



HAMILTON BUSINESS
IMPROVEMENT AREA

Board of Management
Tuesday, May 14th, 2024
9:00 am
Hybrid - DHBIA Office 104 - 20 Hughson St. S. and Virtual

MINUTES

Present: Jason Morse (Chair), Ryan Moran, Michelle Blanchard, Francis Zanetti, Lisa LaRocca, Mark Wu, Christal Pshyk, Una Gibbons, Stefanie Bonazza, Sgt. Alex Buck, Supt. Robin Abbott, Insp. Jim Callender, Louis Frapporti, PJ Mercanti, Robbie Turchyn, Aileen Black, Emily Walsh, Emily Gilruth

Regrets: Evan Apostol, Andrew Mantecon, Councillor Cameron Kroetsch

1. Welcome and comments from the Chair – Jason 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 R. Moran CARRIED**
4. Approval of Minutes – **MOTION:** That the minutes of April 9th, 2024 be approved as presented. **Moved by M. Blanchard, Seconded by M. Wu CARRIED**
5. Hamilton Police Services Update - Sgt. Alex Buck – Indicated that the crime trend is below the average from last year at the same time. When reporting on the crime statistics from the beginning of 2024 he reiterated that Jackson Square (2 King Street West) is included in these statistics, but is not within the Downtown Hamilton BIA's boundary. Explained that assaults were the most common incident reported last month, and then indicated that trespassing was the most commonly reported incident across both emergency and non-emergency lines. Then finished by speaking about the upcoming RBC Canadian Open, and indicated that there would be more visible police presence in the area during the week that it runs, including more core patrol agents.
6. Guest Speaker - Louis Frapporti, Hamilton Urban Precinct Entertainment Group (HUPEG) – P.J. Mercanti and Louis Frapporti discussed a variety of topics related to the renovation of FirstOntario Centre and their plans for the arena. Indicated that the arena has the opportunity to garner global attention and draw a variety of high-value clients. Then proceeded to discuss that they want this project to enrich the surrounding community and are planning to work with social and community groups to ensure that it supports the larger Hamilton community around the location. Finished by

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.

indicating that they would like to open a dialogue with both the Downtown Hamilton BIA and the other BIAs throughout the city moving forward.

7. Financials - **MOTION:** That the financials for February 2024 and March 2024 be approved as presented. **Moved by R. Moran, Seconded by F. Zanetti CARRIED**

8. Other Items - BIA Staff Update – Emily Walsh discussed some relevant initiatives that the BIA has been undertaking, including the upcoming Summer Promenade, a collaboration on an upcoming outdoor vendor market, Open Streets, and the hiring of new staff. Indicated that new banners had been installed within the BIA’s boundary, and work on the speaker series would be pushed to later in the fall of 2024. The board of management then spent time discussing the availability of public washrooms within the downtown core and indicated that they would like to see more available and that this could be an initiative that the BIA advocated to the City of Hamilton to support. The board then proceeded to discuss the vacancy rates within the downtown core, and possible initiatives to attract people to these spaces, including public art projects.

9. Adjournment – 10:07 AM

Dates to Note:

Next Board Meeting

- June 11th 2024

Other

- Open Streets - May 26th | 10am - 2pm