

**Wingham BIA – Board of Management Meeting**  
**Thursday, November 16th, 6:30pm – Hot Stove Lounge**

Board Members Present: Carolyn Young, Annette Monsma, Mitch Wright, Doug Kuyvenhoven, Joey Havers; Ryan Ferguson, Jim Snyder, Dave Tiffin

Regrets: None

Others Present: Joanne Willard & MaryAnn Markle

1. Welcome – Called to order @ 6:30pm
2. Public Input – Opportunity for guests to speak up to 2 minutes on any agenda item –

Joanne Woodward and MaryAnn Markle presented a petition in relation to the rising costs of the rec centre. So far Joanne has collected 14 pages of signatures (13 per page), with other pages circulating with the community. Approx 40% of signatures are residents of North Huron.

3. Approval of Agenda – **Moved by: Doug K., 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joey H. - Carried**
4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest – none noted.
5. Approval of Previous Minutes from October 2023 –
  - a. **Moved by: Ryan F. 2<sup>nd</sup> by: Annette M. – Carried**
  - b. Error noted in regard to BIA funds available to retailer is not \$550, but \$950. Minutes edited and resent to Dave.
6. Financial – Treasurer – Doug Kuyvenhoven
  - a. Financial Statements presented by Doug K.
  - b. Cheques written - **Moved by Doug K.; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Joey H. - Carried**
  - c. A/R Review – presented by Doug K.
  - d. Motion to write off debt owed by Finishing Touches in the amount of \$339.00 – **Moved by Doug K; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan F - Carried**

7. Council update – Mitch Wright

- a. There was a survey that went out for the Strategic Plan for input. Mitch noted that it was a good process. Some of the findings noted:
  - i. A study to be conducted on putting in an electric charging station.
  - ii. One question was on how to balance the budget and an answer to that was to increase fees.
  - iii. In regard to the fee increase at the Rec Centre – a draft fee schedule was presented with no changes requested. The majority moved for this to go into its final stages.
  - iv. BIA presented questions on what other municipalities are charging for similar services. What's the sudden reasoning for such a high increase? Where are these numbers coming from?
  - v. **Motion for the Chair of the BIA to be empowered to write a letter to council regarding rate increases at Rec. Centre and to put more thought into the increases before moving ahead. Moved by Doug K.; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim S. – Carried**
- b. Town Hall Railings – Issues with General Contractors. As such, Town has reached out to Railing Manufacturers directly, paid for railings and are waiting for delivery of same.
- c. Council Chambers Construction – Construction is under way. Space will be available for other meetings, not just Council. ETA is January 1 for usage.

8. Town Hall Theatre Proposal

- a. Recommendation put forward that the BIA oversees the Townhall Theatre. BIA is a committee of council with a board and treasurer. BIA is working hard at rebranding Wingham for music. This would make sense to encompass and streamline.
- b. BIA will look at creating a sub committee that oversees the Town Hall Theatre and the Town Hall Theatre fund. However, the Town Hall will still take care of the booking process.
- c. **Motion – Wingham BIA is in support, in principle, of overseeing the Wingham Town Hall Theatre and the Town Hall Theatre Fund. But not the booking for the theatre. More research to be done. Moved by Joey H.; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Jim S. - Carried**

9. Christmas –

- a. Lighting of the lights – taking place Friday, November 16<sup>th</sup> at 6:30 pm.
- b. Lions Parade – Saturday, Nov 25<sup>th</sup> – BIA is paying for Band and Insurance. However, due to previous commitments, BIA board does not have availability to participate with float this year.

10. BIA Committees & Liaisons:

1. Retail Committee:

- a. Annette shared the new window cling decals for retailers that are participating in the Winter Wonderland promo.
  - b. There will not be an Open House as previously discussed. Timing just doesn't permit all retailers to do it at the same time.
  - c. Draw on 21st at 1pm for BIA Bucks. Results will be shared via social media.
  - d. Annette shared the window cling decals for Wingham BIA bucks.
  - e. Retailers, starting in January will have monthly meetings.
  - f. Questions was posed – can retailers use some BIA budget for generic radio ads to advertise Wingham and events. Yes, they can – Retailers to reach out to Doug directly for more information.
2. Community Cash – Doug
- a. Already sold approx. \$5K in BIA Bucks
  - b. Blyth Printing is working on creating more.
3. Curb Appeal – Doug K.
- a. Wingham signs refurbish is being postponed to January due to business of Marks Bros and their capacity currently.
4. Wingham Community Connectors – Dave T.
- a. Diwali 2023 event was held Sunday November 5<sup>th</sup> from 1 to 4pm @Legion. Well received and attended.
  - b. Volunteer Fair held in September not quite as popular as previous.
  - c. Still working on finding a new chair for the community connectors

## 11. Project Updates

- a. Benches – New Benches have arrived and are in storage until Spring 2024
- b. Future Projects -
  - i. Cameras and Wi-Fi – Doug shared the draft plan of camera placements and cost for same
  - ii. BIA would cover the cost of High-Speed connections through Hurontel for the Wi-Fi\_\_\_33
  - iii. More information needed to be collected on how to control limits etc.
  - iv. Plan will be presented at the AGM for membership approval.

## 12. Tourism

- a. Dave T. noted would like to see a tourism group/committee in North Huron
- b. Alice Munro display case has been set up at the library with some of the collection. Looking for a couple more cases. Value of cases would be approx. \$3500.

- i. Motion – BIA to put in Budget for 2024 the amount of \$3500 to support the Alice Munro Display at Library. Moved by Dave T.: 2<sup>nd</sup> by Doug K - Carried**

13. Annual General Meeting

- a. February 15<sup>th</sup> @ 7pm
- b. Awards – Lifetime achievement, New Businesses, Civic Improvement, Volunteer of year. – board to review and come up with listing.

14. Next BIA Board Meeting – Thursday, December 21, 6:30pm – Hot Stove Lounge

**15. Motion: Adjourn at 8:14pm – Dave T.; 2<sup>nd</sup> by Ryan F. – Carried.**

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Chair: Dave Tiffin

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Secretary: Carolyn Young