability is established on the balance sheet. The Company has not recognized a liability for uncertain tax positions. If there were an unrecognized tax benefit, the Company would recognize interest accrued related to unrecognized tax benefits in interest expense and penalties in operating expenses. The Company's remaining open tax years subject to examination by the Internal Revenue Service include the years ended December 31, 2009 through 2011.

IZEA, Inc.
Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

Convertible Preferred Stock

The Company accounts for its convertible preferred stock under the provisions of Accounting Standards Codification ("ASC") on Distinguishing Liabilities from Equity, which sets forth the standards for how an issuer classifies and measures certain financial instruments with characteristics of both liabilities and equity. The ASC requires an issuer to classify a financial instrument that is within the scope of the ASC as a liability if such financial instrument embodies an unconditional obligation to redeem the instrument at a specified date and/or upon an event certain to occur. The Series A Convertible Preferred Stock of the Company issued in May 2011 does not have a redemption feature. Future changes in the certainty of the Company's obligation to redeem these instruments could result in a change in classification.

Derivative Financial Instruments

The Company accounts for derivative instruments in accordance with ASC 815, Derivatives and Hedging ("ASC 815"), which requires additional disclosures about the Company's objectives and strategies for using derivative instruments, how the derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for, and how the derivative instruments and related hedging items affect the financial statements. The Company does not use derivative instruments to hedge exposures to cash flow, market or foreign currency risk. Terms of convertible debt and equity instruments are reviewed to determine whether or not they contain embedded derivative instruments that are required under ASC 815 to be accounted for separately from the host contract, and recorded on the balance sheet at fair value. The fair value of derivative liabilities, if any, is required to be revalued at each reporting date, with corresponding changes in fair value recorded in current period operating results. Pursuant to ASC 815, an evaluation of specifically identified conditions is made to determine whether the fair value of warrants issued is required to be classified as equity or as a derivative liability.

Fair Value of Financial Instruments

The Company's financial instruments are recorded at fair value. Fair value is defined as the exchange price that would be received for an asset or paid to transfer a liability (an exit price) in the principal or most advantageous market for the asset or liability in an orderly transaction between market participants on the measurement date. The valuation techniques are based on observable and unobservable inputs. Observable inputs reflect readily obtainable data from independent sources, while unobservable inputs reflect certain market assumptions. There are three levels of inputs that may be used to measure fair value:

- Level 1 – Valuation based on quoted market prices in active markets for identical assets and liabilities.
- Level 2 – Valuation based on quoted market prices for similar assets and liabilities in active markets.
- Level 3 – Valuation based on unobservable inputs that are supported by little or no market activity, therefore requiring management's best estimate of what market participants would use as fair value.

Fair value estimates discussed herein are based upon certain market assumptions and pertinent information available to management. The Company does not have any Level 1 or 2 financial assets or liabilities. The Company's Level 3 financial liabilities measured at fair value consisted of the warrant liability as of March 31, 2013 (see Note 3).

Significant unobservable inputs used in the fair value measurement of the warrants include the estimated term. Significant increases (decreases) in the estimated remaining period to exercise would result in a significantly higher (lower) fair value measurement.

In developing our credit risk assumption, consideration was made of publicly available bond rates and US Treasury Yields. However, since the Company does not have a formal credit-standing, management estimated its standing among various reported levels and grades for use in the model. During all periods, management estimated that the Company's standing was in the speculative to high-risk grades (BB- to CCC in the Standard and Poor's Rating). A significant increase (decrease) in the risk-adjusted interest rate could result in a significantly lower (higher) fair value

measurement.

The respective carrying value of certain on-balance-sheet financial instruments approximated their fair values due to the short-term nature of these instruments. These financial instruments include cash and cash equivalents, accounts receivable, accounts payable and accrued expenses. The fair value of the Company's notes payable and capital lease obligations approximate their carrying value based upon current rates available to the Company.

Stock-Based Compensation

Stock-based compensation cost related to stock options granted under the May 2011 and August 2011 Plans (together the "2011 Equity Incentive Plans") (see Note 4) is measured at grant date, based on the fair value of the award, and is recognized as an expense over the employee's requisite service period. The Company estimates the fair value of each option award on the date of grant using a Black-Scholes option-pricing model that uses the assumptions noted in the table below. The Company estimates

10

IZEA, Inc.

Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

the fair value of its common stock using the closing stock price of its common stock as quoted in the OTCQB marketplace on the date of the agreement. Prior to April 1, 2012, due to limited trading history and volume, the Company estimated the fair value of its common stock using recent independent valuations or the value paid in equity financing transactions. The Company estimates the volatility of its common stock at the date of grant based on the volatility of comparable peer companies that are publicly traded and have had a longer trading history than itself. The Company determines the expected life based on historical experience with similar awards, giving consideration to the contractual terms, vesting schedules and post-vesting forfeitures. The Company uses the risk-free interest rate on the implied yield currently available on U.S. Treasury issues with an equivalent remaining term approximately equal to the expected life of the award. The Company has never paid any cash dividends on its common stock and does not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. The Company used the following assumptions for options granted under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plans during the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012:

| 2011 Equity Incentive Plan Assumptions | Three Months Ended | |
|--|--------------------|-------------------|
| | March 31, 2013 | March 31, 2012 |
| Expected term | 10 years | 5 years |
| Weighted average volatility | 52.72% | 54.85% |
| Weighted average risk free interest rate | 1.91% | 0.82% |
| Expected dividends | — | — |

The Company estimates forfeitures when recognizing compensation expense and this estimate of forfeitures is adjusted over the requisite service period based on the extent to which actual forfeitures differ, or are expected to differ, from such estimates. Changes in estimated forfeitures are recognized through a cumulative catch-up adjustment, which is recognized in the period of change, and also impact the amount of unamortized compensation expense to be recognized in future periods. Current average expected forfeiture rates were 50.21% during the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012.

Non-Employee Stock-Based Compensation

The Company's accounting policy for equity instruments issued to consultants and vendors in exchange for goods and services follows the provisions of ASC 505, "Equity-Based Payments to Non-Employees." The measurement date for the fair value of the equity instruments issued is determined at the earlier of (i) the date at which a commitment for performance by the consultant or vendor is reached or (ii) the date at which the consultant or vendor's performance is complete. The fair value of equity instruments issued to consultants that vest immediately is expensed when issued. The fair value of equity instruments issued to consultants that have future vesting and are subject to forfeiture if performance does not occur is recognized as expense over the vesting period. Fair values for the unvested portion of issued instruments are adjusted each reporting period. The change in fair value is recorded to additional paid-in capital. Stock-based compensation related to non-employees is accounted for based on the fair value of the related stock or the fair value of the services, whichever is more readily determinable.

Segment Information

The Company does not identify separate operating segments for management reporting purposes. The results of operations are the basis on which management evaluates operations and makes business decisions.

Use of Estimates

The preparation of financial statements in conformity with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America requires management to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets and liabilities and disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities at the date of the financial statements and the reported amounts of revenues and expenses during the reporting period. Actual results could differ from those estimates.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

There are several new accounting pronouncements issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") which are not yet effective. Management does not believe any of these accounting pronouncements will be applicable and therefore will not have a material impact on the Company's financial position or operating results.

Reclassifications

Certain items have been reclassified in the 2012 financial statements to conform to the 2013 presentation.

IZEA, Inc.
Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

NOTE 2. NOTES PAYABLE

Notes Payable – Related Parties

On February 3, 2012, the Company issued a senior secured promissory note in the principal amount of \$550,000 with an original issuance discount of \$50,000, plus \$3,500 in lender fees to two of its existing shareholders. In connection with the note, the Company incurred expenses of \$21,800 for legal and other fees. Accordingly, net cash proceeds from the note amounted to \$474,700. Unless earlier converted, exchanged or prepaid, the note matured on February 2, 2013. The holders were permitted to convert the outstanding principal amount of the note at a conversion price of 90% of the closing price of the Company's common stock, subject to further adjustment in the case of stock splits, reclassifications, reorganizations, certain issuances at less than the conversion price and the like, without limitation on the number of shares that could potentially be issued. From October 2012 through December 2012, the noteholders of this promissory note, converted \$437,850 of note value into 2,069,439 shares of common stock at an average conversion rate of \$.21 per share. On February 4, 2013, the Company satisfied all of its remaining obligations under this note when the noteholders converted the final balance owed of \$112,150 into 773,983 shares of common stock at an average conversion rate of \$.145 per share.

On May 4, 2012, the Company issued a 30-day promissory note to two of its existing shareholders in the principal amount of \$75,000, incurring \$6,000 in expenses for legal fees, which resulted in net proceeds of \$69,000. In June 2012, the note was extended until December 4, 2012 and the parties agreed that the noteholders could convert the note at any time on or before the maturity date into shares of common stock at a conversion price equal to the lower of (i) \$5.00 per share or (ii) 90% of the then market price based on a volume weighted average price per share of the Company's common stock for the ten trading days prior to the conversion date. The note bears interest at a rate of 8% per annum. The noteholders did not elect to convert this note and the Company was not able to pay the balance owed upon its maturity on December 4, 2012. Therefore, the conversion feature expired and the note is currently in default bearing interest at the default rate of 18% per annum. The amount owed on this note as of March 31, 2013 was \$75,000, plus \$7,336 in accrued interest.

