



## MINUTES

**Hespeler Village Business Improvement Area Board Meeting  
Hespeler Heritage Centre / Company of Neighbours - 11  
Tannery St. E, Cambridge  
November 12, 2025, 6:30pm**

**Committee Members in Attendance:** In person - Ben Irwin, Cory de Villiers, Mike Devine, Tara O'Donnell, Natasa de Villiers, Tyler Legein. Online - Saul

**Regrets:** Marina Gigovic, Catherine McKittrick, Tim Hilborn, Mike Napier

**Guests:** Ann-Marie & Melissa from Region of Waterloo - Waste Collection 2026 Changes

### **Meeting Called to Order**

The Chair, welcomed everyone present, in-person and online, and called the November 2025 board meeting to order at 6:33pm. A reminder of the code of conduct was given, no conflicts were declared.

### **Approval of Minutes: October 2025 AGM**

Motion moved by: Cory de Villiers

Seconded by: Tara O'Donnell

Abstained: None

In favour: All

*THAT the October 2025 minutes of the Hespeler Village Business Improvement Area Board Meeting be approved as written.*

### **Introduction of Tyler Legion - Fundraising Manager for the Jacob's Landing project Reintroduction of Ben Irwin - Treasurer**

### **Guest Speaker: Ann-Marie & Melissa from the Region (Waste Collection)**

- Waterloo Region is moving from manual waste collection systems to a cart-based collection system (both residential and BIAs)
- Begins March of 2026 for BIAs and includes garbage, organics and recycling
- Full details will be available on a designated webpage, which will be distributed in the Spring.
- Businesses with questions or concerns are encouraged to reach out to Ann-Marie and team at [carts@regionofwaterloo.ca](mailto:carts@regionofwaterloo.ca) or using the online form on region's website
- Expecting all bins delivered for BIAs in February
- Ann-Marie to send Kelsey an electric copy of the info kit and link to webpage to share with BIA businesses and on social media in February.

### **City Update: Laura Pearce**

- Hespeler Heritage Conservation District Study - one final push for feedback from the community between now and Nov 28. Approval and designation expected in March.

- Work is continuing between CRA and finance regarding taxes.
- BIA Modernization review - City has received the draft recommendation report from the consultant and will be reviewing and distributing it to the BIA executives for review.

#### **Councillor Update: Mike Devine**

- A City Councillor is suggesting to have a poppy sidewalk painted to raise more awareness for veterans and military. Mike is concerned it will fade and then look undesirable and appear disrespectful and is therefore pushing for a memorial space with lights and/or water treatment and/or other visual representation at Forbes Park or Heritage Park and possibly expand to other areas like Soper Park and Rierside Park.
- Concern about the City's budget, how it's used, approved and spread across the City. Working on investigating this.

#### **Chair Update - Cory de Villiers**

- Working with Tyler on putting the groundwork in place for starting the lighting project. Need to raise \$25,000 by April or we lose the funds. Tyler's been working on corporate sponsorship programs, GoFundMe page called Zeffy, further work to come on TipTapPay point of sale module at events like Santa Claus Parade, WinterFest. \$85 collected at Halloween Hunt. Tyler to add St Patricks Day to the event list.

#### **Treasurer Update - Ben Irwin**

- Chequing balance is \$11,689.43; a differential of \$2,500 from the Executive Director's invoice being paid.
- Savings balance is \$15,865.22.

#### **Executive Director Update - Kelsey Vere**

- Full update [here](#).

#### **Other Updates:**

- Co-Op Students: Discussions around creating a co-op position of 30-40 hours a week to assist with the BIA during the summer months. Cory and Kelsey to share management and mentorship of the student and government to pay wages.
- Snowflake light installed by Shear Display - Work with the lights we have this year. Ask Jesse to note which ones can use a refresh and how many more we need to order as well as take note of the poles without power.
- See about plugging in the lights on the existing tree by Jacobs landing
- Kelsey to contact Bill Calbean, President of the Legion, about sharing the cost of removing the Veterans banners as there are more banners than snowflakes and an additional cost to remove all.
- Music & Lights in the Village: Tara to distribute the ornaments to businesses to hand out for free to customers leading up to event.

*Motion to approve a \$2,000 sponsorship to the Music & Lights in the Village event from the Hespeler Village BIA - something we do every year.*

*Moved by: Mike Devine*

*Seconded by: Cory de Villiers*

*All in favour: Everyone*

*Abstained: None*

Motion carried

- Hespeler Reunion Rep - Kelsey to email Mike Devine about us not being able to attend the meetings.

**Next Meeting**

Next meeting is set for December 10, 2025 at 6:30pm at Company of Neighbours, 11 Tannery St. E, Cambridge.

**Close of Meeting:**

*Moved by: Cory*

*Seconded by: Mike*

*All in favour: All*

*THAT the November 12th, 2025 meeting of the Hespeler Village BIA Board does now adjourn at 7:42pm.*

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Chair – HESPELER BIA

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Recording Secretary