



# downtown Oshawa

HEARTBEAT OF THE CITY

## Minutes Downtown Oshawa Business Improvement Area Board of Directors March 6, 2019

**Attendance:** Nancy Shaw (Chair), Glen Gillett, Rick Kerr, Andrea DeSilva, Janette Sigua, Ivano Labricciosa

Staff: Garth Johns

Others: Kyle Benham, Sue Lupton

Regrets: Cindy Malachowski, Peter Stoett, Matt Bowles

Absent: Shawn Solomon

The meeting was called to order by the Chair at 6:00 PM.

1. **Declarations of pecuniary interest** – none
2. **Delegations** – none
3. **Correspondence** – none
4. **Comments from the floor** – none
5. **Adoption of Minutes** – Moved by Rick Kerr and seconded by Ivano Labricciosa that the minutes of the meeting held January 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2019 be approved as presented. Carried.
6. **City's Economic Development update and City Report (Rick Kerr plus Kyle and Sue)**
  - The Holiday Inn has purchased Wilson and Lee Music effective January 2020 and plans a condominium to be built on that site. Details to come
  - Wendell Clarks and Yuk Yuks are planning their grand opening April 3<sup>rd</sup>.
  - 15 Simcoe (formerly The Moustache Club) has been bought with plans to renovate into a music hall and bar
  - Genosha is progressing well and should be complete by the fall of 2019
  - Legends of Fazio's is anticipating a spring 2019 opening
  - Oshawa House (formerly Van Houtte) is scheduled to open in April
  - The Best Media will soon be taking over the upper floor of the BMO building. They are a well established organization. What will happen with the main floor is yet to be determined
  - March 1 CIP grant program has closed and application review by committee will begin next week
  - Let's Eat placemats should be ready soon
  - Athol Street reconstruction project has begun and expected to be complete by August
  - All in attendance were given copies of the Overview and Status Update as it relates to Plan 20Twenty. Page 6 – 4 bullets there are the key to the entire program
  - BACD will be managing the grants for the Digital Transformation Grants

Rick and Sue left to provide a Downtown update at a Town Hall meeting. Will provide info to the Board at our next meeting.

- Spark has moved to the 3<sup>rd</sup> floor of the CIBC building and expect to have some sort of open house/grand opening in April



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H E A R T B E A T O F T H E C I T Y

- UOIT students will be researching free WiFi possibilities for Downtown in the upcoming weeks. Ivano noted that OPUC may be able to help such a project unfold as the fibre is in place but needs someone (like Rogers or Bell) to make it live
  - The new streetscape project is still expected to be ready to go for late spring 2019
  - A Bill 68 update report was shared with the Board. It is expected that any such policy revisions affecting Council would be conveyed similarly to the Board and staff of the BIA
7. **Treasurer's Report** – Financial statements for January had previously been circulated and the Executive Director's commented briefly on same. It is too early in the year to make any assessments but generally, the first month is positive. However, overpayment by the City for last year will be reflected in reduced payments over the course of 2019. Moved by Ivano and seconded by Rick that the Financial Statements for January 2019 be received for information. Carried.
8. **Committee Updates**
- (a) **Signature Events** – Andrea advised on the first meeting, dates of events and possible extension along Simcoe Street South. Minutes were shared with those present and are attached
- (b) **Economic Development/Beautification** – Glen and Janette. There was a general update from Glen with regard to the Let's Eat update brochures and the recent franchise show that both he and Sue Lupton attended. For the Beautification part of the update, discussion focussed on the possibility of putting more lights on trees Downtown. It was felt that while there are some design challenges, it is doable. In fact, it was noted that with each streetscape project, we should put the infrastructure in place that will allow additional future wiring needs to be accommodated without the need to tear up sidewalks time and again.
- (c) **Marketing** – Matt. In Matt's absence Garth circulated some brief notes that addressed the need to deal with banner replacements, UOIT banners and whether or not we should charge fees for their banners and the possibility of getting corporate sponsors for our banners.
9. **Executive Director's Report** – previously circulated
10. **In Camera** – none
11. **New Business** – next steps with regard to the Visioning exercise will be considered and discussed at the next Board meeting. Also, a recruitment committee was struck to find a new Executive Director. That committee to include Nancy, Ivano, Andrea, Matt and Kyle.
12. **Next Board Meeting** – Wednesday March 27<sup>th</sup> at 5:00 PM. Please note the earlier start time to allow an hour to discuss next steps for visioning.

Moved by Janette that the meeting adjourn at 7:40 PM. Carried.