Proceeds from the note financings were allocated first to the embedded conversion option (see Note 3) that required bifurcation and recognition as a liability at fair value and then to the carrying value of the notes. The carrying value of the notes is subject to amortization, through charges to interest expense, over the term to maturity using the effective interest method.

Bridge Bank Credit Agreement

On March 1, 2013, the Company entered into a secured credit facility agreement with Bridge Bank, N.A. of San Jose, California. Pursuant to this agreement, the Company may submit requests for funding up to 80% of its eligible accounts receivable up to a maximum advance of \$1.5 million. This agreement is secured by the Company's accounts receivable and substantially all of the Company's assets. The agreement requires the Company to pay an annual facility fee of \$7,500 (0.5% of the credit facility) and an annual due diligence fee of \$1,000. Interest accrues on the advances at the prime rate plus 2% per annum. The default rate of interest is prime plus 7%. If the agreement is terminated prior to March 1, 2014, then the Company will be required to pay a termination fee of \$18,750 (1% of the credit limit divided by 80%). In connection with this agreement, the Company incurred \$31,301 in costs related to the loan acquisition. These costs have been capitalized in the Company's consolidated balance sheet as deferred finance costs and are being amortized to interest expense over one year. As of March 31, 2013, the Company had \$193,890 outstanding under this agreement.

During the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012, interest expense on all the notes amounted to \$9,124 and \$10,371, respectively. Direct finance costs allocated to the embedded derivatives were expensed in full upon issuance of the notes. Direct finance costs allocated to the notes are subject to amortization, through charges to interest

expense, using the effective interest method. During the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012, interest expense related to the amortization of finance costs amounted to \$4,485 and \$3,893, respectively.

NOTE 3. DERIVATIVE FINANCIAL INSTRUMENTS

Derivative financial instruments are defined as financial instruments or other contracts that contain a notional amount and one or more underlying (e.g. interest rate, security price or other variable), require no initial net investment and permit net settlement. Derivative financial instruments may be free-standing or embedded in other financial instruments. Further, derivative financial instruments are initially, and subsequently, measured at fair value and recorded as liabilities or, in rare instances, assets. The Company generally does not use derivative financial instruments to hedge exposures to cash-flow, market or foreign-currency risks. However, the Company entered into financing transactions in prior periods that gave rise to derivative liabilities. These financial instruments are carried as derivative liabilities, at fair value, in the Company's financial statements. Changes in the fair value of derivative financial instruments are required to be recorded in other income in the period of change. Accordingly, all

IZEA, Inc.

Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

income and expense amounts discussed below are reflected in the Company's consolidated statements of operations in other income under loss on exchange of warrants or change in fair value of derivatives.

The following table summarizes the Company's activity and fair value calculations of its derivative warrants and convertible promissory notes for the three months ended March 31, 2013:

| | Linked Common Shares to Derivative Warrants | Warrant Liability | Linked Common Shares to Promissory Notes | Compound Embedded Derivatives |
|---------------------------------------|--|----------------------|--|-------------------------------------|
| Balance, December 31, 2012 | 128,350 | \$2,750 | 537,146 | \$11,817 |
| Exchange of warrants for common stock | (4,546 |)— | — | — |
| Conversion of notes into common stock | — | — | (773,983 |)(12,461 |
| Change in fair value of derivatives | — | 7,480 | 236,837 | 644 |
| Balance, March 31, 2013 | 123,804 | \$10,230 | — | \$— |

The Company calculated the fair value of its warrant liability and compound embedded derivatives using the valuation methods and inputs described below.

Warrant Liability

In applying current accounting standards to 153,882 warrant shares issued in its May 2011 Offering, 110,000 warrant shares issued in its September 2012 public offering and 250 warrant shares issued in July 2011 during a customer list acquisition, the Company determined that these warrants require classification as a liability due to certain registration rights and listing requirements in the agreements.

During the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012, the Company recorded expense of \$7,480 and income of \$104,697, respectively, due to the change in the fair value of its warrants.

In February 2013, pursuant to a private transaction with a warrant holder, the Company redeemed a warrant to purchase 4,546 shares of common stock for the same number of shares without the Company receiving any further cash consideration. The redemption was treated as an exchange wherein the fair value of the newly issued common stock was recorded and the difference between that and the zero carrying value of the warrant received in the exchange was recorded in the Company's consolidated statements of operations in other income under loss on exchange of warrants. As a result of the exchange, the Company recognized a loss on the exchange of the warrant in the amount \$732 during the three months ended March 31, 2013.

The derivative warrants were valued using a Binomial Lattice Option Valuation Technique ("Binomial"). Significant inputs into this technique as of December 31, 2012 and March 31, 2013 are as follows:

| Binomial Assumptions | December 31, 2012 | March 31, 2013 |
|--|----------------------|-------------------|
| Fair market value of asset ⁽¹⁾ | \$0.22 | \$0.46 |
| Exercise price | \$1.25 | \$1.25 |
| Term ⁽²⁾ | 4.7 years | 4.4 years |
| Implied expected life ⁽³⁾ | 4.6 years | 4.4 years |
| Volatility range of inputs ⁽⁴⁾ | 45.82%--84.21% | 49.74%--79.54% |
| Equivalent volatility ⁽³⁾ | 60.20% | 57.1% |
| Risk-free interest rate range of inputs ⁽⁵⁾ | 0.11%--0.72% | 0.07%--0.77% |
| Equivalent risk-free interest rate ⁽³⁾ | 0.32% | 0.27% |

- (1) The fair market value of the asset was determined by using the Company's closing stock price as reflected in the over-the-counter market.
- (2) The term is the contractual remaining term, allocated among twelve equal intervals for purposes of calculating other inputs, such as volatility and risk-free rate.
- (3) The implied expected life, and equivalent volatility and risk-free interest rate amounts are derived from the Binomial.

IZEA, Inc.

Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

(4) The Company does not have a market trading history upon which to base its forward-looking volatility. Accordingly, the Company selected peer companies that provided a reasonable basis upon which to calculate volatility for each of the intervals described in (2), above.

(5) The risk-free rates used for inputs represent the yields on zero coupon US Government Securities with periods to maturity consistent with the intervals described in (2), above.

Compound Embedded Derivative

The Company concluded that the compound embedded derivative in its \$550,000 senior secured promissory note issued on February 3, 2012 and its \$75,000 convertible promissory note as modified on June 6, 2012 (see Note 2) required bifurcation and liability classification as derivative financial instruments because they were not considered indexed to the Company's own stock as defined in ASC 815, Derivatives and Hedging. The noteholders did not elect to convert the \$75,000 convertible promissory note prior its maturity date on December 4, 2012. Therefore, the conversion feature expired and no further derivative valuation is required. On February 4, 2013, the Company satisfied all of its remaining obligations under its \$550,000 senior secured promissory note when the noteholders converted the final balance owed of \$112,150 into 773,983 shares of common stock at an average conversion rate of \$.145 per share. The Company recorded the \$12,461 value of the compound embedded derivative on the conversion date as a charge to additional paid-in capital. The Company recorded expense resulting from the change in the fair value of the compound embedded derivatives during the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012 in the amount of \$644 and \$13,710, respectively.

The Monte Carlo Simulation ("MCS") technique was used to calculate the fair value of the compound embedded derivatives because it provides for the necessary assumptions and inputs. The MCS technique, which is an option-based model, is a generally accepted valuation technique for valuing embedded conversion features in hybrid convertible notes, because it is an open-ended valuation model that embodies all significant assumption types, and ranges of assumption inputs that the Company agrees would likely be considered in connection with the arms-length negotiation related to the transference of the instrument by market participants. In addition to the typical assumptions in a closed-end option model, such as volatility and a risk free rate, MCS incorporates assumptions for interest risk, credit risk and redemption behavior. In addition, MCS breaks down the time to expiration into potentially a large population of time intervals and steps. However, there may be other circumstances or considerations, other than those addressed herein, that relate to both internal and external factors that would be considered by market participants as it relates specifically to the Company and the subject financial instruments. The effects, if any, of these considerations cannot be reasonably measured, quantified or qualified.

The following table shows the summary calculations arriving at the compound embedded derivative value as of December 31, 2012 and on the final conversion date of February 4, 2013. See the assumption details for the composition of these calculations.

| Compound Embedded Derivative | December 31, February 4, | |
|--|--------------------------|-----------|
| | 2012 | 2013 |
| Notional amount | \$106,355 | \$112,150 |
| Conversion price | 0.198 | 0.145 |
| Linked common shares ⁽¹⁾ | 537,146 | 773,983 |
| MCS value per linked common share ⁽²⁾ | 0.022 | 0.016 |
| Total | \$11,817 | \$12,461 |

(1) The Compound Embedded Derivative is linked to a variable number of common shares based upon a percentage of the Company's closing stock price as reflected in the over-the-counter market. The number of linked shares increased as the trading market price decreased and decreased as the trading market price increased.

