
Meeting Minutes
Board of Management
May 9, 2023 at HDTC-BIA Office 6pm

Attendance: Nancy Dudley (Co-Chair); Connie Beneteau (BIA); Clair Culliford (Secretary); Andrew Thiel (Abstract Marketing); Jen Acampora (Apollo); Curtis Lemieux (Willy's 420); Liz Nauta (The Myrtle Flower Shop); Conor Allin (CK Counsel); Sgt R. Cowell (CK Police) and Paul Shettell (Treasurer)

Nancy commented on how nice it is to see beautiful weather and called the meeting to order.

Nancy asked for a motion to approve the agenda. A motion was first made by was Andrew and seconded by Jen; all were in favour. Motion carried.

Sergeant Renee Cowell reviewed the monthly police report. There was a slight increase in numbers with the nicer weather in April. There were 69 calls in the BIA area. She wanted to note the increase in suspicious persons calls and that is what the police want to see. That means the community is engaged and they want to be called.

Curtis asked about an incident happening at his business last week with a person and a knife. He did call 911 but very little was done. Sgt. Cowell had to speak in general terms as she was not made aware of this incident before the meeting. Had she been, she could have followed up with better information. Curtis will email her on the timeline of the incident. As a property owner, you can 'band' a person from entering your premises. If they then enter you property, then 'trespassing becomes enforceable offence.

Clair commented that the parking enforcement officer now wears a vest and a body cam as he was attached on a couple occasions while ticketing some parking issues.

A motion was made to approve the Police Report first by Conor and seconded by Clair. All were in favour. Motion carried.

Nancy asked if there were any business arising from the previous board meeting minutes. Connie mentioned the Lights for downtown. We have ½ of the lights from Crowfest and the mall has the other half. We have to ask each of the businesses permission to attach to their building. She feels that that may be a difficult task and asked if we cannot, if we can get more poles. Who knows which buildings have to have permission? Andrew has the layout. Connie also mentioned that 2022 Audits are still outstanding with the I.T. questions. The mural on 4th Street is in a position that it could fall. What is out next step for the mural? Conor will ask about funding for murals.

Clair noted that there was an omission of Liz's attendance on last months meeting. Noted. Nancy asked for a motion to approve the previous meeting.

A motion was made to accept the Previous Board Meeting Minutes first by Paul and second by Curtis. All were in favour and Meeting Minutes were approved.

Nancy asked if there were any declaration of conflict of interest? Seeing none, we are moving onto the Board Reports.

Board Reports:

Co-Chair: Nancy reported the ‘new’ businesses in our downtown: Propel Marketing, AVLIS jewelry; Trainer; Enchantment Emporium moved; I need that Comic & Games; Maholo Liquidation; prem moved; and Exordia Creative. “There is a lot of movement in the downtown”. On May 24, 2023 99.1 cksx will be doing a live morning show here at the office.

Secretary: Clair had email correspondence from Mark Ceppi to Frank’s Music Centre pertaining to parking issues. Curtis and Andrew said they both tried to have a tow company come in a tow a vehicle but they were both told they can not do that without police. Sgt. Cowell said it’s private property. However, they are liable if there is no police, so they will not. It was suggested that metering the street would help keeping people from staying longer.

Office Update: Connie said that Pitch-In-week; Business Summit; CK Expo. And a volunteer webinar was all completed. RetroFest is in good standing with the special events application approved. We are selling 50/50 tickets for FreeHelpCK as well as Pit Party tickets. We are short volunteers, so if you know anyone that can help to send them our way. We did look into Gift Card program for the BIA however the starting price for administrative was \$12,000.00. We could ask for a sponsorship to help but is it worth our while? No real answer but the general opinion was no. The BIA wrote a grant for Crowfest 2023.

Treasurer: Everyone reviewed the hardcopies at the same time. Everything looked in order.

MCK Representatives:

Council: Conor emailed Rob/Dennis about the downtown lights. A question was asked about maintenance of the bulbs and Andrew said that maybe a schedule with St. Clair College to check every 6 months.

Economic Development: Anthony was not available

Chatham-Kent Fire: Ken was unavailable however he sent a report that Arson Prevention will begin on Monday May 16 at 9:30am and they will go to as many businesses as they can.

A motion was made to approve the board reports first by Paul and second by Andrew. All were in favour. Reports were approved.

New Business: Andrew reported that Conor looked into the Parking Reserve Funds and it allows access to use moneys for specific things. We have projects we would like to look into but the description needs to be modified for use outside of parking enhancements and fund matching. The current council is much more forward thinking and the public and council are into arts and culture. We believe that these funds should be more diverse in order to account for arts and culture. We need a list of projects like the murals and costs.

Nancy asked for a motion to adjourn the meeting, The motion was made first by Hetty and second by Liz. All were in favour and meeting was adjourned.

Next Board Meeting: June 13, 2023

Signature of Chair:

Signature of Secretary: