

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING OF 'DOWNTOWN SUBURBY'

Thursday, February 27, 2020 ... Respect is Burning Supperclub, Durham St.

HELD AT 5:30 P.M.

B. MCCULLAGH & K. MACISAAC, CO-CHAIRS.

PRESENT

Board of Directors – B. Deisinger, J. MacIntyre, J. Arnold, W. Watson, R. Jones, G. McCausland
BIA Members, Guests, Partners
Staff – M. Luoma, B. Kuczma, M. Leblanc, R. Ward (Bookkeeper)

WELCOME

K. MacIsaac and B. McCullagh welcomed Guests and introduced Staff and Directors, as well as provided an overview of the evening. Acknowledgement was given to Bertrand Productions for the member videos that were developed over 2019 (and played both before and after this meeting), with co-op assistance provided through the BIA.

Members were also provided a 'reminder overview' of 'What is a BIA' (information also included in the Registration Package).

BUSINESS PORTION

2019 Highlights/Updates

K. MacIsaac provided an overview of:

- Safety Forums (fall and spring)
- Focus Group Sessions
- 'Coffee with a Cop' – held monthly at various cafes
- Parking – new programs and initiatives

B. McCullagh provided an overview of:

- Large Projects – specifically Place des Arts and The Junction
- Strategic Plan

It was noted that further information would be presented later in the meeting.

Strategic Plan

B. McCullagh noted that an overview of the new Strategic Framework was included in the registration packages. He noted various key points and elements:

- This project had been identified at last year's AGM and, as a result of public and member input (including surveys, information sessions, etc.) and the guidance of a Facilitator (Lynne Dupuis, LMD Solutions), the Board held a number of discussions to develop a framework to guide through the next four years
- The VISION was reworked, as well as a Purpose of Statement, Values, Principles and three 'areas of focus' were identified (which will be the basis of the 'work program')
- While the 'framework' identifies areas and while these areas will likely remain constant, projects and programs will change as situations/conditions/priorities change
- The key to the success of any program is strong relationships and partnerships
- One of the largest roles of the Board is that of Advocacy and working with various partners (ie City, Police, etc) on behalf of members

Further to the above, the following resolution was presented:

AGM-20-01 McCausland-Deisinger

WHEREAS the Board of Directors completed a Strategic Plan review over 2019 that included various forms of Public and Member Engagement opportunities, surveys;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the General Membership supports the Strategic Framework 2020-2023, as presented by the Board of Directors at the 2020 Annual General Meeting, including: Vision – Purpose Statement – Values – Principles – Strategic Framework; as well as Areas of Focus: Governance & Operations; Advocacy; Community

CARRIED

2020 Program

It was noted that the outline of the Program (& Budget) was contained in the registration package. The Co-Chairs further provided additional highlights noting that the focus (as a result of member and public input) will include lighting, sidewalk cleaning, safety and, further, that the program reflects the Strategic Framework and priorities as identified through that process (surveys, information sessions, focus groups, etc.).

Additional details were discussed related to the 'Pilot Project', with the City of Greater Sudbury specific to safety and **By-Law Enforcement Officers**. The following resolution was then presented:

AGM-20-02 Deisinger-McCausland

WHEREAS safety concerns continue to be a priority, as identified by both the public and BIA members (through recent surveys conducted by Oracle Poll);

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the General Membership of 'Downtown Sudbury' supports the recommendation of the Board of Directors for a contribution of \$50,000 from the Special Project Reserve Fund to a 'Pilot Project' for 2020 in partnership with the City of Greater Sudbury;

AND FURTHER THAT this Pilot project is proposed to include two dedicated By-Law Enforcement Officers for 216 days at 16 hours/day, specific to the downtown area and downtown facilities.

CARRIED

G. McCausland was then introduced to provide an update on a **proposed streetlighting program** which is expected to be initiated this year and that would see a conversion to LED lighting (subsequently at a long term saving), as well as provide some uniformity of 'look' in the core (which currently has some six different light standards).