(2) The Note embodied a contingent conversion feature that was predicated upon a financing transaction that was planned for a date between the issuance date and March 2, 2012. If the financing occurred, the maturity date of the Note was August 2, 2012. If the financing did not occur, the maturity date of the Note was February 2, 2013. While, in hindsight, the financing did not occur, the calculation of value must consider that on the issuance date the contingency was present and resulted in multiple scenarios of outcome as it related to the conversion feature subject to bifurcation. The mechanism for building this contingency into the MCS value was to perform two separate calculations of value and weight them on a reasonable basis.

The significant inputs into the Monte Carlo Simulation used to calculate the compound embedded derivative values as of December 31, 2012 and on the final conversion date of February 4, 2013 are as follows:

14

IZEA, Inc.

Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

| Monte Carlo Assumptions | December 31, 2012 | February 4, 2013 (7) |
|--|----------------------|-------------------------|
| Fair market value of asset ⁽¹⁾ | \$0.22 | \$0.16 |
| Conversion price | \$0.20 | \$0.14 |
| Term ⁽²⁾ | 0.09 years | n/a |
| Implied expected life ⁽³⁾ | 0.09 years | n/a |
| Volatility range of inputs ⁽⁴⁾ | 16.12%--40.17% | n/a |
| Equivalent volatility ⁽³⁾ | 30.7% | n/a |
| Risk adjusted interest rate range of inputs ⁽⁵⁾ | 10.00% | n/a |
| Equivalent risk-adjusted interest rate ⁽³⁾ | 10.00% | n/a |
| Credit risk-adjusted interest rate ⁽⁶⁾ | 15.63% | n/a |

(1) The fair market value of the asset was determined by using the Company's closing stock price as reflected in the over-the-counter market.

(2) The term is the contractual remaining term, allocated among twelve equal intervals for purposes of calculating other inputs, such as volatility and risk-free rate.

(3) The implied expected life, and equivalent volatility and risk-free risk-adjusted interest rate amounts are derived from the MCS.

(4) The Company does not have a market trading history upon which to base its forward-looking volatility. Accordingly, the Company selected peer companies that provided a reasonable basis upon which to calculate volatility for each of the intervals described in (2) above.

(5) CED's bifurcated from debt instruments are expected to contain an element of market interest risk. That is, the risk that market driven interest rates will change during the term of a fixed rate debt instrument.

(6) The Company utilized a yield approach in developing its credit risk assumption. The yield approach assumes that the investor's yield on the instrument embodies a risk component, generally, equal to the difference between the actual yield and the yield for a similar instrument without regard to risk.

(7) Monte Carlo inputs are "n/a" on expiration date of February 4, 2013 since only intrinsic value remains. There is no time value left, so the use of an option model is not necessary.

NOTE 4. STOCKHOLDERS' DEFICIT

On February 6, 2013, the Company's Board of Directors and holders of a majority of the outstanding shares of common stock of the Company approved an increase in the number of authorized shares of common stock of the Company from 12,500,000 shares to 100,000,000 shares (the "Share Increase"). The Company amended its Articles of Incorporation to effect the Share Increase by filing a Certificate of Amendment with the Nevada Secretary of State on February 11, 2013. The Company has authorized 10,000,000 shares of preferred stock with a par value of \$0.0001 of which 240 shares were designated as Series A Convertible Preferred Stock on May 25, 2011.

Convertible Securities

From October 2012 through December 2012, the noteholders on the Company's \$550,000 senior secured promissory note converted \$437,850 of note value into 2,069,439 shares of common stock at an average conversion rate of \$.21

per share. The Company recorded the related \$83,663 value of the compound embedded derivative on the converted portion as a charge to additional paid-in capital. On February 4, 2013, the Company satisfied all of its remaining obligations under its \$550,000 senior secured promissory note when the noteholders converted the final balance owed of \$112,150 into 773,983 shares of common stock at an average conversion rate of \$.145 per share. The Company recorded the \$12,461 value of the compound embedded derivative on the conversion date as a charge to additional paid-in capital.

IZEA, Inc.

Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

Warrant Transactions

In February 2013, pursuant to a private transaction with a warrant holder, the Company redeemed a warrant to purchase 4,546 shares of common stock for the same number of shares without the Company receiving any further cash consideration. As a result of the exchange, the Company recognized a loss on the exchange of the warrant in the amount \$732 during the three months ended March 31, 2013 (see Note 3).

On March 1, 2013, the Company entered into a \$1.5 million secured credit facility agreement with Bridge Bank, N.A. of San Jose, California. In connection with this agreement, the Company issued a warrant with an expiration date after 5 years to purchase up to 58,139 shares of common stock for \$15,000 (\$.258 per share). This warrant met the conditions for equity classification and the fair value of \$7,209, as determined using a binomial lattice option valuation technique, was recorded in the Company's consolidated balance sheet as an increase in deferred finance costs and additional paid-in capital.

Stock Options

On May 12, 2011, the Company adopted the 2011 Equity Incentive Plan of IZEA, Inc. (the "May 2011 Plan") that authorizes, subsequent to the latest amendment on February 6, 2013, 11,613,715 shares of common stock to be granted for future stock awards to employees, directors or contractors. As of March 31, 2013, the Company had 9,088,138 shares of common stock available for future grants under the May 2011 Plan.

On August 22, 2011, the Company adopted the 2011 B Equity Incentive Plan of IZEA, Inc. (the "August 2011 Plan") reserving for issuance an aggregate of 87,500 shares of common stock under the August 2011 Plan. As of March 31, 2013, the Company had 50,000 shares of common stock available for for future grants under the August 2011 Plan.

Under both the May 2011 Plan and the August 2011 Plan (together the "2011 Equity Incentive Plans"), the board of directors determines the exercise price to be paid for the shares, the period within which each option may be exercised, and the terms and conditions of each option. The exercise price of the incentive and non-qualified stock options may not be less than 100% of the fair market value per share of the Company's common stock on the grant date. If an individual owns stock representing more than 10% of the outstanding shares, the price of each share of an incentive stock option must be equal to or exceed 110% of fair market value. Unless otherwise determined by the board of directors at the time of grant, the right to purchase shares covered by any options under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plans typically vest over the requisite service period as follows: 25% of options shall vest one year from the date of grant and the remaining options shall vest monthly, in equal increments over the following 3 years. The term of the options is up to 10 years. The Company issues new shares to the optionee for any stock awards or options exercised pursuant to its equity incentive plans.

On March 18, 2013, the Company entered into an agreement with a consultant to provide business advisory and support services. In exchange for the services, the Company granted the consultant a non-qualified stock option under its May 2011 Plan to purchase 1,000,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$0.25 per share. The option vests in equal quarterly installments of 62,500 over 4 years beginning on March 18, 2013 and expires 10 years after the date of grant. Additionally, the Company will accrue a fee of \$10,000 per month that will become due and payable after the Company raises gross proceeds of at least \$1,000,000 through new debt or equity financing. This agreement may be terminated at any time by either party without penalty and all accrued but unpaid fees will be immediately due and payable. Upon a termination of the consulting agreement, the option agreement will be canceled as to any unvested options, and all vested options will be deemed as earned.

IZEA, Inc.

Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

A summary of option activity under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plans for the year ended December 31, 2012 and the three months ended March 31, 2013 is presented below:

| Options Outstanding | Common Shares | Weighted Average Exercise Price | Weighted Average Remaining Life (Years) |
|----------------------------------|---------------|---------------------------------|---|
| Outstanding at December 31, 2011 | 114,445 | \$17.61 | 4.4 |
| Granted | 378,293 | 5.74 | |
| Exercised | (551) | 2.00 | |
| Forfeited | (100,210) | 18.81 | |
| Outstanding at December 31, 2012 | 391,977 | \$5.87 | 4.3 |
| Granted | 2,170,834 | 0.25 | |
| Exercised | — | — | |
| Forfeited | (968) | 17.09 | |
| Outstanding at March 31, 2013 | 2,561,843 | \$1.10 | 9.0 |
| Exercisable at March 31, 2013 | 152,257 | \$3.75 | 6.4 |

During the year ended December 31, 2012, options were exercised into 551 shares of the Company's common stock for cash proceeds of \$1,099. The intrinsic value of these options was \$5,769. During the three months ended March 31, 2013, no options were exercised. There is no aggregate intrinsic value on the outstanding or exercisable options as of March 31, 2013 since the weighted average exercise price exceeded the fair value on such date.

