



HAMILTON BUSINESS  
IMPROVEMENT AREA

Board of Management  
Tuesday, October 10, 2023  
9:00 am  
Downtown Hamilton BIA - 20 Hughson St. S. Unit 104

## MINUTES

Present: Evan Apostol (Chair), Jason Morse, Andrew Mantecon, Michelle Blanchard, Ryan Moran, Lisa LaRocca, Stefanie Bonazza, Una Gibbons, A/Sgt. Alex Buck (HPS), Councillor Cameron Kreotsch, Emily Walsh, Emily Gilruth

Regrets: Francis Zanetti, Mark Wu, Christal Pshyk

1. Welcome and comments from the Chair – Evan welcomed everyone
2. Declaration of Conflicts of Interest – None
3. Agenda – **MOTION:** That the agenda be approved as presented. **Moved by U. Gibbons, Seconded by A. Mantecon CARRIED**
4. Approval of Minutes – **MOTION:** That the minutes of June 13th, 2023 be approved as presented. **Moved by M. Blanchard, Seconded by J. Morse CARRIED**
5. Hamilton Police Services Update – A/Sgt. Alex Buck – Indicated that the crime trend in the downtown core remains on a downward line compared to 2022. Shared with the BIA board that assaults are the most commonly reported crime reported in the area, while robbery and break + enters are the least commonly reported. Then proceeded to discuss the Core Patrol and indicated that they were still patrolling the area during business hours on Monday to Friday. Encouraged the BIA to tell the Hamilton Police Service if a business wanted to contact the Core Patrol agents and indicated that they hope to expand the program in the future. Also confirmed that the results of the Core Patrol survey from earlier this year would be released soon. Shared that there will be a more robust and visible police presence in the downtown core during the week of the Grey Cup, happening November 12 to 19.
6. Financials - **MOTION:** That the financials for May, June, and July 2023 be approved as presented. **Moved by S. Bonazza, Seconded by A. Mantecon CARRIED**
7. Draft Budget – **MOTION:** That the Draft Budget for 2024 be approved as presented. **Moved by J. Morse, Seconded by U. Gibbons CARRIED**

**Mission: The Downtown Hamilton BIA provides value to our members through advocacy, beautification, promotion, development, and preservation of Downtown Hamilton.**

**Vision: A vital and prosperous downtown that is the focal point of Hamilton.**

8. Discussion - Proposed changes to the Parking Revenue Sharing Program. Emily Walsh discussed details surrounding the current parking revenue sharing program and introduced the changes that are currently being proposed. Board members indicated that there was a lack of clear information and associated impact in these proposed changes, as the numbers had not yet been finalized. Indicated that the two largest concerns regarding this program were consistently losing spots due to construction and removing the requirement to utilize a parking app to claim free parking during the holiday season.
9. Other Items –
  - a. City of Hamilton Update – Councillor Cameron Kroetsch – Councillor Kroetsch spoke about updates regarding Gore Park, including its structure, the future possibility of adding washrooms and the ongoing maintenance of the fountain. Spoke about the fact that the LRT construction along King Street presents an opportunity to re-work the layout of Gore Park, increasing its pedestrianization and making it more usable. Then indicated that conversations surrounding washrooms in Gore Park will likely begin in the next 1-2 years, as there is a push for more public washrooms in the downtown core. Then discussed the condition of the fountain, adding that there is now a more consistent cleaning schedule and there are plans in place to repair parts of it so there is consistency in the water output from all spouts.
  - b. BIA Staff Update – Emily Walsh spoke about updates that the BIA has undertaken for the autumn season, including the seasonal décor that has now been updated throughout the core and the upcoming Halloween Spooktacular event happening on October 27. Also indicated that the Annual General Meeting is coming up, and will likely be scheduled for early November. The board then discussed some details surrounding the Summer Promenade, including some suggestions for how to improve it for future years. **ACTION:** Include open agenda items to discuss a variety of topics in future meetings’ agendas
10. Adjournment – 9:47 AM

**Dates to Note:**

Halloween Spooktacular Event

- October 27th, 5-8pm - Gore Park

Next Board Meeting

- November 14th, 9am - BIA Office