

DGBA BOARD MEETING

Meeting Agenda

Wednesday June 26th, 2024 @ 6:06pm

Location: DGBA Board Room

42 Wyndham St N, Guelph, ON N1H 4E6

Also available via Zoom link

Attendees: Pina, Derrick, Stacey, Greg, James, Carly, Cathy, Chuck, Isade, Jordyn, Richard, Bryan

Virtual: Tom,

Regrets: Kristel

Guests: Mike Marcolongo, Tiny homes coalition, Chris Williams T.H.C

1. Approval of Agenda; Derrick & Pina, motion carries

2. Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting (May 2024), Carly & Cathy, motion carries

3. Tiny Homes (10 Min) - Mike Marcolongo

- displaced individuals growing population in DT Guelph, looking to stabilize individuals with a pilot project of 25-50 tiny homes (in hopes of aiding in support, recovery & sense of community for those displaced/most vulnerable).
- Drawing on other cities like Waterloo, Kitchener & Peterborough
- 24/7 supported project, staffed with volunteers with health care services & additional resources.
- Hoping to have something in place by winter 2024 (tentative). Looking for ideal location & endorsement from the county
- Ask of county & city is strategic in terms of support. The project be integrated with bi-name list, with ODSP and shelter allowance to fund part of the project.
- City support: on May 15th, directed staff to work with THC to identify potential locations for the site, designated for public use & in kind services. Confident 55% of capital can be raised. Ask that city contribute operating costs.

Wednesday, June 26, 2024

- The financials would be half the cost of city proposed project (4.5 mill : city)
- Endorsed by Royal City Mission, CMHA, Stonehenge for collaborating on support programs to be offered.
- Hope to gain endorsement from DGBA.
- Hope to maintain rules of no violence & no open drug use
- NDA has been signed with city with regards to proposed locations for the tiny homes site (proposal going to council on the 16th of July)
- \$1.8-\$2.4 million capital, for up to 50 units (contingent on the site)
- Operating costs are \$500,000 per year, 9 full staffers
- July 4th, report being released from city & county data on social services
- 32 beds, 28 Delhi, 65 beds from Norfolk, 2 stories above stepping stone to become available in the near future.

4. Chair Updates - Chuck

- city presentation on annual update, lots of praise for the DGBA
- Chuck, Pina, Carly & Mayor Cam visited Kincardine on their infrastructure project
 - 540m, compared to ours 700m
 - Kincardine's feedback from other cities, was to not make it a multiyear project
 - Mandated that the RFP be a one year project
 - Take aways for business preparedness; build contingency fund, consider delivery options, lean into e-commerce, sales on average dropped 30%-50% during the construction project. Encouraged businesses with alternate entrances to beautify the space and encourage use ahead of time
 - Emphasized communication with the businesses; weekly newsletter for project updates on the previous week and key points for whats ahead.
 - Suggested lunch & learns, bi-weekly or monthly on how to work together and improve communication

Wednesday, June 26, 2024

- Lavis, division of Miller Group: businesses & city personnel spoke very highly of the company that completed the work; helped with vandalism repairs, involved in the community presence
 - BIA brought in a financial advisor ahead of construction to help businesses plan their contingency fund
 - The actual dig, was completed in 3 phases. Two crews; one to dig & one to do the “putting back together”
 - Second crew fell behind on timeline, city brought in additional crew support to meet deadlines
- gas line meters are unsightly; they are going to be put down the back alley/ if possible to keep it off main drag

5. City Updates - Stacey & James

- Sept 4th committee of the whole, all things downtown including infrastructure, increased budget for street scaling, future of downtown waste collection, downtown heritage conservation, public washroom report
- Waste collection would like to join July meeting with DGBA to provide updates
- Organizer for Carden market, 36 vendors, minimum of \$700+ was earned by each vendor, lots of positive feedback
- Some businesses pushed back, regarding accessibility, and lack of inclusion
- Fam tour downtown Guelph, we got a full page of The Toronto Sun on places to eat when in Guelph.

6. CLC Update & Welcoming Streets - Derrick

- Had a meeting at CHC to discuss upcoming events, welcoming streets is going to sweep the downtown for loose drug paraphernalia prior to events

7. Attractions Update - Pina

- Art on the street was a great success, downtown was lively and well attended
- Silvina would like to make the Carden Market more interactive with activities for kids/families to
- Spirit of The Season, meeting with Food for Kids = merging with Children's Foundation next week. Going forward we would like to work with/ support the children
- Indoor present wrapping at indoor vendor market, donation collection for GCF
- July 26th is the last day for Hut Application, August 6th will be the selection date for the businesses, 6 more huts have been added for this year
- Royal City Nursery would like to decorate the whole square for the season
- Adding a red heart mistletoe photo opp.

Rich: inquiry on pride banners for downtown? Some

8. Next Meeting: Wednesday July 31st @ 6:00pm

9. Adjournment