A summary of the nonvested stock option activity under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plans for the year ended December 31, 2012 and the three months ended March 31, 2013 is presented below:

| Nonvested Options | Common Shares | Weighted Average Grant Date Fair Value | Weighted Average Remaining Years to Vest |
|--------------------------------|---------------|--|--|
| Nonvested at December 31, 2011 | 57,516 | \$2.73 | 2.5 |
| Granted | 378,293 | 2.17 | |
| Vested | (83,429) | 2.26 | |
| Forfeited | (43,753) | 2.78 | |
| Nonvested at December 31, 2012 | 308,627 | \$2.17 | 2.9 |
| Granted | 2,170,834 | 0.09 | |
| Vested | (68,907) | 0.21 | |
| Forfeited | (968) | 2.72 | |
| Nonvested at March 31, 2013 | 2,409,586 | \$0.35 | 2.9 |

Stock-based compensation cost related to stock options granted under the 2011 Equity Incentive Plans is measured at grant date, based on the fair value of the award, and is recognized as an expense over the employee's requisite service period. The Company estimates the fair value of each option award on the date of grant using a Black-Scholes option-pricing model that uses the assumptions stated in Note 1. Total stock-based compensation expense recognized on awards outstanding during the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012 was \$39,460 and \$34,410, respectively. Future compensation related to nonvested awards expected to vest of \$411,054 is estimated to be recognized over the weighted-average vesting period of 3 years.

Restricted Stock Issued for Services

In May 2012 and July 2012, the Company entered into seven agreements for celebrity endorsements of the Company's products and services whereby the Company paid cash of \$100,000 and issued a total of 135,521 shares of restricted common stock. In the majority of the agreements, the restricted stock vested 25% immediately upon the signing of the agreements and then vests 6.25% per month over the following twelve months during the term of the agreements.

On June 12, 2012, the Company issued 1,200 shares of restricted common stock to its investors' counsel in order to pay for legal services totaling \$6,000 related to the issuance of the \$75,000 convertible promissory note.

IZEA, Inc.

Notes to the Unaudited Consolidated Financial Statements

On July 2, 2012, the Company issued 71,221 shares of restricted common stock to its former legal counsel in order to pay for general legal services totaling \$356,103.

In August and September 2012, the Company issued 35,000 and 69,445 shares of restricted common stock as a result of a stock subscription agreement with its director, Brian Brady, as detailed above.

On January 3, 2013, the Company issued 60,000 shares of restricted stock pursuant to a twelve-month compensation arrangement with Mitchel J. Laskey for his service as a director and Chairman of the Company's Board of Directors.

On January 3, 2013, the Company issued 20,000 shares of restricted stock valued at \$4,820 in order to pay for a small asset purchase.

Effective January 3, 2013, the Company entered into a twelve-month agreement to pay \$4,000 per month beginning January 2013 to a firm who would provide investor relations services. In accordance with the agreement, the Company issued 100,000 shares of restricted common stock on January 15, 2013 and agreed to issue an additional 100,000 restricted shares on or before July 15, 2013. This agreement was mutually terminated on May 1, 2013 for no further cash consideration with the Company agreeing to issue the final installment of 100,000 shares of restricted common stock upon the termination of the agreement.

The following tables contain summarized information about nonvested restricted stock outstanding at March 31, 2013:

| | |
|--------------------------------|---------------|
| Restricted Stock | Common Shares |
| Nonvested at December 31, 2011 | — |
| Granted | 312,387 |
| Vested | (263,805) |
| Forfeited | — |
| Nonvested at December 31, 2012 | 48,582 |
| Granted | 180,000 |
| Vested | (124,850) |
| Forfeited | — |
| Nonvested at March 31, 2013 | 103,732 |

Total stock-based compensation expense recognized for restricted awards issued for services during the three months ended March 31, 2013 was \$39,105 of which \$8,125 is included in sales and marketing expense and \$30,980 is included in general and administrative expense in the consolidated statements of operations. The fair value of the services are based on the value of the Company's common stock over the term of service. Future compensation related to issued but nonvested restricted awards expected to vest over the remaining individual vesting periods of up to three months was \$47,717 as of March 31, 2013. The fair value of the restricted stock issued during the three months ended March 31, 2013 was \$47,220 and the change in the fair value of the issued but nonvested shares was \$28,915.

NOTE 5. LOSS PER COMMON SHARE

Net losses were reported during the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012. As such, the Company excluded the following items from the computation of diluted loss per common share as their effect would be anti-dilutive:

| | | |
|---------------|--------------------|---------|
| | Three Months Ended | |
| | March 31, | |
| | 2013 | 2012 |
| Stock options | 2,561,843 | 112,930 |

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| | | |
|--|-----------|---------|
| Warrants | 182,027 | 154,216 |
| Potential conversion of Series A convertible preferred stock | 3,788 | 174,243 |
| Potential conversion of promissory note payable | — | 31,829 |
| Total excluded shares | 2,747,658 | 473,218 |

Table of Contents

NOTE 6. RELATED PARTY TRANSACTIONS

On December 26, 2012, Mitchel J. Laskey was elected to the Company's Board of Directors. He was then appointed as the Chairman of the Board, Chairman of the Audit Committee and as a member of the Compensation and Nominating Committees. Upon his appointment, the Board approved a twelve-month compensation arrangement whereby Mr. Laskey would receive \$10,000 cash per month, 60,000 restricted stock units in January 2013, 60,000 restricted stock units in June 2013 and up to 120,000 in additional restricted stock units to be issued at the discretion of the disinterested members of the compensation committee for Mr. Laskey's service as Chairman of the Board. Mr. Laskey resigned from the Company's Board of Directors and all his related positions on April 24, 2013. Upon his resignation, he forfeited the right to receive any further cash or stock compensation.

NOTE 7. SUBSEQUENT EVENTS

No material events have occurred since March 31, 2013 that require recognition or disclosure in the financial statements, except as follows:

On April 11, 2013, the Company entered into an unsecured loan agreement with Brian W. Brady, a director of the Company. Pursuant to this agreement, the Company received a short term loan of \$500,000 due on May 31, 2013. The note bears interest at 7% per annum with a default rate of interest at 12% based on a 360-day year. The proceeds from this loan were used to pay off the outstanding balance on the Bridge Bank facility and to pay for operating expenses. The terms of the agreement are consistent or better than the terms of other note agreements that the Company has created in recent years. The loan agreement was approved by the disinterested members of the Company's Board of Directors.

Table of Contents

ITEM 2 – MANAGEMENT’S DISCUSSION AND ANALYSIS OF FINANCIAL CONDITION AND RESULTS OF OPERATIONS

Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Information

The following discussion and analysis is provided to increase the understanding of, and should be read in conjunction with, our consolidated financial statements and related notes included elsewhere in this Report. Historical results and percentage relationships among any amounts in these financial statements are not necessarily indicative of trends in operating results for any future period. This report contains “forward-looking statements.” The statements, which are not historical facts contained in this report, including this Management’s Discussion and Analysis of Financial Condition and Results of Operations, and notes to our consolidated financial statements, particularly those that utilize terminology such as “may” “will,” “should,” “expects,” “anticipates,” “estimates,” “believes,” or “plans” or comparable terms are forward-looking statements. Such statements are based on currently available operating, financial and competitive information, and are subject to various risks and uncertainties. Future events and our actual results may differ materially from the results reflected in these forward-looking statements. Factors that might cause such a difference include, but are not limited to, our ability to raise additional funding, our ability to maintain and grow our business, variability of operating results, our ability to maintain and enhance our brand, our expansion and development of new products and services, marketing and other business development initiatives, competition in the industry, general government regulation, economic conditions, dependence on key personnel, the ability to attract, hire and retain personnel who possess the technical skills and experience necessary to meet the service requirements of our clients, our ability to protect our intellectual property, the potential liability with respect to actions taken by our existing and past employees, risks associated with international sales, and other risks described herein and in our other filings with the Securities and Exchange Commission.

The safe harbor for forward-looking statements provided by Section 21E of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 excludes issuers of “penny stock” (as defined in Rule 3a51-1 under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934). Our common stock currently falls within that definition. All forward-looking statements in this document are based on information currently available to us as of the date of this report, and we assume no obligation to update any forward-looking statements. Forward-looking statements involve known and unknown risks, uncertainties and other factors that may cause the actual results to differ materially from any future results, performance or achievements expressed or implied by such forward-looking statements.

Company History

IZEA, Inc., formerly known as IZEA Holdings, Inc., and before that Rapid Holdings, Inc., was incorporated in Nevada on March 22, 2010. On May 12, 2011, we completed a share exchange pursuant to which we acquired all of the capital stock of IZEA Innovations, Inc. ("IZEA"), which became our wholly owned subsidiary. IZEA was incorporated in the state of Florida in February 2006 and was later reincorporated in the state of Delaware in September 2006 and changed its name to IZEA, Inc. from PayPerPost, Inc. on November 2, 2007. In connection with the share exchange, we discontinued our former business and continued the SMS business of IZEA as our sole line of business (collectively, the "Company").

On July 30, 2012, we filed a Certificate of Change with the Secretary of State of Nevada to effect a reverse stock split of the issued and outstanding shares of our common stock at a ratio of one share for every 40 shares outstanding prior to the effective date of the reverse stock split. Additionally, our total authorized shares of common stock were decreased from 500,000,000 shares to 12,500,000 shares and subsequently increased to 100,000,000 shares in February 2013. All current and historical information contained herein related to the share and per share information for our common stock or stock equivalents issued on or after May 12, 2011 reflects the 1-for-40 reverse stock split of our outstanding shares of common stock that became market effective on August 1, 2012.

