



## MINUTES

### Hespeler Business Improvement Area Committee

Wednesday March 8th 2023 @ Desjardins Offices

**Committee Members in Attendance;** Executive Director – Darren, Chair – Cory, ViceChair – Tara, Councillor Devine, Kira, Mark, Tara,

**Regrets:** Kenn, Councillor Reid, Kelsey

#### **Meeting Called to Order**

The Executive Director welcomed everyone present and called the meeting to order at 6:30 p.m. and the meeting adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

#### **Motion to Approve December Minutes**

**THAT the Hespeler Village BIA Board Approved the February 2023 Minutes as written.**

**Moved by: Cory**

**Seconded by: Kiera**

**CARRIED**

#### **Welcome to Special guest speakers**

1. Crystal Bechtel – New Chair of the Forbes Music Festival.
  - a. Crystal spoke about the Festival Operations and requested some funding. BIA had to decline due to budget restrictions.
2. Matt Walker – City of Cambridge Economic Development film liaison
  - a. Matt spoke about the business of filming in Cambridge and some of the success Cambridge has had.

#### **City Update – Laura,**

1. Still looking for storage for BIA near downtown preferably.
2. Need to confirm Queen street closure dates, days, and times to Laura as soon as possible.
3. BIA Executive training coming in at end of March

#### **Update – Councillor Devine**

1. No update

### **Update – Councillor Reid**

1. Not present at meeting

### **Exec Director Update – Darren**

1. BIA election – could be nice to fill 2 vacant board positions, but will look to run election at a later time
2. Parking update – we will be getting some reminder communication to share with members
3. Shared how businesses should update contact info with Police.
4. Budget Issue – given budget constraints we cannot financially support Melissa Francis' Easter Saturday event.
5. BIA needs to nominate someone to represent Hespeler on the city Economic Development advisory board.

**Kira nominates Cory**

**No other nominations.**

**Cory accepts nomination.**

**Seconded by Tara**

**CARRIED**

### **Chair Update – Cory**

1. Saiira's multicultural event. Event will occur again this summer. Requested some financial help.
2. Walk Queen Committee has been established and planning underway
3. Walk Queen Days to Close Queen Street  
**That the street closure days/times be mid day Friday to 8pm Sunday, from the Friday June 2<sup>nd</sup> to Sunday Oct. 1<sup>st</sup>.**

**Moved by Cory**

**Seconded by Danna**

**CARRIED**

### **Finance Update – Kenn not present**

### **Holiday Season Lights Update – Darren/Tara**

1. BIA needs to make a decision regarding awarding Christmas lights for next season. No decision possible yet until later in the year until budget clarity

### **Finance Update – Darren noted from last meeting;**

1. Darren – we have 3 unplanned costs
  - a. \$2700 claw back from City for overpayments for 2022
  - b. \$8200 for Holiday Lights, there was just \$2000 in the budget
  - c. \$2100 for a new controller for the dam lights, which was damaged by vandalism.
  - d. NOTE: The Holiday lights and controller are eligible for the city's 50/50 cost sharing program and in total is a \$5100 budget hit.
  - e. A separate budget meeting is needed to make this work.

### **Task List Updates and Maintenance - Darren**

1. Concern over drought and dying trees downtown.
  - a. Laura is looking into how to get the trees watered – plan for 2023
2. Downtown WIFI
  - a. Laura is looking into who takes care of this. Check to see if signal repeaters are working properly
3. New Bicycle Racks – due spring 2023 – Tara, Laura
4. Cenotaph damage – railings around cenotaph that rusted and broke have been removed. What is plan for this area? – Councillors Devine and Reid
5. Christmas Lights aging and planned replacement (Darren)
6. Cowsill Corner Plaque – what to do with it? – Darren/Board
7. Dam Lights cellular remote control – Cory
8. Start Holiday Lights planning in July
9. Address graffiti – send info to;
  - a. <https://maps.cambridge.ca/gis/CleanupRequest/>
10. Downtown parking enforcement issues – Councillor Devine

### **Close of Meeting**

**THAT the March 8th, 2023 meeting of the Hespeler BIA Board meeting does now adjourn at 8:30 p.m.**

**CARRIED**

**Moved by: Cory**

**Seconded by: Mike**

**Carried.**

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Chair – HESPELER BIA

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Recording Secretary