

Wingham BIA – General Meeting
Thursday, May 16, 6:30pm – Hot Stove Lounge

General Meeting:

Called to order: 6:30

1. General Discussion for those present –
 - a. Christine McGrath and Kerri Dunn present
 - b. Christine advised that the retail meetings have started again. The last promo had 15 participants
 - c. Concerns and questions were brought up around parking downtown and the install of Wi-Fi. Retailers are having an issue with people taking up parking spots all day. There is a concern as to what the free Wi-Fi will do to create a larger problem with this.
 - d. Doug and Joey noted there are limits that will be set. For example a limit can be set for 30 minutes, with one log in per 24 hours. Streaming platforms can also be blocked and bandwidth can be limited
 - e. Mitch advised that retailers that have issues with the same cars being parked, can take a photo of car and licence plate and submit a complaint to bylaw to action. Links for same can be found on North Huron webpage.
2. Marla has started a new “Shop Wingham” FB page and she working hard to get it running.
3. The BIA has a budget in place for retailers that is currently \$3000 / year for promos. This can be spread throughout the year. However, retailers have to get together and devise a plan on how to utilize these funds and let the BIA know.

General Meeting Adjourned: 6:42pm

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

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

Regrets: Ryan Ferguson, Annette Monsma

Others Present: Corey Biylea, Paul Heffer, Christine McGrath, Kerri Dunn

1. Welcome – Called to order @ 6:42pm
2. Public Input – None noted.
3. Approval of Agenda - completed.
4. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest – none noted.
5. Approval of Previous Minutes from April 2024 –
 - a. **Moved by: Doug K., 2nd by: Joey H. – Carried**
6. Financial – Treasurer
 - a. Financial Statements presented by Doug Kuyvenhoven
 - b. Cheques written - **Moved by Joey H.; 2nd by Carolyn Y. - Carried**
 - c. A/R Review – presented by Doug Kuyvenhoven
 - d. BIA Bucks
 - a. Libro has advised Doug that due to regulatory compliance, Libro can no longer process BIA Bucks as previously has been done.
 - b. This decision has left the BIA in a bit of bind to find a solution within 30 days.
 - c. Doug will continue to work on solution for same
7. Council update – Mitch Wright
 - a. There was a motion passed by Council to modify ice in and out policy. Modification will allow booking for 30 hrs/mth instead of 35 hours/mth
 - b. Blyth – Mill Street sewer line tenders are moving forward
 - c. CIP Fund – only one application currently – Healthy Computers. Dave mentioned a mail chimp sent out as a reminder might drum up some utilization
 - d. BIA budgets for Blyth and Wingham have been approved with one item on “hold” for further investigation (cameras)

8. Vance Fund – Dave Tiffin
 - a. 2024 Allocations:
 - a. Christian Churches - \$85,260
 - b. Wingham hospital - \$85,260
 - c. Scholarship items - \$127,890
 - d. Recreation - \$136,664 (Includes holdover from 2023)
 - b. Application open August 19th
 - c. Committee will meet in October to review and decide on applications.
 - d. Question raised regarding funds to other than hospital. Dave Tiffin to discuss with Vance Committee.

9. OBIAA Conference update – Dave Tiffin
 - a. Doug and Dave attending on the Monday and Tuesday
 - b. There was a trade show there as well that offered ideas on main street improvements (i.e.. Benches etc.).
 - c. Lots of good information and connections were shared and made.
 - d. Worthwhile to attend every few years, but probably not every year.

10. Theatre Update
 - a. Dave advised there is a meeting set with town staff for May 17th. Doug K and Mitch W will be representing the BIA board
 - b. Options that need to be addressed ASAP are on how handle the noise complaints from staff, booking issues and promoter issues
 - c. Feedback from several community members and retailers indicate this needs to be resolved. Putting limitations in place will have a negative impact on businesses.
 - d. Optics are not looking good for town hall complainants. Comments received by BIA are very critical of staff complaints for a few days a year, a few hours on those days.

11. BIA Committees & Liaisons:
 1. Retail Committee:
 - a. Carrie and Christine noted the concerns in the open portion of the meeting
 2. Curb Appeal – Doug K.
 - a. Flower baskets will be installed after long weekend. Volunteers will be needed. Doug will pin down a time and day and circle back.
 3. Festival of Lanterns – Lisa and Mark are stepping back from organizing. Actively seeking volunteers to continue. Noted that this is not a BIA initiative, as such, BIA will not be taking this on.
 - a. It was suggested that Mark or Lisa submit a letter to the council requesting they take on the initiative and perhaps have the community engagement Coordinator or the new Ec. Dev officer take the lead.

12. Project Updates

- a. Josephine St Wi-Fi and Camera's – Doug is doing testing. Waiting on flower basket install to determine the proper positioning for camera configuration
- b. Homecoming – BIA is not doing anything specific other than curb appeal projects.
 - a. Question arose around the lack on consistent updates, listing of events, advertising (posters etc.). tickets are selling out for certain events and people are unaware they are even available.
 - b. If organizers can provide a complete list of events from all participants, the BIA could place on social media and webpage or the electronic sign.

13. Other Business/new businesses update

- a. THRIVE Summit
 1. Carolyn attended one day. Lots of great ideas shared around placements and Streets Alive (Orillia) – Turning Places into Spaces, that are not expensive and require more main power and money
 2. Seasonal ideas include:
 - a. Red Door with Wreath placed at a centre spot in town for Christmas photo ops
 - b. Bike planters to beautify
 - c. Pop up photo spots
 - d. Buskers – using high school students and involving them
 - e. Artist on the street
 - f. Pop up park
 - g. Art Trail – Painted Pallet project – utilized Pallets and have local artist / students etc. paint pallets. With towns assistance, pallets are installed along river trail and large walking route is created that brings people back up to main street and into our retailers.

14. Board Positions – Secretary – Carolyn Young has tendered her resignation from the board effective immediately. A letter was provided to Dave T.

- a. Dave T. will assume Secretarial duties until someone steps into the role.
- b. Board will look to recruit 1-2 new members for duration of term.

15. Next BIA Board Meeting – Thursday, June 20th@ 6:30pm – Hot Stove Lounge

16. Motion: Adjourn at 7:40 – Moved by Joey, 2nd by Jim.

Chair: Dave Tiffin

Secretary: Carolyn Young