Company Overview

We are a leading company in the growing social media sponsorship (SMS) segment of social media, operating multiple marketplaces that include our premier platforms SocialSpark and SponsoredTweets, as well as our legacy platforms PayPerPost and InPostLinks. In the last year, we launched a new SMS platform called Staree and a display advertising network to use within our platforms called IZEAMedia. The practice of SMS is when a company compensates a social media publisher to share sponsored content within their social network. Our premier platforms are the focus of our current business for which we are actively developing new features. We generate our primary revenue through the sale of SMS to our advertisers. We fulfill the SMS transaction through our marketplace platforms by connecting our social media publishers such as bloggers, tweeters and mobile application users with our advertisers. We also generate revenue from the posting of targeted display advertising and from various service fees.

Table of Contents

Results of Operations for the Three Months Ended March 31, 2013 Compared to the Three Months Ended March 31, 2012

| | Three Months Ended | | \$ Change | % Change | |
|--|--------------------|----------------|-------------|----------|----|
| | March 31, 2013 | March 31, 2012 | | | |
| Revenue | \$1,385,275 | \$1,613,654 | \$(228,379) | (14.2) |)% |
| Cost of sales | 576,102 | 659,281 | (83,179) | (12.6) |)% |
| Gross profit | 809,173 | 954,373 | (145,200) | (15.2) |)% |
| Operating expenses: | | | | | |
| General and administrative | 1,574,592 | 1,783,981 | (209,389) | (11.7) |)% |
| Sales and marketing | 94,169 | 161,826 | (67,657) | (41.8) |)% |
| Total operating expenses | 1,668,761 | 1,945,807 | (277,046) | (14.2) |)% |
| Loss from operations | (859,588) |) (991,434 |) 131,846 | 13.3 | % |
| Other income (expense): | | | | | |
| Interest expense | (15,466) |) (16,744 |) 1,278 | (7.6) |)% |
| Loss on exchange of warrants | (732) |) — | (732) | 100.0 | % |
| Change in fair value of derivatives, net | (8,124) |) 90,987 | (99,111) | (108.9) |)% |
| Other income (expense), net | 80 |) 1 | 79 | 7,900.0 | % |
| Total other income (expense) | (24,242) |) 74,244 | (98,486) | 132.7 | % |
| Net loss | \$ (883,830) |) \$ (917,190 |) \$ 33,360 | 3.6 | % |

Revenues

We derive revenue from three sources: revenue from an advertiser for the use of our network of social media publishers to fulfill advertiser sponsor requests for a blog post, tweet, click, purchase, or action ("Sponsored Revenue"), revenue from the posting of targeted display advertising ("Media Revenue") and revenue derived from various service fees charged to advertisers and publishers for maintenance and enhancement of their accounts ("Service Fee Revenue").

Revenues for the three months ended March 31, 2013 decreased by \$228,379, or (14.2)%, compared to the same period in 2012. The decrease was attributable to a \$241,000 decrease in our Sponsored Revenue, a \$3,000 decrease from Media Revenue and a \$16,000 increase in Service Fee Revenue. In the three months ended March 31, 2013, Sponsored Revenue was 85%, Media Revenue was 4% and Service Fee Revenue was 11% of total revenue compared to Sponsored Revenue of 88%, Media Revenue of 4% and Service Fee Revenue of 8% of total revenue in the three months ended March 31, 2012. The decrease in Sponsored Revenue was primarily attributable to a higher than average sales quarter in the first quarter in 2012. Average quarterly sales during 2012 was approximately \$1.2 million. The higher sales for the three months ended March 31, 2012, resulted from an increase in number of our executive sales team in Orlando, New York City, Chicago, Seattle and Dallas which produced an increase in the number of customers starting campaigns and an increase in the average revenue per customer. Service fees increased in the three months ended March 31, 2013 due to more fees received from advertisers.

Although revenue for the three months ended March 31, 2013 is lower than the comparable prior year quarter, actual net bookings were 10% higher. Net bookings is a measure of sales and contracts minus any cancellations or refunds in a given period. Management uses net bookings as a leading indicator of future revenue recognition as revenue is typically recognized within 90 days of booking. We experienced higher bookings as a result of new customers, larger campaigns and an increase in repeat clients.

Cost of Sales and Gross Profit

Our cost of sales comprise primarily of amounts paid to our social media publishers for fulfilling an advertiser's sponsor request for a blog post, tweet, click, purchase or action.

Cost of sales for the three months ended March 31, 2013 decreased by \$83,179, or (12.6)%, compared to the same period in 2012. Cost of sales decreased as a direct result of the decrease in our Sponsored Revenue and the direct publisher costs to generate such revenue.

Table of Contents

Gross profit for the three months ended March 31, 2013 decreased by \$145,200, or (15.2)%, compared to the same period in 2012. Additionally, our gross margin declined by one percentage point from 59% for the three months ended March 31, 2012 to 58% for the same period in 2013. The gross margin decrease was primarily attributable to slightly higher spending on our managed advertiser campaigns in 2013.

Operating Expenses

Operating expenses consist of general and administrative, and sales and marketing expenses. Total operating expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2013 decreased by \$277,046, or (14.2)%, compared to the same period in 2012. The decrease was primarily attributable to lower payroll, travel and rent expenses along with decreases in promotional marketing expenses.

General and administrative expenses consist primarily of payroll, general operating costs, public company costs, facilities costs, insurance, depreciation, professional fees, and investor relations fees. General and administrative expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2013 decreased by \$209,389 or (11.7)%, compared to the same period in 2012. The decrease was primarily attributable to a \$53,000 decrease in rent and office related expense with the reduction of outside office locations in mid-2012 and the move of our corporate headquarters in December 2012, a \$143,000 decrease in payroll, personnel and related benefit expenses due to fewer outside sales personnel and staff employees, a \$19,000 decrease in travel related to less personnel in multiple locations and less travel by executives.

Sales and marketing expenses consist primarily of compensation for sales and marketing and related support resources, sales commissions and trade show expenses. Sales and marketing expenses for the three months ended March 31, 2013 decreased by \$67,657 or (41.8)%, compared to the same period in 2012. The decrease was primarily attributable to lower promotional expenses incurred for our WeRewards program that we discontinued in November 2012 offset by expenses incurred to launch our new products and services from 2012. During May and July 2012, we entered into seven agreements to issue a total of 135,521 shares of restricted common stock for celebrity endorsements of our products and services (primarily related to the launch of our new Staree platform). In the majority of the agreements, the restricted stock vested 25% immediately upon the signing of the agreements and then vests 6.25% per month over the following twelve months. In addition to the shares, we paid cash payments of \$100,000. We recorded a total of \$28,125 in marketing expense for the value of cash payments earned and the restricted awards vested during the three months ended March 31, 2013. Future compensation related to nonvested restricted awards expected to vest and unearned cash compensation of \$22,168 is estimated to be recognized over the remaining individual contract terms of up to three months.

Other Income (Expense)

Other income (expense) consists primarily of interest expense, a loss on exchange of warrants and the change in the fair value of derivatives.

Interest expense during the three months ended March 31, 2013 decreased by \$1,278 compared to the same period in 2012 primarily due lower debt balances as a result of the conversion of our \$550,000 senior secured promissory note from October 2012 through February 2013. The carrying value and the direct finance costs on the notes are subject to amortization, through charges to interest expense, over their terms to maturity using the effective interest method.

During the three months ended March 31, 2013, we recognized a \$732 loss on exchange when we redeemed certain warrants to purchase an aggregate of 4,546 shares of common stock for the same number of shares of our common stock without receiving any cash consideration for the exchange.

We entered into financing transactions in prior periods that gave rise to derivative liabilities. These financial instruments are carried as derivative liabilities, at fair value, in our financial statements. Changes in the fair value of derivative financial instruments are required to be recorded in other income (expense) in the period of change. We recorded expense of \$7,480 and income of \$104,697, resulting from the change in the fair value of certain warrants during the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively. Additionally, we recorded expense resulting from the change in the fair value of the compound embedded derivatives during the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012 in the amount of \$644 and \$13,710, respectively. The net effect of these changes in fair values resulted in expense of \$8,124 and income of \$90,987 during the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012, respectively. We have no control over the amount of change in the fair value of our derivative instruments as this is a factor based on fluctuating interest rates and stock prices and other market conditions outside of our control.

Table of Contents

Net Loss

Net loss for the three months ended March 31, 2013 was \$883,830 which decreased from the net loss of \$917,190 for the same period in 2012. Although gross profit decreased as compared to the prior year period due to decreased revenue, we were able to reduce operating costs by over 14% as discussed above in order to produce a decrease in net loss for the quarter.

