



The BIA expressed an interest to update their Procedural By-Law since it was created in 2013. One of the changes will be to add Public Comments to their Agenda.

Corrina will review the Procedural By-Law with George in a draft. The board members can email changes to Corrina and she will bring back the draft to the October meeting for review after which time a staff report will be prepared and a public meeting held to receive members' comments on it. Following that, the revised Procedural By-Law go to council to be passed.

George spoke on addressing the ability to have associate members that would not be part of the levy but would voluntarily agree to pay the equivalent of the levy for that year. They would get a listing on the website but would not have voting rights.

The BIA wanted something to address pop up stores and a basis on which to collect a fee from the landlords along a similar line as the associate membership.

Corrina will email Donna to circulate to the board for comments to have something prepared for the October meeting.

When the Procedural By-Law was developed in 2013 it was the BIA's alone so Corinna will research to see if it needs to be passed by Council or not.

**C.2 Correspondence from Thornbury Auto, Diversified Transportation Services and Lakeshore Manufacturing. The Board should draft a response for C. Giles to include in a report to Council for the September 16 Committee of the Whole.**

Corrina relayed that Council had received the above mentioned correspondence and has asked for a report back on how the catchment area for the BIA is changed.

The above businesses don't feel that they are getting the benefits of the BIA. ie. flowers etc. so they are asking that Council change the BIA catchment area to remove them from the BIA area so they do not have to pay the levy.

A report will be going to the Committee of the Whole on Sept. 16 advising them on how they can change the catchment area. Corinna would like to include comments from the BIA in her staff report.

George stated there is a proper process for this and that if the business doesn't perceive a benefit or understand the benefit derived from being in the catchment area of the BIA, it is not grounds for altering the BIA boundaries.

With regards to their claim to not receive any benefit from being in the BIA, Thornbury Auto received a grant of \$2500 because they are in the BIA and would not have qualified for the grant otherwise.

For the BIA to spend the members money wisely, it needs to be spent where it has the most impact. For this reason, pedestrian lights, flowers and banners are only located in high visibility areas. The purpose of the BIA is to attract new residents and visitors to the area to the general benefit of all the members.

The BIA area was aligned with the area covered by the Community Improvement Plan in order to make the BIA eligible for infrastructure funding. The realignment was conducted following the due process for this change which included notice

given to the affected businesses, and the holding of public meetings to receive feedback.

Tony drew a comparison to property taxes which the levy is a form of. The formula is generated for everyone to pay, and not all tap into all of the benefits equally but all benefit on some level.

Corrina asked for a Motion.

Moved by: Tony Poole

Seconded by: Matthew Cundy

THAT the Thornbury Business Improvement Area Board of Management receives the correspondence from Thornbury Auto, Diversified Transportation Services and Lakeshore Manufacturing date stamped May 1, 2019, requesting that their premises be removed from the Thornbury Business Improvement Area catchment area;

AND THAT in response to this correspondence, the Thornbury Business Improvement Area Board of Management confirms that it does not support the requested change to the Thornbury Business Improvement Area catchment area. CARRIED.

Corrina thanked the Board.

### **C.3 Closed Session**

Moved by: Melanie Johns

Second by: Tony Poole

THAT with regard to subsection 239 of the Municipal Act 2001, the Thornbury Business Improvement Area Board of Management does now move into closed session in order to address matters pertaining to personal matters about an identifiable individual, including Town or local board employees, and labour relations or employee negotiations and with regard to personnel matters.

The BIA Board moved into closed session at 8:24 a.m.

The BIA Board moved into public session at 9:17 a.m.

Moved by: Tony Poole

Second by: Matthew Cundy

THAT the Thornbury BIA Board create a contract position to facilitate the implementation of BIA board directives and initiatives and that the board direct board members to draft a job description and proceed with the process of filling the position. CARRIED.

Tony explained that the rationale for this decision is to improve the BIA's social media presence, and to more effectively carry out the management and implementation of board initiatives. Relying on volunteer members of the board has been inefficient at best and is a barrier to trying new initiatives to better compete against other nearby BIAs. We need someone whose sole purpose is ensuring the success of these initiatives.

#### **C.4 Events committee update - review of Apple Harvest Festival (AHF)**

George deferred this to Ryan.

Ryan mentioned that the Ministry of Natural Resources (MNR) have committed to one day and that they looking to get more support for the Fish Ladder.

They are continuing to work closely with the Village Association regarding the brochure which should be out soon.

George asked if there were still fish ladder brochures and Tim stated we do have some which will be placed out there.

Discussion regarding the poor visibility of the TV at the dam showing the underwater videos and Tim is still looking for solutions.

#### **C.5 Economic Development Advisory Committee (EDAC) update: Tony Poole**

Digital initiative: a success story of an organization named the Digital Arts Studio in Clarksburg (Marsh Centre) that qualified for a \$250,000 grant that exposes children and adults to the use of digital arts and equipment and will work with people to put together programs. Some of the equipment will be available from the Library.

Community transportation grant: \$1.8 million made available going into a project to solve some transportation problems to get some youth and employees to various jobs.

Signage initiative and a review of the entry signage into Thornbury. Along with a reviewing of the signage by-law.

Strategic planning sub-committee of which Tony is on have done some early work with the assistance of Tim to put together a SWAT analysis in order for the community to look at economic development priorities. Seeing very specific items that are being identified and work being done on them.

Tim spoke on the R.E.D. grant and that the BIA is not eligible to submit their own application. Changes to the criteria have come, but the Town can apply so the BIA will be a co-applicant on it. They are working with the Province to identify what can be covered. i.e. gateway signage is not covered.

George asked what is needed to go forward.

Ryan stated that the BIA owns the signs and is responsible for them. Ryan is still trying to clarify the details and will report back. George stated that he would like some direction from Ryan and what he needs from the board for the next meeting.

Tim stated they have been looking at funding opportunities to assist. Tim and Ryan will get back to the Board.

#### **D. Adjournment**

Moved by: Melanie Johns

Seconded by: Matthew Cundy

THAT this meeting does now adjourn at 9:35 a.m. to meet again on October 2, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. at The Town of The Blue Mountains Council Chamber or at the call of the Chair.