



## MINUTES

### Hespeler Business Improvement Area Committee

Wednesday Feb 15<sup>th</sup> 2023 @ Fashion History Museum

**Committee Members in Attendance; Executive Director** – Darren, **Treasurer** - Kenn, Councillor Devine, Kira, Mark, Tara

**Regrets:** Cory, Councillor Reid, Danna, Kelsey, Laura

#### **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 January 2023 Minutes as written.**

**Moved by: Kenn**

**Seconded by: Tara**

CARRIED

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

1. Gary Jones – presented Community Dollars program to the board. Concept is a local currency specific to Waterloo Region will benefit local business. This was for information only. No specifics asks of the BIA.
2. Melissa Francis – presented to the Board her plans for a downtown Easter Egg hunt on Saturday April 8<sup>th</sup>. Her ask was for BIA support for funding and help in Promotion. No Motions were brought forward to approve any of her requests at this time.
3. Crystal Bechtel – Forbes Music Festival Chair had planned to speak, however plans to come to the March meeting.

#### **City Update – Laura**, presented by Darren from Laura's notes provided

1. A lighting plan has been approved for city lot by BMO. Will be in 2024 Budget.
2. Still looking for storage for BIA near downtown preferably.
3. Need to confirm Queen street closure dates, days, and times to Laura as soon as possible.

4. Cambridge '50' banners planned for many light stands around downtown Hespeler – map showing locations shared.
5. BIA Executive training coming in May

#### **Update – Councillor Devine**

1. Property at end of Spring Street has been purchased by the City.

#### **Update – Councillor Reid**

1. Not present at meeting

#### **Exec Director Update – Darren**

1. Vacant Vice-Chair position election.
  - a. Tara willing to take role.
  - b. Motion to nominate Tara to Vice-Chair position by Kira, 2<sup>nd</sup> – Kenn.
  - c. Vote passed
  - d. Congratulations Tara!
2. Shannon Brook update
  - a. Shannon has sold her tattoo business and is relinquishing her position with the board. We have 7 voting positions in place, and 2 vacancies. Will discuss at a future meeting a possible by-election to fill those vacancies.
3. Councillor Cowsill's plaque
  - a. Darren spoke with Scott, he is honored to have the plaque placed in Hespeler. He is happy to wait until good weather arrives and we will plan a simple ceremony.

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

1. 5 vendors to take over lights were contacted. We received just one quote. It is over \$8200, and includes new lights for focus tree and Cenotaph Park trees, and storage for all lights.

#### **Finance Update – Ken/Darren**

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 February 15th, 2023 meeting of the Hespeler BIA Board meeting does now adjourn at 8:30 p.m.**

**CARRIED**  
**Moved by: Kenn**  
**Seconded by: Mike**  
**Carried.**

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Chair – HESPELER BIA

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Recording Secretary