Liquidity and Capital Resources

Our cash position was \$130,252 as of March 31, 2013 as compared to \$657,946 as of December 31, 2012, a decrease of \$527,694 as a result of continued losses from operations. We have incurred significant net losses and negative cash flow from operations since our inception. We incurred net losses of \$883,830 and \$4,672,638 for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and the year ended December 31, 2012, respectively, and had an accumulated deficit of \$23,687,252 as of March 31, 2013. The opinion of our independent registered public accounting firm on our audited financial statements as of and for the year ended December 31, 2012 contains an explanatory paragraph regarding substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern. Our ability to continue as a going concern is dependent upon raising capital from financing transactions.

Cash used for operating activities was \$697,272 during the three months ended March 31, 2013 and was primarily a result of our net loss during the period of \$883,830. Cash provided by financing activities was \$165,708 during the three months ended March 31, 2013 and was primarily a result of net proceeds of \$169,798 received from the issuance of a secured credit facility agreement with Bridge Bank, N.A. as further discussed below. Financing activities were reduced by principal payments of \$4,090 on our capital leases.

To date, we have financed our operations through internally generated revenue from operations, the sale of our equity and the issuance of notes and loans from shareholders.

On February 3, 2012, we issued a senior secured promissory note in the principal amount of \$550,000 with an original issuance discount of \$50,000, plus \$3,500 in lender fees to two of our existing shareholders. In connection with the note, we incurred expenses of \$21,800 for legal and other fees. Accordingly, net cash proceeds from the note amounted to \$474,700. Unless earlier converted, exchanged or prepaid, the note matured on February 2, 2013. The holders were permitted to convert the outstanding principal amount of the note at a conversion price of 90% of the closing price of our common stock. From October 2012 through December 2012, the holders of this promissory note converted \$437,850 of note value into 2,069,439 shares of our common stock at an average conversion rate of \$.21 per share. On February 4, 2013, we satisfied all of our remaining obligations under this note when the holders converted the final balance owed of \$112,150 into 773,983 shares of our common stock at an average conversion rate of \$.145 per share.

On January 3, 2013, we issued 60,000 shares of restricted stock pursuant to a twelve-month compensation arrangement with Mitchel J. Laskey for his service as a director and Chairman of our Board of Directors.

On January 3, 2013, we issued 20,000 shares of restricted stock valued at \$4,820 in order to pay for a small asset purchase.

Effective January 3, 2013, we entered into an agreement to pay \$4,000 per month for twelve months beginning January 2013 to a firm who would provide investor relations services. In accordance with the agreement, we issued 100,000 shares of restricted common stock on January 15, 2013 and agreed to issue an additional 100,000 restricted shares on or before July 15, 2013. This agreement was mutually terminated on May 1, 2013 for no further cash

consideration with our Company agreeing to issue the final installment of 100,000 shares of restricted common stock upon the termination of the agreement.

In February 2013, pursuant to a private transaction with a warrant holder, we redeemed a warrant to purchase 4,546 shares of common stock for the same number of shares without receiving any further cash consideration.

On March 1, 2013, we entered into a secured credit facility agreement with Bridge Bank, N.A. of San Jose, California. Pursuant to this agreement, we may submit requests for funding up to 80% of our eligible accounts receivable up to a maximum advance of \$1.5 million. The agreement requires us to pay an annual facility fee of \$7,500 (0.5% of the credit facility) and an annual due diligence fee of \$1,000. Interest accrues on the advances at the prime rate plus 2% per annum. The default rate of interest is prime plus 7%. If the agreement is terminated prior to March 1, 2014, then we will be required to pay a termination fee of \$18,750 (1% of the credit limit divided by 80%). In connection with this agreement, we incurred \$31,301 in costs related to the loan acquisition. These costs have been capitalized in our consolidated balance sheet as deferred finance

Table of Contents

costs and are being amortized to interest expense over one year. As of March 31, 2013, we had \$193,890 outstanding under this agreement.

On March 18, 2013, we entered into an agreement with a consultant to provide business advisory and support services. In exchange for the services, we granted the consultant a stock option to purchase 1,000,000 shares of common stock at an exercise price of \$0.25 per share. The option vests in equal quarterly installments of 62,500 over four years beginning on March 18, 2013 and expires ten years after the date of grant. Additionally, we will accrue a fee of \$10,000 per month that will become due and payable after we raise gross proceeds of at least \$1,000,000 through new debt or equity financing. This agreement may be terminated at any time by either party without penalty and all accrued but unpaid fees will be immediately due and payable. Upon a termination of the consulting agreement, the option agreement will be canceled as to any unvested options, and all vested options will be deemed as earned.

On April 11, 2013, we entered into an unsecured loan agreement with Brian W. Brady, a director of the company. Pursuant to this agreement, we received a short term loan of \$500,000 due on May 31, 2013. The note bears interest at 7% per annum with a default rate of interest at 12% based on a 360 day year. The proceeds from this loan were used to pay off the outstanding balance on the Bridge Bank facility and to pay for operating expenses. The terms of the agreement are consistent or better than the terms of other note agreements that we have created in recent years. The loan agreement was approved by the disinterested members of our Board of Directors.

We used the proceeds from the above cash receipts for general working capital purposes, but we require additional capital to fund our operations and repay our \$75,000 promissory note that became due in December 2012. Revenues generated from our operations are not presently sufficient to sustain our operations. Therefore, we will need to raise additional capital through various financing transactions in order to continue our operations. Financing transactions may include the issuance of equity or convertible debt securities, obtaining credit facilities, or other financing alternatives. The volatility and sharp decline in the trading price of our common stock over the past year could make it more difficult to obtain financing through the issuance of equity or convertible debt securities. There can be no assurance that we will be successful in any future financing or that it will be available on terms that are acceptable to us.

Future financings through equity investments are likely to be dilutive to existing stockholders. Also, the terms of securities we may issue in future capital transactions may be more favorable for our new investors. Newly issued securities, warrants and restricted stock awards may include preferences, superior voting rights and privileges senior to those of existing holders. Further, we may incur substantial costs in pursuing future capital and/or financing, including investment banking fees, legal and accounting fees, printing and distribution expenses and other costs. We may also be required to recognize non-cash expenses in connection with certain securities we may issue, such as convertible notes and warrants, which will adversely impact our financial condition. Our ability to obtain needed financing may be impaired by such factors as the overall level of activity in the capital markets and our history of losses, which could impact the availability or cost of future financings. If the amount of capital we are able to raise from financing activities, together with our revenues from operations, is not sufficient to satisfy our capital needs, we may have to curtail our marketing and development plans and possibly cease operations.

Off Balance Sheet Arrangements

We do not engage in any activities involving variable interest entities or off-balance sheet arrangements.

Critical Accounting Policies and Use of Estimates

The preparation of the accompanying financial statements and related disclosures in conformity with U.S. GAAP requires us to make judgments, assumptions and estimates that affect the amounts reported in the accompanying financial statements and the accompanying notes. The preparation of these financial statements requires managements to make estimates and assumptions that affect the reported amounts of assets, liabilities, revenue and expenses, and related disclosure of contingent assets and liabilities. When making these estimates and assumptions, we consider our historical experience, our knowledge of economic and market factors and various other factors that we believe to be reasonable under the circumstances. Actual results could differ from these estimates. The following critical accounting policies are significantly affected by judgments, assumptions and estimates used in the preparation of the financial statements.

Accounts receivable are customer obligations due under normal trade terms. Uncollectability of accounts receivable is not significant since most customers are bound by contract and are required to fund us for all the costs of an “opportunity”, defined as an order created by an advertiser for a publisher to write about the advertiser’s product. If a portion of the account

Table of Contents

balance is deemed uncollectible, we will either write-off the amount owed or provide a reserve based on the uncollectible portion of the account. Management determines the collectability of accounts by regularly evaluating individual customer receivables and considering a customer's financial condition, credit history and current economic conditions. We do not have a reserve for doubtful accounts as of March 31, 2013. We believe that this estimate is reasonable, but there can be no assurance that the estimate will not change as a result of a change in economic conditions or business conditions within the industry, the individual customers or our Company. Any adjustments to this account are reflected in the consolidated statements of operations as a general and administrative expense. We did not have any bad debt expense for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and 2012.

We derive our revenue from three sources: revenue from an advertiser for the use of the our network of social media publishers to fulfill advertiser sponsor requests for a blog post, tweet, click, purchase, or action ("Sponsored Revenue"), revenue from the posting of targeted display advertising ("Media Revenue") and revenue derived from various service fees charged to advertisers and publishers ("Service Fee Revenue"). Service fees charged to advertisers are primarily related to inactivity fees for dormant accounts and fees for additional services outside of sponsored revenue. Service fees to publishers include upgrade account fees for obtaining greater visibility to advertisers in advertiser searches in our platforms, early cash out fees if a publisher wishes to take proceeds earned for services from their account when the account balance is below certain minimum balance thresholds and inactivity fees for dormant accounts. Sponsored revenue is recognized and considered earned after an advertiser's opportunity is posted on our websites and their request was completed and content listed, as applicable, by our publishers for a requisite period of time. The requisite period ranges from 3 days for an action or tweet to 30 days for a blog. Customers may prepay for services by placing a deposit in their account with us. In these cases, the deposits are recorded as unearned revenue until earned as described above. Media Revenue is recognized and considered earned when our publishers place targeted display advertising in blogs. Service fees are recognized immediately when the maintenance or enhancement service is performed for an advertiser or publisher. All of our revenue is generated through the rendering of services and is recognized under the general guidelines of SAB Topic 13 A.1 which states that revenue will be recognized when it is realized or realizable and earned. We consider our revenue as generally realized or realizable and earned once i) persuasive evidence of an arrangement exists, ii) services have been rendered, iii) our price to the advertiser or customer is fixed (required to be paid at a set amount that is not subject to refund or adjustment) and determinable, and iv) collectability is reasonably assured. We record revenue on the gross amount earned since we generally are the primary obligor in the arrangement, establish the pricing and determine the service specifications.

