



MINUTES OF MEETING OF ARTHUR BIA

Wednesday, April 16, 2025 @ 7:30 PM
Virtual via Zoom link

Board Members present:

Angela Alaimo, Chair
Paula Coffey, Vice Chair
Chris McIntosh, Treasurer
Mitch Keirstead
Gord Blyth
Councillor Lisa Hern

Other Attendees Robyn Mulder, EDO

Absent

Sheila Faulkner
Gord Blyth
Jim Coffey

Review and Adoption of the Agenda meeting called to order at 7:31 pm

THAT the agenda for the meeting of the May 21, 2025 Arthur Business Improvement Area be accepted and passed. Lisa moved to accept and Mitch seconded.

Review and Approval of Minutes

THAT the minutes from the March 25, 2025 Arthur Business Improvement Area meeting be approved with an amendment to the date of the next meeting and passed. Motion to approve by Chris, and seconded by Paula

Financial Report

Chris, gave a report nothing changed other than he has received the funds from the OBIAA grant of \$1500.00; direction to reimburse Paula for her expenses. Chris will follow up re payment from the Township when he contacts accountant for last year's financial statement. Motion to approve by Mitch and seconded by Lisa

Robyn's report Township has approved Community Improvement Plan approved a renovation for Tangs; the new Saugeen Tourism brochure has come out and will be delivered, and will be in the Daytripper in partnership with Hanover & Minto to promote the cultural assets of the area; still looking for vendors for the Farmers' Market; a WOWSA event will be coming up in May and the Student start up applications close May 8; the Volunteer & Newcomer event is sold out.

Roundtable Discussion:

Paula will give report regarding the Conference next meeting;

Paula had sent out information regarding self watering planters – Vendor indicated that they paid for themselves in one year so that the Township may be interested in those to defray costs of watering; will Township be interested in partnering in the cost – are Canadian and are similar to our existing pots. We could get similar ones to our downtown and they are self watering as well. Chris has also sent an email to his contact at Terra Nurseries to see if they have comparable pots.

Paula mentioned that she will need to deal with the placement of the planters at the bumpout.

There were vendors that had specials for Christmas décor ie garlands– they had to be done by May. Paula will send an email and see if he would agree to extend for an extra week. Mitch indicated that we all trust Paula to make a decision if the decision has to be made quickly.

Jim said he would give an update for the next meeting re the Mayor's breakfast.

Angela reported re the meeting about the banner policy. Paula has spoken to the members in Mount Forest; we have presented a mirror of our resolution to the Township and we are just waiting to hear from the Township – just waiting to hear back. Robyn indicated that she has put everything together and it has gone to Brooke. The banner in front of Sussmans and the one across the road are being given back to the BIA for use.

We talked about a policy for sending sympathy flowers etc. for persons who have passed away in the BIA; We agreed not to do anything as a group and leave it to individuals to make the outreach. We would send a card.

Workplan update – poppies are completed; green pods were removed.

Robyn brought up the community signage - the Township wants to put the Message Board out in front of the Post Office where the bench is. We agreed that our bench would be moved to the side to give room for the message board.

Chris asked who would be responsible for putting the messages on the message board. Robyn indicated that she and Mandy would be looking after putting messages up and Paula will look after it as well; we will have a key, the Chamber will have a key and the Township will have a key. It will be restricted for use for Community messaging; tourism, festivals and events for the Twp, BIA and Chamber. The message board an opportunity for people to get used to finding information about events.

We decided not to proceed with the baskets of flowers on the bridge. We will think about putting something in the south end of the BIA district.

The two extras of our ICON banners are underway. The banners for the bumpout are on hold because of the issue with the poles are resolved. Chris indicated that the Township has repaired one light. They are looking at different options for the lights and the poles.

Chris asked about quorum given the problem with making quorum for meetings. The quorum is half plus 1 but to change it, it will necessitate a bylaw change. Mitch suggested having some extra members appointed as the BIA goes forward with the next term.

Date of next meeting:

June 18

Adjournment moved by Paula