



Minutes
Downtown Oshawa Business Improvement Area
Board of Directors
January 31, 2018

Attendance: Shawn Solomon (Chair), Glen Gillett (Vice Chair), Robert Gunnyon (Treasurer), Doug Sanders, Mehdi Nejad, Gary Vaughan, Nancy Shaw

Staff: Garth Johns, Sandra Mitres

Also in attendance: Kyle Benham, Sue Lupton

Regrets: Dan Hostick

Absent: Jacob Hamayda

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

1. **Declarations of pecuniary interest** – none
2. **Delegations** - none
3. **Correspondence** – Community Builders Network of Hope – Donna Loback – receive for information
4. **Comments from the floor** – Mr. Johns introduced Sandra Mitres to the Board. Sandra will be assuming responsibility for a number of support roles to Garth and Angela as well as taking on the regular updating of the new and improved website.
5. **Adoption of minutes** from October 25, 2017– The Chair noted the need to delete information contained under the “In Camera” section. With that amendment, moved by Robert Gunnyon; seconded by Mehdi Nejad that the minutes be adopted as amended and presented. Carried.
6. **Update from City’s Economic Development team and Councillor Sanders**
 - Some discussion about having a “Franchise Show” in Oshawa. That is still being considered for a future date, likely in 2019
 - The garbage tote report was accepted and later in 2018, all restaurants Downtown will be required to be part of the program. The staff report suggested that each participating restaurant pay ½ the cost of the tote. Garth suggested that the BIA cover that cost. There was general agreement of that suggestion but Councillor Sanders, in turn, suggested that if we cover the cost, each tote should indicate that it is “sponsored by the BIA” or some such wording
 - Genosha Hotel is still moving forward and all permits are almost in place. Heritage Oshawa has generally approved the project with only a couple of minor issues remaining
 - AMO has sent notice of a grant of approximately \$163,000 for the City which is intended to promote Downtown façade and accessibility improvements. More details to follow
 - 157 Athol, a 9 storey 185 unit/203 bed building beside UOIT is finalizing site plans, with permits organized and a tentative opening of September 2019

(2)

- Discussion regarding the proposed streetscape around the Genosha. Though there is much work to be done, there was general appreciation of the positive impact that this may have, especially if it goes beyond the Genosha and throughout Downtown
- There is a conditional offer on the BMO building with the proposed use being an “Oshawa Live” digital media broadcast studio, similar to the old City TV broadcast location
- The old Fazio's is expected to reopen in April of 2018 as an upscale Italian restaurant with more details yet to come. The former Tuto's will also reopen as Dilaggio's in April
- In 2018, a parking study will be conducted to determine Downtown needs with regard to parking
- Lava yoga studio is opening in February at the corner of King and Simcoe. An official grand opening will be scheduled later in the spring
- A number of storefront windows are being updated. Questions were asked about the possibility of doing something with the Genosha in this regard. A comment was also made that a suggestion had been made to promote Black History Month in one store window
- The North side of Bond between Simcoe and Centre will be blocked starting February 5th to accommodate construction in the bus terminal. John Turpin is the project manager and though he has spoken to businesses on the north side of Bond, those on the south side, have not been spoken to. Sue will mention this to Mr. Turpin.
- Kyle mentioned the Smart City Challenge and that surveys are currently being sent out to members in Downtown
- The Streetscape Committee, at the urging of the BIA, is going again. While it will start with a focus on the area around the Genosha, it is hoped that work there will serve as a template for future initiatives. It will include accessibility, furniture etc. and feedback will be solicited from the public starting late March. We will make a start on updating Downtown streetscapes with new furniture this year with larger construction initiatives next year. Initial proposals will be presented to Development Services on February 26th. Discussion of some of the proposed options as well as beautification of Downtown generally followed. It was suggested that perhaps a brief presentation could be made at the Members meeting on March 8th.

7. Treasurer's Report

- Garth was asked about progress on a credit card. We have begun to look at the best way of dealing with this. A suggestion was made that we look at a prepaid Visa. To be continued.
- Discussion was held regarding accounting procedures and tracking of revenues.
- A meeting to include the Treasurer and the new bookkeeper is to be arranged.

(3)

- Moved by Robert Gunnyon; seconded by Doug Sanders that the Treasurer's Report be received. Carried

8. Committee Updates

Events – Gary Vaughan

- Good event on January 31st at St. Vincent's which represented the culmination of a good year by Show and Shine as organized by Kevin Thompson. Thanks to Kevin and his team. There were close to 200 who enjoyed the meal catered by Ciao Ameci
- Planning has started for Bikes on Bond and Kars on King. Gary mentioned the great contribution by Chris Gooderham in attending the Motorcycle Show on our behalf.

New Events – Doug Sanders

- Banners are going up Downtown but had to be resized
- Free Christmas parking was a great initiative with the electronic signs announcing same being a good idea
- The Christmas tree event was ok but not as successful as we would like
- Hot Roots Soup event will go again the week of February 26th
- Donna Loback's group has organized Family Day with lots of activities Downtown including a petting zoo, outdoor games, free skating at the Tribute Communities Centre, opening the Canadian Automotive Museum, free hot chocolate, hot dogs etc.
- Tiny Bubbles has been rescheduled to April 6th. This event will be limited to about 60 people and will be held at the RMG. It will include 4 or 5 wine tastings combined with snacks and education

Beautification – Glen Gillett and Cindy Malachowski

- Cindy attended the Streetscape Committee meeting and commented on a number of very exciting activities going on in that area
- We have ordered 20,000 more "Let's Eat" brochures and are starting planning for a "Let's Shop" brochure
- A franchise show is being planned along the lines of the Home Show currently orchestrated by Oshawa This Week. Wendy Webber from This Week has indicated their interest in organizing same but not likely until 2019
- **Following discussion, it was moved by Nancy Shaw and seconded by Mehdi Nejad that Committee reports be received. Carried**

9. **Executive Director's Report** – previously circulated. No questions or concerns. **Moved by Nancy Shaw and seconded by Doug Sanders that the Executive Director's report be received. Carried.**



(4)

10. **Strategic Plan** – no report

11. **In Camera Session** – not needed

12. **New Business** – none

There being no further business, it was moved by Nancy Shaw that the meeting adjourn at 8:10.
Carried.