Stock based compensation is measured at grant date, based on the fair value of the award, and is recognized as an expense over the employee's requisite service period. We estimate the fair value of each stock option as of the date of grant using the Black-Scholes pricing model. Options typically vest ratably over four years with one-fourth of options vesting one year from the date of grant and the remaining options vesting monthly, in equal increments over the remaining three-year period and generally have ten-year contract lives. We estimate the fair value of our common stock using the closing stock price of our common stock as quoted in the OTCQB marketplace on the date of the agreement. Prior to April 1, 2012, due to limited trading history and volume, we estimated the fair value of our common stock using recent independent valuations or the value paid in equity financing transactions. We estimate the volatility of our common stock at the date of grant based on the volatility of comparable peer companies that are publicly traded and have had a longer trading history than us. We determine the expected life based on historical experience with similar awards, giving consideration to the contractual terms, vesting schedules and post-vesting forfeitures. We use the risk-free interest rate on the implied yield currently available on U.S. Treasury issues with an equivalent remaining term approximately equal to the expected life of the award. We have never paid any cash dividends on our common stock and do not anticipate paying any cash dividends in the foreseeable future. We estimate forfeitures when recognizing compensation expense and this estimate of forfeitures is adjusted over the requisite service period based on the extent to which actual forfeitures differ, or are expected to differ, from such estimates. Changes in estimated forfeitures are recognized through a cumulative catch-up adjustment, which is recognized in the period of change. Changes also impact the amount of unamortized compensation expense to be recognized in future periods.

The following table shows the number of options granted under our May and August 2011 Equity Incentive Plans and the assumptions used to determine the fair value of those options during the quarterly periods in 2012 and through March 31, 2013:

25

Table of Contents

2011 Equity Incentive Plans - Options Granted

| Period Ended | Total Options Granted | Weighted Average Fair Value of Common Stock | Weighted Average Expected Term | Weighted Average Volatility | Weighted Average Risk Free Interest Rate | Weighted Average Fair Value of Options Granted |
|--------------------|-----------------------|---|--------------------------------|-----------------------------|--|--|
| March 31, 2012 | 2,751 | \$12.50 | 5 years | 54.85% | 0.82% | \$3.36 |
| June 30, 2012 | 347,667 | \$5.18 | 5 years | 54.93% | 0.76% | \$2.26 |
| September 30, 2012 | 26,625 | \$2.20 | 5 years | 54.46% | 0.65% | \$1.03 |
| December 31, 2012 | 1,250 | \$0.39 | 5 years | 52.75% | 0.65% | \$0.18 |
| March 31, 2013 | 2,170,834 | \$0.25 | 10 years | 52.72% | 1.91% | \$0.16 |

There were 2,561,843 options outstanding as of March 31, 2013 with a weighted average exercise price of \$1.10 per share. There is no aggregate intrinsic value on the exercisable, outstanding options as of March 31, 2013 since the weighted average exercise price exceeded the market price of \$0.46 of our common stock on such date.

We account for derivative instruments in accordance with ASC 815, Derivatives and Hedging, which requires additional disclosures about the our objectives and strategies for using derivative instruments, how the derivative instruments and related hedged items are accounted for, and how the derivative instruments and related hedging items affect the financial statements. We do not use derivative instruments to hedge exposures to cash flow, market or foreign currency risk. Terms of convertible debt and equity instruments are reviewed to determine whether or not they contain embedded derivative instruments that are required under ASC 815 to be accounted for separately from the host contract, and recorded on the balance sheet at fair value. The fair value of derivative liabilities, if any, is required to be revalued at each reporting date, with corresponding changes in fair value recorded in current period operating results. Pursuant to ASC 815, an evaluation of specifically identified conditions is made to determine whether the fair value of warrants issued is required to be classified as equity or as a derivative liability.

We record a beneficial conversion feature ("BCF") related to the issuance of convertible debt and equity instruments that have conversion features at fixed rates that are in-the-money when issued, and the fair value of warrants issued in connection with those instruments. The BCF for the convertible instruments is recognized and measured by allocating a portion of the proceeds to warrants, based on their relative fair value, and as a reduction to the carrying amount of the convertible instrument equal to the intrinsic value of the conversion feature. The discounts recorded in connection with the BCF and warrant valuation are recognized a) for convertible debt as interest expense over the term of the debt, using the effective interest method or b) for preferred stock as dividends at the time the stock first becomes convertible.

Recent Accounting Pronouncements

There are several new accounting pronouncements issued by the Financial Accounting Standards Board ("FASB") which are not yet effective. Management does not believe any of these accounting pronouncements will be applicable and therefore will not have a material impact on our financial position or operating results.

ITEM 3 – QUANTITATIVE AND QUALITATIVE DISCLOSURES ABOUT MARKET RISK

Not required.

26

Table of Contents

ITEM 4 – CONTROLS AND PROCEDURES

Disclosure controls and procedures are controls and other procedures that are designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file or submit under the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, as amended (the “Exchange Act”), is recorded, processed, summarized and reported within the time periods specified in the Securities and Exchange Commission’s rules and forms. Disclosure controls and procedures include, without limitation, controls and procedures designed to ensure that information required to be disclosed by us in the reports that we file under the Exchange Act is accumulated and communicated to our management, including our principal executive and financial officers, as appropriate to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosures.

In designing and evaluating the disclosure controls and procedures, our management recognizes that any controls and procedures, no matter how well designed and operated, can provide only reasonable assurance of achieving the desired control objectives, and our management necessarily was required to apply its judgment in evaluating the cost-benefit relationship of possible controls and procedures. Furthermore, controls and procedures could be circumvented by the individual acts of some persons, by collusion or two or more people or by management override of the control. Misstatements due to error or fraud may occur and not be detected on a timely basis.

Evaluation of Disclosure Controls and Procedures

In connection with the preparation of this quarterly report on Form 10-Q as of March 31, 2013, an evaluation was performed under the supervision and with the participation of the Company's management including our Chief Executive Officer ("CEO") and Chief Financial Officer ("CFO"), to determine the effectiveness of the design and operation of our disclosure controls and procedures (as defined in Rules 13a-15(e) and 15d-15(e) under the Exchange Act) as of March 31, 2013. Based on this evaluation, our management concluded that our disclosure controls and procedures were effective as of March 31, 2013 to provide reasonable assurance that the information required to be disclosed by us in reports or submitted under the Exchange Act is recorded, processed, summarized, and reported within the time periods specified in the rules and forms of the SEC and that such information is accumulated and communicated to management, including the Company's CEO and CFO, as appropriate, to allow timely decisions regarding required disclosure.

Changes in Internal Control over Financial Reporting

Our management is responsible for establishing and maintaining adequate internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f) under the Exchange Act). Internal control over financial reporting is a process designed by, or under the supervision of, our principal executive officer and principal financial officer and effected by our Board of Directors, management and other personnel, to provide reasonable assurance regarding the reliability of our financial reporting and the preparation of financial statements for external purposes in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America. Internal control over financial reporting includes policies and procedures that:

- (i) pertain to the maintenance of records that, in reasonable detail, accurately and fairly reflect the Company’s transactions;
- (ii) provide reasonable assurance that transactions are recorded as necessary for the preparation of our financial statements in accordance with accounting principles generally accepted in the United States of America, and that receipts and expenditures are made only in accordance with authorizations of our management and directors; and
- (iii) provide reasonable assurance regarding prevention or timely detection of any unauthorized acquisition, use or disposition of our assets that could have a material effect on the financial statements.

Because of its inherent limitations, internal control over financial reporting may not prevent or detect financial statement misstatements. Also, projections of any evaluation of internal control effectiveness to future periods are subject to the risk that controls may become inadequate because of changes in conditions, or that the degree of compliance with the policies or procedures may deteriorate.

There were no changes in our internal control over financial reporting (as defined in Exchange Act Rules 13a-15(f) and 15d-15(f)) that occurred during the quarter ended March 31, 2013 that have materially affected, or are reasonably likely to materially affect, our internal control over financial reporting.

Table of Contents

PART II - OTHER INFORMATION

ITEM 1 – LEGAL PROCEEDINGS

From time to time, we may become involved in various lawsuits and legal proceedings that arise in the ordinary course of business. Litigation is, however, subject to inherent uncertainties, and an adverse result in these or other matters may arise from time to time that may harm our business.

