



MINUTES

Parry Sound Downtown Business Association

March 8th, 2017

Meeting called to order by Daryl McMurray at 6:29pm

In Attendance

Board Members: Daryl McMurray, David Coles, Sue Sullivan, Councillor Paul Borneman, Mike Puro

Staff: Susan Hrycyna

Guests: Jo Bossart

Regrets: Cathy Downing, Dora Logan

Welcome to New Board Member

Daryl welcomed Mike Puro to the DBA board. Mike runs the Co-operators business on Gibson Street and is a welcome addition to the board.

Approval of Agenda

“Motion to approve the agenda of the March 8th, 2017 DBA Board of Directors Meeting”

Moved by: Paul Borneman

Seconded by: Sue Sullivan

Carried

Official Plan Bylaw Amendment Appeal – Guest Jo Bossart

Paul Borneman declared a conflict of interest and left the room during the discussion.

On December 20th, 2016, Council passed a resolution for a by-law amendment to the Official Plan that would allow RBC to move from their current location in the mall to the south end of town in the old Easy Home location. Jo Bossart has filed an appeal with the OMB against this amendment. The OP by-law amendment must be approved by the province within 180 days before the rezoning comes into an effect. Jo has also sent a letter to the province with reasons as to why this amendment should be denied.

Once the Official Plan ruling comes down there will be a two week window to fill an appeal against their decision. Only people who wrote to council can appeal. Since the DBA is a committee of council they cannot file an appeal.

The developer who owns the property where RBC wants to relocate to, has filed an appeal with the OMB against Jo's appeal claiming it is vexatious. The hearing is on April 12th. Joe would like letters of support from the DBA and DBA businesses for this hearing.

Susan will send out information to the membership and draft a letter of support reaffirming the board's position for Daryl to review.

Approval of Minutes

"Motion to approve the minutes from the February 15th, 2017 DBA Board of Directors meeting"

Moved by: Paul Borneman

Seconded by: David Coles

Carried

Correspondence

A proposal for a full colour mailer was received from Minuteman Press. The cost is \$325 for a 1/4 page ad. It will be mailed at the end of April to 9,500 households. We will go ahead and do a "Save the Date" ad. We will ask for a corner spot so people can cut it out.

Nora Alexander, Committee Chair for Active Women's Winter Weekend, sent a thank you for the downtown dollars that were donated.

Brenda Ryan from FAD Architects sent an e-mail asking for feedback as to why the DBA did not want the Information Kiosk to be moved and incorporated into the new public washrooms. Susan replied with feedback about the design and the fact the DBA could not afford the cost of the new structure.

Lynn Middaugh sent an e-mail to inform us that Council approved funds to restore the Brag Load mural located on the side of the Tulloch building.

New Business

a) New planters

- \$5,000 was put into the budget for hanging baskets. The quote that was accepted will only cost us \$2,015 leaving a surplus of \$2,985.

- Classic Displays sells large red flower pot planters. We will replace the old black metal planters with new ones – 10 on James St, and 4 at the corner of James and Seguin. We will buy 12 Calla (33”h x 20”w) planters and 2 large Hosta (40”h x 40”w) for the corner by Scotia Bank and CIBC.
- Susan will find out what they are made of to make sure they are durable and won’t chip when being moved. She will also talk to Peter about moving them to the transfer station during the winter, especially the large ones.

b) Busking

- Susan put a request for buskers on Facebook and on the website. She had eight people contact her expressing their interest in busking.
- Susan will send a letter to Council with the DBA’s recommendation to approve all of them to busk this summer.
- We need to develop a policy and guidelines. Susan will prepare something for April’s board meeting. A request will be put out through OBIAA asking if other BIA’s will share their guidelines.
- The procedure for buskers requesting approval will be taken to the next Downtown Steering Committee meeting.

c) Repeal of tax rebate for empty commercial space

- In the 1990’s the Province introduced a requirement for municipalities to have a vacant commercial and industrial rebate program. Currently, properties that have been vacant for a minimum of 90 days are eligible for a 30% rebate on their taxes.
- The Province is now providing municipalities with the ability to tailor the program to reflect their local needs.
- Rob Beaumont is working to revamp the program and has six options. He asked for input from the board.
- After discussion the board had a few comments
 - 1) Rebate only applies during renovations
 - 2) The rebate is time limited and is pro-rated over a set number of years
 - 3) The rebate will only be given if the property is actively being marketed for lease or sale
- Rob will come to the AGM to get feedback from the members.

d) Other

- David will send out a sample for our first walk of fame stone for board members to look at and comment on.

Strategic Planning

a) Mission Statement

- A variety of Mission statements were discussed. Susan will send out all of the options and the board members will each send their Mission statement to Susan before the next meeting.

b) Vision Statement

- How to create a Vision statement was discussed and board members will work on their own Vision statement before the next meeting.

Reports

a) Administrator- Susan Hrycyna. A detailed report is on file.

b) Events Report – Susan Hrycyna. A detailed report is on file.

- Sue from Sue’s Groom Room has an Easter Bunny costume and has offered to come to the Beatty building on Saturday April 8th from 10am-noon for kids to come and have their picture taken with her.

c) Financial – David Coles. A detailed financial report is on file.

“Motion to accept the financial statements as presented”

Moved by: David Coles

Seconded by: Mike Puro

Carried

- Upcoming capital expenses (Walk of Fame and Juke’s Lane) will be added to the budget for the AGM

d) Chamber – Daryl McMurray

- There has not been a meeting since the last board meeting

e) Council – Paul Borneman

- The old firehall was sold to Parry Sound Bikes
- Peter Brown has a list of people who can prepare the sidewalk for the Walk of Fame stone. Susan to follow up.
- PS Muskoka Community has funding to help people build websites. They are also looking at putting wifi in the downtown. They also have some advertising opportunities. Paul will send Susan the contact info.

Next Meeting

The next meeting will take place on April 12th, 2017

“Motion to adjourn the meeting was made at 8:16 pm “

Moved by: Paul Borneman

Seconded by: Mike Puro

Carried

Minutes of the meeting were recorded by: Susan Hrycyna, Executive Administrator