



Minutes

Thornbury Business Improvement Area

Meeting Date: December 5, 2018
Meeting Time: 8:00 a.m.
Location: Town Hall, Council Chambers
Prepared by Donna Gorrie, Recording Secretary

A. Call to Order

George Matamoros called the meeting to order at 8:00 a.m.

In attendance were BIA directors Tony Poole, Renee DesRochers, Melanie Johns, Rob Potter, Skot Beaumont, and Leslie Lewis, BIA Events Manager Sarah McNulty, Town of the Blue Mountains Acting CAO Shawn Everitt, Acting Director of Community Services Ryan Gibbons, Communications and Economic Development Coordinator Tim Hendry, Deputy Mayor Odette Bartnicki, Joe Halos of King's Court, Josie Poole of Sincerely Yours, Matt Cundy of Thornbury Graphics, Nicole Craig of Cherchez la Femme, Casey Thomson of The Cheese Gallery, Spencer Sgro of 15 Harbour St., Rob Uhrig of Bruce Street Technologies, Marti Williams of Gyles Sails and Marine and Keith Turner, Landlord.

A.1 Approval of Agenda

Moved by: Rob Potter

Seconded by: Skot Beaumont

THAT the Agenda of December 5, 2018 be approved as amended allowing for C.1 to now be Nominations of Directors. Carried.

A.2 Declaration of Pecuniary Interest and general nature thereof: none

A.3 Previous Minutes

Moved by: Tony Poole

Seconded by: Rob Potter

THAT the Thornbury BIA Minutes of November 7, 2018 be adopted as circulated. Carried.

B. Deputations: none

C. Meeting

C.1 Nominations of Directors: George Matamoros. The following chart summarizes the nominations for the Board of Management:

2018-2022 Term of the BIA Board of Management

Nominee	Nominated by	Seconder
1. Leslie Lewis	George Matamoros	Melanie Johns
2. Keith Turner	Nicole Craig	Renee DesRochers
3. Melanie Johns	Joe Halos	Leslie Lewis
4. Renee DesRochers	Leslie Lewis	Tony Poole
5. Matthew Cundy	Tony Poole	Marti Williams
6. Tony Poole	Keith Turner	Spencer Sgro
7. George Matamoros	Casey Thomson	Tony Poole
8.		

The nominations will now go to Council to confirm the appointments to the Board, including the appointment of a Councillor as Council representative. As there were fewer nomination than there are positions an election will not be required. George indicated that he had received an expression of interest from the manager of the Royal Harbour Resort but since they are not members of the BIA they are not eligible to be nominated.

George was asked to read out the names of those nominated and elected and then asked if there were any other questions or comments regarding this nomination process.

Since January 2nd, 2019 is the proposed date for the next meeting, it was mentioned that this may be rescheduled to the following week.

George called for the Nominations to be closed and the nominations will now be forwarded to Council and he thanked those that came today.

C.2 Events Committee/update: Sarah McNulty relayed that most details have now been confirmed including Santa's house which has just arrived thanks at Home Hardware. The lights in the Parkette have been installed and the Christmas tree by Town Hall has been decorated courtesy of Landmark. Ryan Gibbons is working with the Clerk to secure Council to attend the tree lighting ceremony. The Beaver Valley Pipe and Drums will once more be at the tree lighting. We have lost the Grinch this year as he moves on to the Rogers Centre. There will be some new animation and the Town Hall will be filled with family activities. Sponsored by Lifestyles North, the Horse and wagon ride will be taking place with 2 runs: one in the afternoon and one in the evening and will pick up outside of Gyles Sails and Marine. Four movies will be playing in the evening sponsored by Harbour Mews. Josie asked about any food vendors and Sarah mentioned that there were no opportunities since most trucks close down in the fall and we could look into this for 2019. George thanked Donna for making the calls to the businesses to garner their support for the BIA table that will be placed in the Town Hall that day. A lot of feedback is received during these calls.

C.3 Fishway Computer Upgrades: Tim Hendry

Tim brought the board up to date on upgrades to the computer and camera system at the Fishway. They identified the importance of the camera from numerous calls from the public complaining about the image quality. Tim obtained quotes for the work necessary to improve the image quality and the Town will be spending \$4,475 from the grant to upgrade the area to purchase new computers and upgrade software. The upgrade should be implemented by Spring 2019.

Leslie asked whether the lights on the bridge which illuminate the fishway could be on at night, year-round and possibly using LEDs that change colour for different seasons. Tim identified that the Fish Ladder needs some enhancement and improvement with signage and overall experience and would take Leslie's comment back to the MNR who are ultimately responsible for the Fishway.

Rob Uhrig asked Tim whether the Town had looked into possible network issues as the cause of the problem and for clarification as to how the contract was awarded. The discussion was cut short by George as the funds being expended were not BIA funds and he encouraged Rob to follow up with Tim after the meeting to get the answers he needed.

Tony asked for clarification of where the money was coming from for the upgrade and Shawn Everitt explained about that it was part of the \$43,000 downtown revitalization grant which was used in part to make improvements to Bruce St. North. The BIA board has identified the fish ladder as important and the new board will work with the town and the MNR to keep improving this area.

C.4 Town of The Blue Mountains Community Guide: Tim Hendry

Tim and Sarah distributed the new Town of The Blue Mountains Community Guide to all the downtown businesses. The guide covers all of the town's departments, their structure, the how's and the why things are done. There's communication information about facilities and organizations and it is also available online on the town website.

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

On December 10th Shawn will be presenting a review of the lands that the town owns that may be suitable for attainable housing. EDAC has been very interested with regards to solutions for private, and public input and businesses and residents are encouraged to come out and to listen. Shawn stated that there are 5 properties that the town owns that have been identified as potential sites for attainable development. It's a most exciting time for the attainable housing project with a lot of momentum and hopes to bring people together and to keep focused. Council will be kept abreast of the process which will hopefully move forward after Council reviews this. There will still be a lot of work even with 1 or 2 properties what with zoning changes and land use amendments. This must be a community project and have buy in from the community. It will be an open forum and many of the groups have mentioned they will have representation there.

New Business: Casey spoke to the old Foodland property and how she would like to see the BIA, Council, Tim and the town developing that since it's almost been 4 years and it's time as a community to move it forward.

Casey spoke to the idea of having Bruce Street closed and slotted as a pedestrian mall from July 1 to Labour Day especially in light of the fact that the one summer event, The Country Dance is no more. Feeling this new idea would be unique within the area and something that would add a lot to the downtown core. Ontario saw an overall drop in tourism this summer and she felt it would be a proactive move forward in 2019. Casey asked that the BIA Board, Economic Development and the Town look into this.

Marti felt that this idea might also address signage and parking within the downtown core.

George stated one of his hopes with the new board is that they will do a better job strategizing and to improve the east end of town. Foodland property is a part of that, sidewalks, lamp posts and parking are perennial issues.

George requested that these ideas should be sent to him in a short email outlining their wishes, to help the BIA board prioritize.

George welcomed Robert Uhrig from Bruce Street Technologies and Spencer Sgro owner of 15 Harbour St. as new businesses in the BIA

George thanked Skot for his role as a director, his many contributions and stated he would be missed.

Adjournment

Moved by: Tony Poole

Seconded by: Rob Potter

THAT this meeting does now adjourn at 8:32 a.m. to meet again on January 9, 2019 at 8:00 a.m. at The Town of The Blue Mountains Council Chamber or at the call of the Chair.