On October 17, 2012, Blue Calypso, Inc. filed a complaint against us in the U.S. District Court for the Eastern District of Texas accusing us of infringing a patent related to peer-to-peer advertising between mobile communication devices seeking unspecified damages. We made a request that the Texas court transfer the matter to the Middle District of Florida, but no ruling has yet been made on that motion. At this stage, we do not have an estimate of the likelihood or the amount of any potential exposure to it. We believe that there is no merit to this suit and intend to vigorously defend ourselves.

We are currently not aware of any other legal proceedings or claims that we believe would or could have, individually or in the aggregate, a material adverse effect on us.

ITEM 1A – RISK FACTORS

In addition to the information set forth under Item 1A of Part I to our Annual Report on Form 10-K for the year ended December 31, 2012, information at the beginning of Management's Discussion and Analysis entitled "Special Note Regarding Forward-Looking Information" and updates noted below, investors should consider that there are numerous and varied risks, known and unknown, that may prevent us from achieving our goals. If any of these risks actually occur, our business, financial condition or results of operation may be materially adversely affected. In such case, the trading price of our common stock could decline and investors could lose all or part of their investment.

Risks Related to our Business

We have a history of losses, expect future losses and cannot assure you that we will achieve profitability or obtain the financing necessary for future growth.

We have incurred significant net losses and negative cash flow from operations since our inception. We incurred net losses of \$883,830 and \$4,672,638 for the three months ended March 31, 2013 and for the year ended December 31, 2012, respectively, and had an accumulated deficit of \$23,687,252 as of March 31, 2013. Although our revenue has increased since inception, we have not achieved profitability and cannot be certain that we will be able to sustain these growth rates or realize sufficient revenue to achieve profitability. Our ability to continue as a going concern is dependent upon raising capital from financing transactions, increasing revenue and keeping operating expenses at less than 50% of our revenue levels in order to achieve positive cash flows, none of which can be assured. If we achieve profitability, we may not be able to sustain it.

We do not have sufficient financial resources or the ability to arrange financing to pay our unsecured \$75,000 promissory note that matured on December 4, 2012. As a result of our failure to pay, the note is currently in default bearing interest at the default rate of 18% per annum. The amount owed on this note as of March 31, 2013 was \$75,000, plus \$7,336 in accrued interest.

Revenues generated from our operations are not presently sufficient to sustain our operations. Therefore, we will need to raise additional capital to fund our operations and repay our \$75,000 promissory note through various financing transactions in order to continue our operations. Financing transactions may include the issuance of equity or convertible debt securities, obtaining credit facilities, or other financing alternatives. The volatility and sharp decline in the trading price of our common stock over the past year could make it more difficult to obtain financing through the issuance of equity or convertible debt securities. There can be no assurance that we will be successful in any future financing or that it will be available on terms that are acceptable to us.

Future financings through equity investments are likely to be dilutive to existing stockholders. Also, the terms of securities we may issue in future capital transactions may be more favorable for our new investors. Newly issued securities, warrants and restricted stock awards may include preferences, superior voting rights and privileges senior to those of existing holders. Further, we may incur substantial costs in pursuing future capital and/or financing, including investment banking fees, legal and accounting fees, printing and distribution expenses and other costs. We may also be required to recognize non-cash

Table of Contents

expenses in connection with certain securities we may issue, such as convertible notes and warrants, which will adversely impact our financial condition. Our ability to obtain needed financing may be impaired by such factors as the overall level of activity in the capital markets and our history of losses, which could impact the availability or cost of future financings. If the amount of capital we are able to raise from financing activities, together with our revenues from operations, is not sufficient to satisfy our capital needs, we may have to curtail our marketing and development plans and possibly cease operations.

Our independent registered public accounting firm's report contains an explanatory paragraph that expresses substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern.

As of March 31, 2013, our total stockholders' deficit was \$1,949,133 and we had a working capital deficit of \$2,053,523. Primarily as a result of our losses and limited cash balances, our independent registered public accounting firm included in their report for the year ended December 31, 2012 an explanatory paragraph expressing substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern. If we are not able to raise sufficient capital to generate positive cash flows that will sustain us for more than one year, our independent registered public accounting firm may be required to continue to include this explanatory paragraph expressing substantial doubt about our ability to continue as a going concern in their future reports. Such language in our independent registered public accounting firm's report could make it more difficult to obtain future financing.

Exercise of stock options, warrants and other convertible securities will dilute your percentage of ownership and could cause our stock price to fall.

As of May 10, 2013, we have outstanding stock options and warrants to purchase 2,743,325 shares of common stock and preferred stock convertible into 3,788 shares of common stock that could result in our issuing additional shares of common stock. Additionally, we have available shares to issue stock options to purchase up to 9,088,683 shares of common stock under our May 2011 Equity Incentive Plan and up to 50,000 shares of common stock under our August 2011 Equity Incentive Plan. In the future, we may grant additional stock options, warrants and convertible securities. The exercise, conversion or exchange of stock options, warrants or convertible securities will dilute the percentage ownership of our other stockholders. Sales of a substantial number of shares of our common stock could cause the price of our common stock to fall and could impair our ability to raise capital by selling additional securities.

ITEM 2 – UNREGISTERED SALES OF EQUITY SECURITIES AND USE OF PROCEEDS

On January 3, 2013, we issued 60,000 shares of restricted stock pursuant to a twelve-month compensation arrangement with Mitchel J. Laskey for his service as a director and Chairman of our Board of Directors.

On January 3, 2013, we issued 20,000 shares of restricted stock valued at \$4,820 in order to pay for a small asset purchase.

Effective January 3, 2013, we entered into a twelve-month agreement to pay \$4,000 per month beginning January 2013 to a firm who would provide investor relations services. In accordance with the agreement, we issued 100,000 shares of restricted common stock on January 15, 2013 and agreed to issue an additional 100,000 restricted shares on or before July 15, 2013. This agreement was mutually terminated on May 1, 2013 for no further cash consideration with our Company agreeing to issue the final installment of 100,000 shares of restricted common stock upon the termination of the agreement.

In February 2013, we redeemed a warrant to purchase an aggregate of 4,546 shares of common stock for the same number of shares from a warrant holder without the Company receiving any further cash consideration.

ITEM 3 – DEFAULTS UPON SENIOR SECURITIES

NONE

ITEM 4 – MINE SAFETY DISCLOSURES

N/A

29

Table of Contents

ITEM 5 - OTHER INFORMATION

NONE

30

Table of Contents

ITEM 6 – EXHIBITS

- 3.1 Articles of Incorporation (Incorporated by reference to the Company’s registration statement on Form S-1 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 2, 2010)
- 3.2 Certificate of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation (Incorporated by reference to the Company’s current report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on February 15, 2013)
- 3.3 Certificate of Amendment to the Articles of Incorporation (Incorporated by reference to the Company’s current report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 16, 2011)
- 3.4 Bylaws (Incorporated by reference to the Company’s registration statement on Form S-1 filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on July 2, 2010)
- 3.5 Certificate of Designation (Incorporated by reference to the Company’s current report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 27, 2011)
- 3.6 Amendment to Certificate of Designation (Incorporated by reference to the Company’s current report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on May 27, 2011)
- 3.7 Certificate of Change of IZEA, Inc., filed with the Nevada Secretary of State on July 30, 2012 (Incorporated by reference to the Company’s current report on Form 8-K filed with the Securities and Exchange Commission on August 1, 2012).
- 31.1 * Section 302 Certification of Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer
- 32.1 ** Section 906 Certification of Principal Executive Officer and Principal Financial Officer
- 101 *** The following materials from IZEA, Inc.'s Annual Report on Form 10-Q for the three months ended March 31, 2013 are formatted in XBRL (eXtensible Business Reporting Language): (i) the Consolidated Balance Sheets, (ii) the Consolidated Statements of Operations, (iii) the Consolidated Statement of Stockholders' Deficit, (iv) the Consolidated Statements of Cash Flow, and (iv) Notes to the Consolidated Financial Statements.

*Filed herewith.

In accordance with Item 601 of Regulation S-K, this Exhibit is hereby furnished to the SEC as an accompanying document and is not deemed “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934 or otherwise subject to the liabilities of that Section, nor shall it be deemed incorporated by reference into any filing under the Securities Act of 1933.

In accordance with Rule 406T of Regulation S-T, the XBRL related information in Exhibit 101 to this Quarterly Report on Form 10-Q shall not be deemed to be “filed” for purposes of Section 18 of the Exchange Act, or otherwise subject to the liability of that section, and shall not be incorporated by reference into any registration statement or other document filed under the Securities Act of 1933, as amended, or the Exchange Act, except as shall be expressly set forth by specific reference in such filing.

Table of Contents

SIGNATURES

Pursuant to the requirements of Section 13 or 15(d) of the Securities Exchange Act of 1934, the Registrant has duly caused this report to be signed on its behalf by the undersigned, thereunto duly authorized.

IZEA, Inc.
a Nevada corporation

May 15, 2013

By: /s/ Edward Murphy
Edward Murphy
President and Chief Executive Officer
(Principal Executive Officer & Principal Financial Officer)