



**Downtown Port Colborne BIA- Board Meeting
Tuesday, February 21, 2023, 6:30 pm
BIA Office- Main Training Room- Port Cares Admin Building
92 Charlotte St, Port Colborne**

AGENDA

In attendance: Jesse Boles, Taylor Mynlieff, Rosemari Poisson, Morgan MacLean, Larry Beverly, Norbert Gieger, Harry Hamilton, Councillor Dave Elliot, Anna Maria Crognale and Olga Loeffen.

Staff: Sarah English.

Regrets: Ed Cleveland and Mary-Lou Ambrose-Little.

Guest: Rick Hall and Christina Szymanis.

Welcome

Jesse Boles, Chair welcomed everyone to the meeting.

Call to order

The meeting was called to order at 6:32 pm.

Land Recognition Acknowledgement

Declaration of pecuniary interest- none

Approval of Agenda

Motion: "To approve the agenda"

Motioned by Larry & Morgan. Motion Carried.

Approval of Minutes: November 2022 & January 2023 Meeting

Corrections are required to send out the correct November minutes.

Motion: "to defer the November minutes for correction"

Motioned by Taylor & Rosemari. Motion Carried.

Business Arising from the minutes.

None

Beautification Committee- Rick Hall presented his plans as he has started a beautification committee for the whole City of Port Colborne. He is welcoming anyone to join and wants equal representation across the city. The 1st meeting will be held d March 4th at Rick's home at 101 Sugarloaf. Some focus for this project are city signage, provincial highway sign repairs, and lighting, as well as Annual Awards with different categories to encourage pride in the property. Wants to focus on a few small projects for the first year. Looking at all funding opportunities. Jesse volunteered to join.

Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) – Looking at changes at a provincial level to help enforce property standards. Developing a city standard for commercial properties will help eliminate the bare minimum standard we see on vacant commercial buildings. The commercial building owners receive a 30% tax break, but buildings are being misused and create an eye sore for the areas around them.

Election of Board

Nominations were opened.

Chair- Jesse Boles nominated by Rosemari.

Vice Chair- Norbert nominated by Larry

Treasurer- Taylor nominated by Jesse

Secretary- Morgan nominated by Taylor

Motion to affirm as elected by Larry. Motion Carried.

Reports

- **Chair's Report** No Report
- **Councillor's Report-** See below.
- **Events-** See below.
- **Governance** No report.
- **Marketing** See below.
- **Staff Reports** - Executive Directors Report see below and Sarah provided a verbal report.
- **Treasurer's Report** See below.

Councillor's Report Dave discussed the recent cancellation of the Welcome Centre and shared it has been placed on the back burner for now. He shared that the wharf repair project is set to happen from 2024-2026. He also shared the recent focus on Buffalo Harbour and their senators' focus on attracting the Cruise ships out that way. Dave also shared the announcement that Port Colborne Urgent Care is slated to be closed in 2028. Mayor Bill Steele is planning a meeting with the Minister of Health to discuss the need for health care in South Niagara. Dave also shared that Port Colborne experienced a mild 2.9% tax increase compared to surrounding areas.

Marketing Report- Sarah would like to get photos and bios from the board at our next meeting. She will be including this on our social media/website to help put faces to names and create connections.

Events Report

The 2023 Events Draft was shared and discussed. Dates were kept intact except for the Christmas Open House which was moved from November 24th & 25th to November 17-19th. LIFT festival has been slated

for 2024 with Main St BIA taking the lead on it. Jesse shared with regards to Canal Days that Mary-Lou obtained a grant that will provide us money for staffing which can help alleviate the work for the few.

Treasurer's Report

Taylor advised the 2nd bank account has been officially closed and funds have been moved. We are operating out of 1 bank account now. Taylor has requested an active spreadsheet be used to keep track of outstanding grants, income, outgoing payments, levies etc. This will provide a more streamlined experience for our financial view. PC Forge payment should be on its way and is expected soon.

Event Committee

Events Committee members - Rosemari, Larry, Morgan

Olga is going to help facilitate volunteers for BIA. Morgan shared the need for volunteers to assist as we have enough bodies to plan events but need people on the day off to help execute.

New Membership

Harry Hamilton joins us from The Legion in Port Colborne. He shared they are actively trying to engage and recognize more veterans and bring some life back to the legion and Port Colborne as a whole. They have attempted some outdoor storage options to help curb vandalism and stolen items but were unable to get approval for c-can for their property due to City's bylaw. Jesse will help them in navigating a review of that ruling.

Adjournment

Motioned by Rosemari & Taylor. Motion Carried.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 PM.

Next Meeting: Tuesday, March 21, 2023, at 6:30 PM