

Wingham BIA – Board of Management Meeting
Thursday, January 19th, 6:30pm – Hot Stove Lounge

Board Members Present: Dave Tiffin, Jim Snyder, Carolyn Young, Annette Monsma, Mitch Wright

Absent: Ashley Vander Velden, Doug Kuyvenhoven, - regrets

Others Present: Paul Heffer, Ryan Ferguson, Michael (Pharmasave), Demetri Makrokos (Economic Development Officer – North Huron)

1. Welcome – Called to order @ 6:30pm
2. Public Input: None Noted
3. Approval of Agenda: **Moved by: Carolyn Y.; 2nd By: Annette M. – Carried**
4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest: None Noted
5. Welcome new Council Rep Mitch Wright (Wingham Ward)
6. Approval of Previous Minutes:
 - a. Follow up items – None noted.
 - b. (September 15th) **Moved by: Carolyn Y.; 2nd by: Jim Snyder – Carried**
7. Financials: Treasurer
 1. Financial statements: Dave T.
 2. Cheques written **moved by Annette M.; 2nd by Carolyn Y. - Carried**
 3. A/R review: Doug K went over financial statements and the A/R.
8. AGM Planning for February 16th, 2023
 - a. Meeting night Change
 - i. There has been an expression of interest in changing the BIA meeting night to the 4th Monday of every month.
 - ii. Demetri is looking into what is required if the board decides to move ahead with this change
 - b. Board Members – Returning, process for application
 - i. Dave T., Doug K, Carolyn Y., Annette M., Jim S. have all noted they will be returning.

- ii. Demetri noted there will be an online form for interested parties to either return or join board that should be filled out prior to the AGM. These will be reviewed at the AGM. A vote will only happen if there are more nominations than spots. Selected people will then be submitted to council for approval.
- c. Draft Budget for 2023
 - i. Draft Budget was reviewed and will be presented by Dave T. at AGM for approval
 - ii. Noting Mainstreet improvement plan will also be discussed at AGM
- d. Projects
 - i. BIA is looking to purchase 8 to 9 benches for 2023 for around town. Will be looking at options and obtaining quotes for the same. Also to be discussed at AGM
- e. Awards
 - i. Dave T. asked for thoughts and ideas around awards for Volunteer of the Year, Lifetime Achievement, New Businesses and Civic Improvements
- f. AGM Agenda
 - i. Agenda was discussed, Dave T, take away and finalize
- g. Information Going to Members
 - i. Information on AGM will need to go out to members at least 10 days prior to AGM via email, newspaper ads and website.
- h. BIA Constitution
 - i. Demetri noted that he is working on bringing the BIA's of Wingham and Blyth's Constitutions more in line with other. Demetri will attend the AGM and go through Constitution changes.

9. Council Update – Mitch Wright

- a. Council is currently working the budget process for 2023. Noting that nothing is firm, and some items and conversations are just options until everything is finalized
- b. Howson Dam Removal going ahead. With the possible commencement of the project to begin in the spring of 2023. It has been recognized that the park area might be impacted and have to be closed off due to heavy machinery.
- c. Museum Project has been tabled at this time and is not currently moving forward
- d. Homecoming Committee is moving forward with Council to approve committee likely early February.
- e. New Director of Public Works has been put in place
- f. County is working on developing/fixing the road works around Josephine (Tim Hortons) and McDonalds. With a realignment of intersections, crosswalks and sidewalks going it. Beginning stages.

10. BIA Committees & Liaisons:

1. Retail Committee: Ashley V. –
 - a. Ashley not available to attend tonight.
 - b. Christmas promo went well with good feedback
2. Curb Appeal – Doug K.
 - a. Doug not available to attend tonight. No update currently.
3. Communications – Dave T.
 - a. Website and Facebook continue to be updated as needed.
4. Economic Development -Dave T.
 - a. Economic Development Committee is no longer in place. It was determined that it was not necessary.
5. Community Connectors – Dave/Trevor:
 - a. The film “The Great Disconnect” will be shown at Maitland River.
 - b. Film is about the relationships and loneliness we have around us in a timing of growing tech.

11. Project Updates:

- a. Mural Project – Carolyn Y.
 - i. Mural project is now at the public feedback stage. Once that is completed, feedback will be compiled and shared with Artist (Abi Bos) for final tweaks. Mural will be shown to Council early Feb for its final approval. Then back to Abi to begin the painting phase. Mural is to be painted and ready for install by March 30th. With Install to happen when weather is good.
- b. Park Benches – Ideas to be presented at AGM
- c. Building Plaques – Dave T thought having building plaques on historic buildings around town might be a good way to show our history as folks walk around downtown. Dave to obtain quotes for the same and circle back with BIA.
- d. Town Wi-Fi – Presented as an idea. Further conversation needed to determine feasibility.
- e. Security Cameras – idea was to place in strategic locations around town.

12. Other Business/New Businesses

- a. Additions/removals
 - i. Makala’s Home Décor, Closet Confidential, Boho Tide have closed
 - ii. New Craft Store, Duck Duck Juice have recently opened
 - iii. Lone Wolf Antiques has moved
- b. Facility Changes (Arena, fitness Centre)

- i. No Decisions have been made at this time regarding the arena and fitness centre.
- ii. Motion from Board to direct Dave to draft a letter to Council to express our concerns and request that no changes be made to the arena ice surface and fitness centre. The removal/closure would have a huge impact on our retailers, as it draws a lot of people into the community.
- iii. **moved by Dave T.; 2nd by Annette M. - Carried**

14. Next BIA Board Meeting – Thursday, February 16th @ 6:30 pm – Knights Lounge

Motion to adjourn at 7:40pm . - Moved by Jim S.; 2nd by Dave T. – Carried.

Chair: Dave Tiffin

Secretary: Carolyn Young