

Wingham BIA – Annual General Meeting
Thursday, March 16th , 6:30pm – Hot Stove Lounge

Board Members Present: Dave Tiffin, Ryan Ferguson , Carolyn Young, Annette Monsma, Mitch Wright, Joey Havers

Regrets: Jim Snyder, Doug Kuyvenhoven

Others Present: Reeve Paul Heffer,

1. Welcome – Called to order @ 6:32pm
2. Public Input – Opportunity for guests to speak up to 2 minutes on any agenda item – none noted
3. Approval of Agenda
4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest – none noted
5. Approval of Previous Minutes From January 2023 – **Moved by: Dave Tiffin; 2nd by: Carolyn Young**
6. Board Positions of 2023
 - a. Chair – Dave Tiffin
 - b. Vice Chair – Mitch Wright
 - c. Secretary – Carolyn Young
 - d. Treasurer – Doug Kuyvenhoven
 - e. Retail Contact – Annette Monsma
 - i. Noting that there will be a possible sub committee put in place involving other retailers to assist with Retail events given the scoop of the work involved
7. Meeting Dates for 2023
 - a. Meetings will continue to be held on the 3rd Thursday of each month @6:30pm. With the Exception of July as the Board does not meet during this month. Consensus among group was that this time and day works best for the majority.
8. Delegations – None noted
9. Financial – Treasurer – Dave Tiffin reviewed in Doug K.'s absence

- a. Financial Statements presented by Dave T.
- b. Cheques written – Motion to Approve: **Moved by: Dave Tiffin; 2nd by Ryan Ferguson - Carried.**
- c. Audit has been completed with no issues found
- d. A/R Review – presented by Dave T.
 - i. Outstanding bill for promotion – Dave to follow up for outstanding payment. Prepayment up front may be required moving forward to ensure payment is received.

10. Council update – Mitch Wright

- a. Still working through budget process – not updates at this time on this
- b. Alice Munro festival committee are deep into their planning. Possible opportunity for BIA partnership, specifically around advertising on the sign for the event. Planning a 3 day event to take place June 2, 3, 4th in Wingham, Blyth and Bayfield (1 day per town). So far there has been over 100 submissions of short stories. Planning around 8 guest writers, still looking for a keynote speaker. Committee is looking for sponsorship from local businesses. BIA can send out Mail chimp with details to membership.
- c. Huron Heights sale is progressing. Closing date approaching. First round of development will consist of 1/3 single family homes, 1/3 townhouses, and 1 apartment building. This will take up a 17 acre parcel of land. Other properties to developed over time. No dates yet on shovels in the ground. There is a buy back in place if no dirt moves by 3 year mark.
- d. Homecoming – Joe and Heidi Carter have taken the lead on this. Working to reinstate the committee. Committee will fall under Special Events process instead of Committee of Council. More details to come as more become confirmed and available.
- e. Apartment complex beside legion has started up work again
- f. Council Chamber move – No motion has yet been put forth to change this at this point. Move to come.

11. BIA Committees & Liaisons:

1. Retail Committee:

- a. Annette will be the main point of contact moving forward.
- b. Dave will call a meeting with a specific group of retailers who might be willing to assist on a sub committee.

2. Curb Appeal – Dave T.

- a. Flower baskets on order. Should be installed by the weekend after the May long weekend
- b. Delegation to Council – **Motion:** BIA to send a delegation to council in April to provide update on curb appeal projects.

a. Moved by Dave Tiffin; 2nd by Mitch Wright - carried

3. Communications – Dave T.
 - a. Website and Facebook continue to be updated as needed.
 - b. AGM article posted to website
 - c. Email sent to restaurants highlighting events happening that they might benefit by staying open during event times. Etc.

4. Community Connectors – Dave.
 - a. The film “The Great Disconnect” will be shown at Maitland River on April 16th at 6:30 pm. BIA to promote on LED Sign. Film is about the relationships and loneliness we have around us in a timing of growing tech.
 - b. Wingham Newcomers looking to put on a cricket match at the ball diamonds to showcase sport to community. BIA to support with details on sign. Still in planning stages.
 - c. Muskrat Festival – Festival is a go for this year. More information will be provided. BIA to support event on LED sign

12. Project Updates

- a. Banners – Ready to go up. Will go up at the same time as flags as soon as weather is appropriate
- b. Mural – Project is being worked on by Abi Bos. Coming along nicely. Aiming for a tentative reveal date of Friday, May 5th – weather dependant on installation process. Bench is being refurbished by Mann family.
- c. Benches – Subcommittee to be set up to investigate options, costs, timelines etc. Along with investigate possible opportunities to dedicate benches.
 - i. Doug and Ryan confirmed to be on committee. Carolyn and Paul volunteered if 3rd is needed.
- d. Alice Munro Display @ library – Verna Steffler has several items. Library and Museum working together to come up with a plan for a possible display at Library. Very early stages. More to come on this as it progresses.

13. Other business / New Businesses

- a. Soul Journey is opened – card readings etc. working with Sandra Ambling to start a filling station for laundry, dish soap etc.
- b. Dog Groomers going in across from Castings
- c. Pharmasave is now open in it’s new location. Much lower foot traffic downtown since move, impact has been felt by retailers and concern has been communicated to Economic Development Officer

- d. Dave T sent email to Huron County Chambers of Commerce to determine the status/direction on In It To Win It or Win This Space. Opportunity to fill some empty downtown spaces.

14. Next BIA Board Meeting – Thursday, April 20th, 6:30pm – Hot Stove Lounge

15. Motion: Adjourn at 7:30pm – Ryan Ferguson; 2nd by Carolyn Young – Carried.

Chair: Dave Tiffin

Secretary: Carolyn Young