



MINUTES OF MEETING OF ARTHUR BIA

Wednesday, August 20, 2025 @ 7:30 PM
Virtual via Zoom link

Board Members present:

Angela Alaimo, Chair
Paula Coffey, Vice Chair
Chris McIntosh, Treasurer
Jim Coffey
Gord Blyth
Mitch Keirstead
Robyn Mulder EDO

Other Attendees

Absent

Sheila Faulkner
Councillor Lisa Hern

Review and Adoption of the Agenda

Meeting called to order at 7:31pm

THAT the agenda for the meeting of the August 20, 2025 Arthur Business Improvement Area be accepted and passed. Jim moved to accept and Gord seconded.

Review and Approval of Minutes

THAT the minutes from the June 18, 2025 Arthur Business Improvement Area meeting be approved and passed. Motion to approve by Chris, and seconded by Mitch.

Financial Report

Review of financial report from Chris We have now received the additional levies based on this year's levy amount. Chris had one addition – items to be paid – invoice from Sign Matters for the pole wraps. Motion to approve payment of pole wraps invoice \$353.46– we discussed payment of the loan payment with schedule of payment which the date of payment was May on the amortization schedule. Last year we paid in September, so will pay it in September again. Paula had another invoice to add re the soil and new plants for the new planters \$219.13. approved Chris and Mitch seconded. Motion to approve financial report by Chris and seconded by Mitch.

Robyn report - Has gotten more than 35 surveys between Arthur and Mount Forest, and have extended the interview times two weeks into September. Has had a number of inquiries regarding the community improvement program. The Student Start Up program through Saugeen Connects Wrap up bbq on August 26. Had 9 students from Wellington North, 4 at the Farmers' Market, youth entrepreneurs have been successful. Culture Bus on October 4. Volunteer and Newcomer Event on September 18 in Mount Forest. Community Signage has been waiting on materials.

Items for Discussion

Crosswalk issue – I was told we will be involved in the discussions. The Board determined that we would approach the Township regarding a reduction in our responsibility for the share of the bump outs due to the fact that the original design features were faulty; if it had been a crosswalk, we wouldn't have had to paid for any of it. The lamp posts aren't in the correct spot and not tall enough, now the pots are no longer able to be put in place. The Board has no objections to the crosswalk. We should be involved in the conversation going forward.

Christmastime in Arthur street festival has requested our assistance with the road closure application – Rhonda Schnurr of Impact Physiotherapy is one of the organizers. It was determined the Board would approve that event.

Angela sent the application for Fran's event in September and it was approved by the Township.

We should have a policy to define the parameters of what events we are going to support. It was decided that in order to give support the applicant needs to be a business within the BIA District and donating back to a local service club, church etc.

Paula was contacted by a citizen who suffered trauma and violence on the Main Street. Robyn suggested that we reach out to Brooke Lambert to advise of the issue. After some discussion and considering that the BIA mandate is not to take action but to make people aware of the issues, it was decided that a letter should be prepared to send out to businesses in the BIA district. Angela will also get the letter distributed to the County. Paula suggested that the Health Van and the Legal Aid Van do the most for the people who have needs in the community.

Christmas décor – we have the snowflakes that go up downtown and they cover the whole street. The snowflakes are so bright that they don't allow LED lights to show up. Trying to build on the decorations. Mitch suggested wrapping the poles with LED lights at other times of the year so that the mainstreet isn't so dark at night. Chris suggested the lights on the sidewalk that we discussed last year. Paula suggested doing something at the RBC, then in the vacant lot if we were allowed. We can think about it for the next meeting although we are getting closed.

Paula asked if we were doing the Sip Savour and Shop event again this year. Last year it was held on November 15. We should be thinking about that again for next meeting.

We talked about the write ups for the QR stories and the banners. Paula suggested that she would do a Fall walk about. Gord had suggested handing out one set of stories per week. Distributing cards at the Library, Sterre, Tim Hortons, Foodland, the Banks and the variety stores. Gord offered to copy them through his business – Paula would put the QR code on and the written story and listen to it "here" then people can listen and read. Then it might encourage people to follow through with the QR codes.

Jim indicated Second Annual Car show September 12 at the Arena with proceeds to the Foodbank.

Roundtable Discussion:

Date of next meeting:

September 17, 2025

Adjournment motion to adjourn Paula