It was noted that while the details of this are yet to be finalized and were not available for this meeting, it would be the hope that this project could proceed with member support. Further to discussion, the following resolution was then presented:

AGM-20-03 McCausland-Deisinger

WHEREAS downtown lighting has been a constant priority and most recently identified as such through member and public surveys, as well as through the recent Strategic Plan process;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Membership supports the Board of Directors recommendation of a continuation of the partnership with the City of Greater Sudbury for the betterment of downtown streetlighting.

CARRIED

B. McCullagh also noted that details are being finalized on a lighting initiative for the laneways that would be a partnership with businesses/property owners ie the BIA will provide solar lighting, the business/property installs ... again in an effort to increase downtown lighting and address the 'sense of safety' concern.

B. McCullagh then raised the issue that, as the **Elgin Greenway project** has not proceeded as expected and as funds committed to this (as the BIAs contribution) in 2017 could be used elsewhere (ie the lighting project), the Board was recommending that this be removed as a commitment at this time.

The following resolution was then presented:

AGM-20-04 Deisinger-McCausland

WHEREAS there currently is a resolution, further to a Special Membership Meeting held June 20, 2017, specific to the Elgin Greenway;

AND WHEREAS this project has not moved forward within the intent of the aforementioned;

AND WHEREAS this includes a substantial financial commitment that could be used elsewhere;

BE IT THEREFORE RESOLVED THAT the Membership supports the Board recommendation that Resolution **#MEMB-17-136 (Elgin Greenway)** be withdrawn at this time, to be revisited at a later date if required.

CARRIED

2020 Budget

B. Deisinger reviewed the proposed budget (as contained in the registration package), once again noting that this reflects the program that was previously outlined, as well as the three Areas of Focus that have been identified through the Strategic Framework.

Further to discussion, the following resolutions were then presented:

AGM-20-05 McCausland-Deisinger

THAT the General Membership supports the **2020 Program and Operating Budget** in the amount of \$619,600 as presented by the Board of Directors and discussed;

AND FURTHER THAT this represents a 2% increase over the 2019 Operating Budget, together with a carryover of a portion of the 2019 Operating Surplus;

AND FURTHER THAT this reflects the program and activities as discussed through the newly developed Strategic Framework, including three primary areas of focus; Governance and Operations; Advocacy; and Community.

CARRIED

AGM-20-06 Deisinger-McCausland

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

CARRIED

AGM-20-07 McCausland-Deisinger

THAT the General Membership of 'Downtown Sudbury' approves maintaining the **Chargeback Reserve** for 2019, established for the purpose of covering any loss of revenue as a result of loss of assessment.

CARRIED

GUESTS/UPDATES

It is again noted that partnerships are key to the activities of the BIA. The following Partners, reflecting the key pillars and work areas (again, as identified through the Strategic Framework), were introduced and provided overviews of various initiatives, etc.

Place des Arts ... Leo Therrien (Executive Director), Martin Lajeunesse (Project Consultant)

The Junction ... Eleetha Savage, Manager of Special Projects – The Junction

Safety ... Greater Sudbury Police Service – Inspector Sara Cunningham; Sgt Barry Ornella; Const Tyler Hagen

Parking ... City of Greater Sudbury - Kevin Fowke (General Manager Corporate Service and Brendan Adair (Manager, Security & By-Law Services ... and ... Cody McArthur (VP, Client Success, HotSpot Inc).

A lengthy discussion followed, specific to various parking concerns (lack of; Expression of Interest re garage; need for education on 'how to use' both the pay-by-plate machines and the app; signage; challenges with machines not working on a regular basis, etc.).

Further to this discussion, it was generally agreed that a special 'Parking Round Table' session be held.

CLOSING REMARKS

The Co-Chairs thanked everyone for attending as well as to Respect is Burning (venue, refreshments) as well as Huckleberries and Guilty Pleasures Bakeshop for the 'treats'.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further matters to discuss at this time, this meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.

Chair

Executive Director