

**Ottawa St. Business Improvement Area**  
**Board of Directors Meeting**

**MINUTES**

**Date:** September 6, 2023

**Location:** Virtual meeting through Zoom

**Present:** Ettore Bonato, Mike Osborne, Mark Trudell, Syx Langemann, Constable Andie Suthers, Tracy Paterson, Mark McKenzie

**Regrets:** Byron Griffith, Lawrence Holland

**Guest Speakers:**

- Constable Andie Suthers

**Absent:** None

**Recorder:** Ettore Bonato

**Meeting Called to Order:** 7:03PM

**Approval of Agenda:**

- Tracy Paterson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Mike Osborne, CARRIED

**Disclosure of Interest:**

- None

**Adoption of Past Minutes:**

- August meeting
- Mark Trudell, 2<sup>nd</sup> Tracy Paterson, CARRIED

### **Coordinators Report:**

- August 12 tent sale and Pride event went very well
- Forms were filled out by passer byers and results will be ready for presentation by Syx for next meeting
- Recycle totes given away and people loved them
- QR codes needed to give out to all businesses; it will let people know what is happening on Ottawa Street at all times
- Credit card needed to website
- Going ahead with posters for Hallowe'en and win your purchase and holiday
- Everything is being put out on social media; Hallowe'en will be October 28, 12-2pm
- Conversation about putting wreaths up on lamp posts but board decided not to do anything this year; looking into other options
- Motion was made to get BIA dollars in \$20 increments, discussion was to make them \$10 increments, board agreed and CARRIED; update, BIA dollars were delivered and \$10 has to written in on each BIA dollar

### **Council Report:**

- Labour day parade had best turn out in years
- There has been a long term deal made that they will use Lanspeary Park for their festivities
- Lanspeary Park getting an overhaul; revitalization of the park will happen in phases; all departments will reach out to the community for input
- Homelessness is a problem and getting worse; a request has been made for more policing and social services showing up to help
- The two are showing up early in the morning and going through the neighbourhood to see if help is needed towards homelessness; bank hours not really working and looking at other organizations to pick up the slack; outside workers needed

- City employees are showing up at the park to clean it up almost every day; graffiti cleaned, needle pick up, garbage pickup

### **Treasurer's Report:**

- Things are up to date
- Most items paid towards the August 12 event; waiting for a bill from the City for police presence during the event
- We have over \$25,000 in the bank

### **Safety & Crime Prevention Committee Report:**

- More police cars are travelling through the Ottawa Street corridor
- Call the police to report anything out of the ordinary; the more calls, the more information will be on record, the more surveillance would be in the area
- Will stop by the restaurants to talk to them about stopping giving free food and coffee to the homeless; the more they do, the more homeless show up
- Merchants and residences have been complaining
- All this was explained and discussed by Constable Andie

### **Communications:**

- Map for expansion still being worked on; doing a final walk through shortly
- Many good responses for the road closure and we are proceeding with it again next year; more vendors needed for that day
- The BIA is lucky to be involved in "Open Streets" in 2024; it will be sometime in September 2024; will rotate every other year

### **Chairperson's Report:**

- We are approaching the final quarter of the year, what are we doing more to get more merchant participation

- More social postings can be made to let the merchants know an event is going on
- Discussion on Tent Sale and Pride Event; more advertising is needed, extra vendors are needed including food trucks; only two places open for breakfast
- There was low merchant participation, not a lot of tables or tent on the sidewalk

### **New Business:**

- The City wide mural project will be happening October 3-11
- There are sponsors which will be mentioned in advertising of the event
- 57 walls with many artists
- The Ottawa Street BIA donated a \$5000 sponsorship for 5 walls in our BIA; already has been paid out
- Any plugs for the event will be posted on the BIA social media sites
- The artwork by Denial on the convenience store wall should be done soon
- Mark McKenzie, ward 4 councillor, will be having a meeting with the public at Caboto Club, October 11; Mike and Ettore will attend, other board members are welcome also
- Artist Shane will be putting up a mural on the record store wall
- The City of Windsor is working on a phone number specifically to report any bad things happening, especially at the banks and stores; direct line to the police station

### **Next Meeting**

- To take place virtually via Zoom
- Future meetings: all on first Wednesday of every month
- October 18 @ 7:00PM
- AGM, November 1 @ 7:00PM – doors open 6:30PM, location to be determined
- December 6 @ 7:00PM

### **Adjournment:**

- Motion to adjourn, Tracy Paterson, 2<sup>nd</sup> Ettore Bonato

- Time adjourned 8:52PM