

DGBA BOARD MEETING - JUNE 2025

AGENDA

Wednesday July 2nd, 2025 @ 6:00pm

Location: DGBA Board Room

42 Wyndham St N, Guelph, ON N1H 4E6

Also available via Zoom link

Attending in Person: Charles Nash, Isade Dallan, Greg Jones, Jordyn Foster, Kristel Manes, Pina Marfisi, Bryan Steele, Richard Overland

Attending Virtually:

Sent Regrets: James Goodram, Stacey Laughlin, Cathy Downer, Carly Klassen, Derrick Rutherford

1. Approval of Agenda - Approved;Greg Jones & Richard Overland

2. Approval of Minutes from the previous meeting (May 2025) - Approved Pina & Richard

3. Downtown Waste User Fee Study - Presentation

- Heather Connell, technical services
- Cam Walsh, division manager
- Robertson: following up on the last meeting we had from January.
- In March, the city did door to door surveys with downtown businesses, recruited for a working group (creative edge, flour barrel, play with clay, county wellington), where they have met on a monthly basis. They will cross reference survey findings & working group findings.
- Would like to have an in-person meeting in July/August to gather additional feedback from the downtown community
- Q: is the project going to save money or cost more (for businesses)
 - It's going to cost more to do more, the cost will be dependant on individual business waste usage
 - Intention is to mitigate the existing issues of over flowing garbage & beautification of downtown, which will result in cost (underground garbage system)
 - Discussions will have to go to council before moving forward on finalized plan (October 2025 meeting)
 - Current: \$360,000/ 6 day collection per year

Wednesday, July 2, 2025

- Budget Proposal is to add \$410,000/ to add containers & dispose
- Average monthly cost for the budget (based on user fee) would be roughly \$80-\$100
- Potential roles for the BIA:
 - Co-hosting town hall style meeting to deep dive with businesses to gather feedback (July/August); alongside survey
 - Report is due end of August

4. Treasurers Report - Richard Overland

- Nothing to report, financials in good standings

5. Chair Updates - Charles Nash

- Pina & Charles attended meetings regarding St. George's Square

6. Downtown Lighting Project - Charles Nash

- Drawing on inspiration from Elora's lighting for the holiday season, feel as though we can bring that experience to downtown Guelph
- First area would be Quebec street & St. George's square, both sides of the street
- The cost would be \$179,000, meets part of the mandate for beautification (outlining windows, doorways)
- Same company that did the lighting for Elora
- In conjunction, Charles previously asked tourism for funding (city has proposed \$50,000 contribution/annually for four years for the beautification + \$25,000/ per year for four years for promotion and events, on the condition we match
- Need to gather feedback from landlords & tenants
- Forward a motion that we approve the lighting project for Quebec street for a total of \$179,000, Isade & Pina: Motion carries

7. City Updates - James Goodram & Stacey Laughlin

- Unavailable

8. CLC Updates - Derrick Rutherford

- Unavailable

9. Request to go in camera regarding staff - Pina Marfisi

10. Attractions Updates - Pina Marfisi

- Art on the street went very well
- Carly had put in a mural instalment, five artists did live panel painting during art on the street where community members could watch in real time
- Paint a protective anti-graffiti coating over these murals and have them hung locally downtown on buildings (with permission from landlords)
- The big garage sale, 75 spots have been committed, exceeded by 23 spots!
- Skyline sponsoring SOTS
- Doggie promenade & vintage sale (both September events)

11. Discuss Infrastructure Plans & Feedback - Charles Nash

- Delegating on July 8th: Charles to delegate

- Pina & Charles have attended multiple workshops on the St. Georges square infrastructure revitalization project
- Issues that have arisen (as per board perspective/suggestions for improvement):
 - The square needs to be flexible in it's use, including structures & furniture
 - Overall concern, the city is going to designate downtown as a heritage district, nothing in the plan compliments this
 - The materials used are very contemporary & cold; we think any materials should be warm, composite wood materials & should reflect a heritage district/ compliment it
 - Rubberized play area, does not wear well over time, surface becomes dirty & worn
 - Downtown city centre is not a playground, it's meant for commerce
 - Needs to be more focused on the European Piazza; more patios, outdoor socializing opportunities
 - Moving the fountain would be a waste of money to move across the street, move the fountain to where the library is being erected
 - Self cleaning bathroom; to be placed in front of the pharmacy near Quebec street mall (\$80,000)
 - Suggestion to move the restroom towards the post office/BMO ally way entrance
 - The restroom should be in an area where it doesn't impede business or pose as an eyesore/ smell issue

12. Next Meeting: Wednesday July 30th (pending to August)

13. Adjournment