

# MINUTES

Durham Improvement Area Exec. Meeting

Held on May 5th, 2022 at 7pm.

At The Co-operators, 173 Garafraxa St. S., Durham ON

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**Present:** Susan Tremble, Doug Hutchinson, Steve Morel, Kate, Connie MacEwan

**Regrets:** Nereda Manion, Tim Dyck, Kathy Chiu

## Call to Order

The Exec. called the meeting to order at 7:10pm.

**Nominations:** As new executive are having their first meeting, they must appoint/vote on members to fill positions of Chair; Treasurer and Secretary. Connie MacEwan nominated Steve Morel, Susan seconded, all in favor. Moved to have Steve in the position as Chair, with approved signing authority. thanks Steve! Kathy Chiu has agreed to remain as Treasurer, with approved signing authority. No one yet elected/appointed to Secretary.

**Agenda:** Executive agreed to a 'running agenda' as they go through outstanding items.

### 1. **Budget**

Steve will get in contact with Kathy and Tim and email everyone the correct proposed budget for 2022

### 2. **New Garbage Cans**

Everyone is very disappointed in the results, the color is not "Durham" and they already look dirty, are they going to be labeled, can they be repainted blue before homecoming? Steve will reach out to Kodey and get a few answers. He will check on what the colour of the new bike racks and benches will be as we do not want black.

### 3. **Homecoming**

Susan will create a poster to be passed out to the businesses to update them on what is happening with BIA and homecoming. There is still space for vendors on Saturday – artisans. Susan will include the contact information on the poster so anyone interested know who to contact. There are also BIA tents that can be borrowed to be used. Susan and Connie will hand these out to businesses.

### 4. **Municipality Update: Councillor Doug Hutchinson**

Doug updated us on the green space/ flower beds in and around town. West grey will be putting up the flower baskets as well as a few extra pots

along the parade route to spruce up the downtown core. Doug will reach out to Kodey and find out when the other street furniture is being installed. He will also find out when the banners are going to be put up. The bridge work will start at some point this summer so traffic will be slow going thru town and there will be no bridge baskets there due to the construction. Doug also advised that there is a possible farmers market trying to be started with a local farmer for either Fridays or Saturdays, there are still details to work out. Riverside Park, a new hydro pole has been installed and electricity is being ran to it, this will help with any local events happening there. There is also supposed to be portable washroom put in the park. A gazebo, permanent washrooms and a charging station would be a nice addition in the future.

Doug also updated us on the trails, there will be gates put in as the trails are not for motorized vehicles and new stone dust put down to mark the trail better.

**5. Old Signs in BIA**

Geoffrey Shea put in motion, along with Susan Trembles assistance and the town council, the idea of West Grey building owners being able to access CIP (community improvement program) funds to remove broken and/or old signs in Durham. The municipality agreed to using CIP funds this way and Susan has a tender that is waiting for West Grey's approval to remove five signs before Homecoming, making the BIA area much more appealing for the summer!

**6. Empty Lot in Downtown Durham**

The empty space between the dental office and Mark's video/bedding store, owner has agreed to allow the Homecoming committee to repaint the wood and put a vinyl sign – it will be the Homecoming logo. This will be great. Property owner also said he has plans to build a new building with retail on the main level and a few apartments on top. He is waiting for West Grey approval and permits.

**7. Empty Downtown Window Art**

It was suggested to have kids' artwork displayed downtown in the empty building windows. Connie will contact Spruce Ridge, St. Peters and St. Paul's as well as Edge Hill to see if they would like to work with us in this initiative.

**8. Summer Promo:**

BIA had set aside money for a summer promo; Connie will investigate the cost of supplying 2 bows for each business. Once we have the cost she will reach out to Nella and see if the Chamber would also want to do the same for the businesses that are not part of the BIA so that the town looks united. (13 businesses)

**9. Other Business:**

Steve will follow up with the Old Municipal building confirming that it is commercial use only and not residential.

Steve will look at our web site and confirm the businesses listed are correct and Kate will help him to update the contact information.

Steve suggested to not set a date for the next meeting as we wait to see how things come together for Homecoming and if needed, we can have a meeting otherwise we will meet later in the summer.

BIA social, meet and greet to be held at the new Lions Park on May 27<sup>th</sup> at 6:00 just to connect with everyone, Susan will include this on her poster.

**10. Adjournment:**

Kate moved to close the meeting; Steve seconded. All in favour. Meeting adjourned 8:20pm.