

Downtown Guelph Business Association Board of Directors

May 3rd, 2023 6:00pm - 8:30pm

Location: DGBA Board Room

42 Wyndham St N, Guelph, ON N1H 4E6

6:13pm Meeting Start

Members in Attendance: Chuck Nash, Kevin Polach, Brianne McCrossan, Chuck Nash, Pina Marfisi, Iside Dallan, Richard Overland, Bryan Steele, Derrick Rutherford, Greg Elliott, Rodrigo Goller

Members in Attendance Virtually: Cathy Downer, Greg Elliott

Not in Attendance: Kevin Polach, Tom Lammer

Introductions/zoom meeting protocols

Disclosure of Conflict of Interest and the general nature thereof

- none noted

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1. Approval of Agenda
 - Moved by Derrick, seconded by Rodrigo, carried
 2. Approval of Minutes of the previous meeting: April 5th, 2023
 - Moved by Iside, seconded by Pina
 3. Chair Updates - Chuck Nash
 - Guelph police service to send out survey to downtown businesses through newsletter
 - Parking Master Plan - suggestions made to lower cost of parkade parking pass
 - Tom, Chuck, Rich participated in meeting and sent recommendation to lower that cost and fill the lots - goes through in September
 - Spoke with a lawyer about Benefits program and merchant program to check Municipal act and see if we can implement one
 - Two other BIA's in Ontario already have a benefits program including Waterloo so we are going to get more information
 - Greg will look into if Co-Operators can provide this type of benefit
 - Volunteer is beginning work on creating a set of bylaws that are more substantial to bring to the membership in the fall - working with Kay Matthews and Sam Jewell on this
 - Barb will also begin updating the membership and database
- Discussion - Strat Plan, Town Hall, timeframe of upcoming things

- Strat Plan will begin in June to also take into account the city plan
 - Need to also plan a Strat Plan meeting with the full Board and would like to have a town hall at end of June
 - Cathy suggested that Mayors Task Force attend town hall and Chuck suggests also invited Police
 - June 21,22,26th- potential days for Town Hall - Chuck to check with Mayor and Police force for more availability during this event
 - More cameras to be placed downtown if the downtown community is supportive of it
4. Website Discussion Follow-Up - Chuck and Brianne
 - Alana Hennessey - Proposal passed on to board
 - One more quote to pass along, so we get three quotes - Greg will be contacting one more company
 5. CIC Update - Derrick Rutherford
 - Stepping stone will not bring in portable washrooms
 - Welcoming Streets took away \$15k donation
 - Kim no longer with welcoming streets so only two staff
 - We need a contact with the health board - Rodrigo to send Derrick contacts
 - Would like to send a letter higher up to government to explain loss of clientele and problems downtown
 - Chuck suggested sending to Kay Matthews on behalf of BIA and also include Municipality
 - Pina touching base with Kay prior to letter being drafted and then Cathy, Derrick and Rodrigo will work on letter
 - Lacking outreach workers downtown
 - Welcoming Streets Discussion
 - Meeting with Connor from Guelph Police on May 4th
 - CIC Committee would like to get the vulnerable community more resources and rehabilitation
 6. City Updates - Stacey Laughlin/Alex Jawioriwsky
 - Community Engagement will be attending June 7th meeting
 - Woolwich expected to clear up May 12th
 - All work on upper Wyndham expected to be done by end of month
 - City newsletter for downtown went out May 3rd
 - Patios are ready to go
 - Green P program will be getting set up downtown
 - Will be sending out in next newsletter
 - Would like to see more monitoring of Wilson Street lot
 - Newsletter and DGBA website addition of incident reporter through City of Guelph website

7. Treasurer Update - Richard Overland
 - Revised financials for this year sent out, audited version of 2022 not yet ready
8. Spirit of the Season/Santa Parade - Chuck
 - Discussed market, tree lighting and parade to be the same weekend and potentially move the date to Saturday, December 2nd
 - Parade budgets \$13,000 per year from DGBA
 - Some bands are not available or concerned about the change of date, Bryan beginning to reach out to alternative bands and potentially Dj's on floats instead
 - Huts being looked into for Spirit of the Season Market
 - Motion:** Move Spirit of the Season and Santa Claus parade to December 2nd
 - Moved Rodrigo, seconded by Pina, carried
9. Next Meetings - May 24th at 6pm and June 7th at 6pm
 - Town Hall Agenda to be planned at next Executive Meeting
10. Adjournment