



HAMILTON BUSINESS
IMPROVEMENT AREA

Board of Management
Tuesday, April 9th, 2024
9:00 am
Hybrid - DHBIA Office 104 - 20 Hughson St. S. and Virtual

MINUTES

Present: Evan Apostol (Chair), Jason Morse, Ryan Moran, Michelle Blanchard, Francis Zanetti, Lisa LaRocca, Mark Wu, A/Sgt. Kevin Jones (HPS), Councillor Cameron Kroetsch, Sarah Ehmke, Peter Fortune, Cristina Geissler, Emily Walsh, Emily Gilruth

Regrets: Andrew Mantecon, Stefanie Bonazza, Christal Pshyk, Una Gibbons,

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 R. Moran, Seconded by L. LaRocca CARRIED**
4. Approval of Minutes – **MOTION:** That the minutes of March 12th, 2024 be approved as presented. **Moved by M. Blanchard, Seconded by J. Morse CARRIED**
5. Hamilton Police Services Update - Sgt. Kevin Jones – Indicated that while the 2024 rate of incidents is slightly higher than the same time last year, the trend line is still stable. Reiterated that the crime statistics presented for the downtown core include Jackson Square at 2 King Street West, which is not within the Downtown Hamilton BIA's boundary. Then quickly discussed that there would likely be an upward trajectory in the number of reported incidents in the summer months as the weather gets warmer and there are more people spending time outside. Finished by discussing the core patrol with the board of management, including the scheduling, available hours, and goals of the program.
6. Guest Speaker - Sarah Ehmke: Senior Project Manager – Placemaking and Animation – Sarah began by introducing herself and her colleagues Peter Fortune and Cristina Geissler, and then gave the Board of Management an introduction to placemaking and the directives that the City of Hamilton undertakes regarding these efforts. She then proceeded to discuss some of the placemaking initiatives that are scheduled to happen later in the year, including an outdoor theatre series, a dance series, a musical activation on King William Street, activations during the two Open Streets dates, and then a projection art initiative for next year.

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.

7. Financials - **MOTION:** That the financials for January 2024 be approved as presented. **Moved by F. Zanetti, Seconded by M. Blanchard CARRIED**

8. Discussion - Speaker Series – The board of management proceeded to discuss the speaker series and potential ideas for both individuals and topics. They agreed that they wanted the topics of discussion to be broad and accessible to a variety of individuals, instead of being limited to business owners, citizens of Hamilton, and business members of the Downtown Hamilton BIA. The board of management then concluded that one initial date should be scheduled soon and then the future of the series can then be determined by the success and feedback of that initial talk.

9. Other Items - BIA Staff Update – Emily Walsh discussed information relevant to the Downtown Hamilton BIA, including the ongoing success of our Safety and Security in Downtown Hamilton survey, and the BIA’s participation in the upcoming Cigarette Waste Cleanup Butt Blitz. Finished by reminding the board of management that BIA staff would be away from the office from April 29 to May 1 to attend the upcoming OBIAA conference.

10. Adjournment – 10:03 AM

Dates to Note:

Next Board Meeting

- May 14th

Other

- Butt Blitz (Cigarette Waste Cleanup Event) - April 27th
- OBIAA Conference - April 29th - May 1st