**ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF THE DOWNTOWN SUDBURY BIA**

Thursday, February 29, 2024

Place des Arts, 6:00pm – 7:30pm

**K. MACISAAC J. MACINTYRE IN THE CHAIR**

**PRESENT**

T. Balaz, E. Danyliw, B. Deisinger, D. Guillemette, G. McCausland, W. Watson, D. Zulich, F. Cormier

**REGRETS**

N. Labbee, C. Tammi

M. Luoma

**ALSO PRESENT**

BIA Staff K. Marcus, E. Lapointe, S. Blender

Speakers/Guests Mayor Paul Lefebvre, S. Scodnick (Go-Give Project/Welcoming Streets), E. Landry (Senior Planner, City of Greater Sudbury)

BIA Members

**WELCOME & BOARD INTRODUCTIONS**

The Co-Chairs welcomed members and guests to the Annual General Meeting of the Downtown Sudbury BIA and introduced the Board of Directors.

**BIA 101**

J. MacIntyre provided an overview/’refresher’ of what a BIA is – it's mandate, goals/objectives, responsibilities, what a BIA can/can’t do, what members can/should expect.

**OPENING REMARKS – MAYOR PAUL LEFEBVRE**

Mayor Paul Lefebvre was introduced. It was noted that as Mayor, he prioritizes purposeful leadership, economic innovation, environmental sustainability, citizen empowerment, and creating a vibrant, inclusive community for all residents. Of particular interest to those in attendance, he provided an overview/update on the major projects currently either under discussion or at various stages of development in the downtown core.

**2023 HIGHLIGHTS & 2024 PROGRAM**

The Co-Chairs then provided a recap of last year’s top activities and how they will change in 2024, including:

* Propel Downtown ... the umbrella term that now houses both the Downtown Clean-Up program and the new Welcoming Streets initiative
* 0 Vacancy initiative
* Live & Outside

\*Thursday Concert series

\*Patio Program

\*Sudbury Market

\*Harvest Festival

\*Holiday Market

* Introduction of some new promotions, including

\*Hanging with Howler

\*Campus Core

* Social Media & Infrastructure growth (with the assistance of both a dedicated Content Creator and Member Communicator)
* ‘Light Up the Core’ - ‘plans in motion’

**2023 BUDGET**

B. Deisinger spoke to the proposed budget (circulated), noting that activities/programs are packaged into areas that govern activities – as previously outlined by the Co-Chairs.

The following resolutions were then presented:

***Budget***

**AGM-24-01** **Watson-Deisinger**

**THAT** the General Membership of Downtown Sudbury BIA supports the 2024 Program and Operating Budget in the amount of $630,000, as presented by the Board of Directors at the AGM, held Thursday, February 29, 2024;

**AND FURTHER THAT** this represents a 0% increase in the member levy over 2023.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

***Special Projects Reserve Fund***

**AGM-24-02** **Watson-Deisinger**

**THAT** the General Membership of Downtown Sudbury BIA approves maintaining the Special Projects Reserve Fund, established in preparation of specific Major Projects in the downtown.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

***Chargeback Reserve***

**THAT** the General Membership of Downtown Sudbury BIA approves maintaining the Chargeback Reserve, established for the purpose of covering any loss of revenue as a result of loss of assessment.

**CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

**GUESTS**

**Shannon Scodnick, Go-Give Project and ‘Welcoming Streets’ initiative**

Ms Scodnick provided an overview, as a founding member, of the Go-Give Project, and how her team are dedicated to bridging the gap and promoting equity for those affected by substance use and related disorders. With these goals and objectives, Go-Give is a perfect partner in the BIAs new ‘Welcoming Streets’ initiative. She further outlined how this new initiative can be used effectively around member businesses and what role that can take to both assist themselves and the downtown community through this initiative.

**Ed Landry, Senior Planner, City of Greater Sudbury**

Mr. Landry spoke specifically on the Downtown Master Plan Review that will begin this year, as well as the various CIP (Community Improvement Plan) incentives that are available for members to access.

**THANK YOU/ADJOURNMENT**

Attendees were thanked for taking time to join in this meeting and encouraged to chat with the various Speakers and Directors – and to watch for information in the coming months that will provide additional details of programs and initiatives.

Following some discussions and a brief Q&A, this meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.