



Minutes of February 11, 2010 Board Meeting

<u>Directors in attendance</u>	Chair Vice-Chair Secretary/Treasurer Director	Cathy Coxhead Tony Vander Baaren Anna Visconti Nikki Henderson
<u>Advisors in attendance</u>	Val Foster	Historical Society
<u>City officials in attendance</u>	Louise Parkes	City Councillor
<u>Members in attendance</u>	Ian Tweedle Jay Jegtheeswaran Ruby Zinsmeister	Strut Nouveau Diamonds Grill Durham Family Court Clinic
<u>Invited guests</u>	Staff Sgt. Dave Brown, DRPS	
<u>Public Citizens</u>	Wil McGuirk	
<u>Regrets</u>	David Tuley Giacomo Bruno Darryl Sherman	Downtown Development Officer Director (Isabella's Café) Advisor (Wilson Furniture)
<u>Absent</u>	Jackie Simkin	

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:00pm, welcoming Staff Sgt. Dave Brown to the meeting.

Staff Sgt. Brown provided an over-view of the way community policing is being set up in Durham, outlining that there are now 7 zones where there were only 3 before. Staff Sgt.

Brown indicated that the organization is in a state of change that he feels is a positive step towards the new approach to community policing. He further stated that the downtown core is being designated to 17 Division, also known as “Central East Division”.

Ian Tweedle from Strut Nouveau arrived

Staff Sgt. Brown explained that staff has been reallocated so that there is a faster response time, and more officers available overall, with the downtown border covering 4 different zones. He further commented on how the whole Region of Durham is learning and applying problem based solutions.

Director, Nikki Henderson from Strut Nouveau arrived

Staff Sgt. Brown indicated that the “COPR” unit has been replaced with a project team as assigned with the regular foot patrol pushed further south until DRPS can determine where officers should be re on-going crime analysis. In response to a question about the impact of the court house clientele, Staff Sgt. Brown reported that the court house area is being policed by a different unit than 17 Division, and he further stated that he didn’t feel the influence of the court house clients would impact the downtown negatively.

Ruby Zinsmeister from Durham Court Clinic arrived

Staff Sgt. Brown listened to the Board as they described their concerns during the summer months in particular; stating that that time of year is very problematic for the downtown. In closing, Staff Sgt. Brown confirmed that Sgt. Nicole Hamilton was the new downtown contact for the Board.

The Chair thanked Staff Sgt. Brown for attending, and he left the meeting.

The Chair asked for declarations of pecuniary interests, where by Tony Vander Baaren acknowledged the Chair.

Motion 2:01 to approve the February 11, 2010 meeting agenda was made by Louise Parkes, seconded by Anna Visconti.

Carried

Motion 2:02 to approve the January 20, 2010 minutes was made by Anna Visconti, seconded by Nikki Henderson.

Carried

Motion 2:03 to approve the December 2009 and January 2010 financials was made by Anna Visconti, seconded by Nikki Henderson.

Carried

Downtown Development Officers Report (David Tuley)

There was no report ~ regrets sent.

Wil McGuirk arrived at the meeting

Councillor Louise Parkes Report

Councillor Parkes reported as follows:

- UOIT would be up and running on the first and second floor of the Alger Press building by September 2010. The Chair to send a letter of congratulations to Peter Heiler.
- Development of the fittings property possibly through private partnership.
- The Regent Theatre (UOIT) asked and received a 1.3 million dollar grant from the Federal Government. The Durham Symphony is scheduled to play at the Regent Nov. 26, 2010.
- The Genosha Hotel project well underway, with a high value tenant for the first floor nearly confirmed.
- Although there aren't any permits on file for the hotel, construction is scheduled to begin in March or April 2010. The opportunity to host "Skate Canada" at the GM Centre depends on whether or not the downtown can provide hotel accommodations.
- On-going meetings with General Motors Centre have taken place regarding events, advertising, and the ability to make internal decisions, in an effort to promote and market the facility.
- Private parking initiatives such as Hillstone can make a difference in the overall parking strategy downtown. Councillor Parkes suggested the BIA consider encouraging the property owners to move forward with parking at that site.

Office Manager's Report (Vivian Sled)

The dates for the summer sidewalk sale were confirmed for Wed. July 14th. to Sat. July 17th. A discussion took place about a midnight madness event as part of the sidewalk sale and the possibility of an open-air movie in the evening. The membership was to be advised of the dates for the sidewalk sale, followed by an invitation to attend a separate planning meeting.

The Autofest event was discussed, noting that the City of Oshawa approved the in-kind services for the Friday Kick-Off party scheduled for August 27/10.

Two other events were brought to the attention of the Board; the "Sua Moda" fashion show taking place at Tosca in April, with downtown business Isabella's and the Salvation Army partnering with the group. Permission to use the Board's logo was given to the group as the Downtown Board is helping to promote the event, and providing office space for their meetings.

In addition, the "Broken Arts Collective" group would like to organize a Buskerfest in downtown for June 26th. The group would also like to come out during the sidewalk sale and perhaps during Autofest.

A discussion about welcome bags for the court house staff took place, with the Board agreeing to hold off a bit until the nicer weather. Anna and Vivian to search for a suitable bag for the Board to approve, re style and cost. The entire membership to be invited to contribute to the contents of the bag. Tony Vander Baaren suggested that other businesses outside the CBD would probably welcome a chance to participate as well, as many businesses missed the opportunity to participate when the Chamber offered it due to the short notice.

The Membership Survey draft was discussed again to ensure all the questions and changes were as per the Board's approval. The launch date to be scheduled for March 9/10, with notices being sent via email, regular mail and hand delivered to businesses and property owners. Included in the survey package would be a portion of the BIA handbook and a message from the Chair for 2009 and 2010.

The total amount of downtown dollars redeemed to date from the Shop & Win promotion was \$650.00, leaving \$350.00 to still come in.

The downtown blog initiative was discussed with Wil McGuirk to further determine the overall idea and what would be necessary to get it off the ground. No decision was reached.

Application for one summer student was submitted on February 25/10, for a start date of June 2010. The Board will be notified in late April by the Canada Summer Jobs program co-ordinator.

Other Business

Chair, Cathy Coxhead pointed out the plaque that the Board had received for partnering with the City of Oshawa for the purchase of Olympic Banners. Cathy also reported that she had a full set of banners (5) for the Board, which would be used as display banners from time to time.

Vivian reported to the Board that to the best of her knowledge, the Jazz and Blues Festival was not yet confirmed as being scheduled in Oshawa by owner/operator Becky Choquette.

After some discussion about convenient dates for Board meetings for the volunteer Directors, it was agreed that the dates should be changed as the 3rd. Wednesday of the month was too much of a conflict for the majority of the Board.

Motion 2:04 was made by Tony Vander Baaren, seconded by Nikki Henderson to change the monthly meeting dates for the Board to the 2nd. Wednesday of the month.

Carried

Received as correspondence

OBIAA Conference invite for April 19th. & 20th. in Niagara Falls.

Laura Vaillancourt's request for information regarding the Boards OBIAA award submission, re downtown commercial.

Email from David Tuley introduces MaryLynn West-Moynes to Vivian, with a request to present to the Board at the March meeting.

Email from the Chamber of Commerce to go in their 2010 membership directory.

Motion 2:04 was made by Tony Vander Baaren, seconded by Nikki Henderson to place an ad in the directory for \$276.00.

Carried

Motion 2:05:2010 to adjourn the meeting was made by Tony Vander Baaren, seconded by Nikki Henderson.

Meeting was adjourned.