



DBIA Annual General Meeting Minutes
February 8th, 2024

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:59 pm

Present: Dwane Barratt, Emily Rowley, Gerry Drage, Kathryn Corbett, Melissa Brant-Dean, Melanie Horner and Wayne Jefferson, Gina Boyd, Bobbi Wright

Absent: Sarah Hilwerda

Guests: Mayor Brian Ostrander, Ron Anderson, Byron Faretis, Jeff Wheeldon

Minutes Recorded by Caylee Close, DBIA Admin Assistant.

Approval of Agenda

Motion to accept the 2023 AGM Agenda by Kathryn Corbett,
Seconded by Dwane Barratt

Motion Carried.

Welcome and Board Introduction:

- Introduction of 2023 board (current to date):
Dwane Barratt, Emily Rowley, Gina Boyd, Gerry Drage, Kathryn Corbett, Melissa Brant-Dean, Sarah Hilwerda, Wayne Jefferson, Melanie Horner, Bobby Wright.

Municipality: Brian Ostrander

- Mayor Ostrander gave a short speech, thanking the DBIA for their continued partnership with the Municipality. Discussed the struggles faced with inflation and economy this year and how it has impacted our small business owners. Very pleased with the DBIA's partnerships and events like Art in the park & Light up Brighton and very thankful for all the continued support for our downtown area.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to accept Minutes from January 11th, 2024, minutes by Kathryn Corbett
Seconded by Dwane Barratt

Carried.

Presidents Report- Gina Boyd

Gina spoke to what the DBIA is and what it does for Brighton downtown throughout the year. Gina mentioned struggles faced this year but hopes to moving forward.

Gina discussed DBIA successes this year, Christmas carolling (through rain), Santa in the Park, Light up Brighton and the Municipal partnership with the newly acquired Peace sign. Music on Main with Frank Blanchard. Continued advertising for DBIA with local and surrounding magazines. Our continued collaboration with the municipality. Supporting local arts with BACC this year with Art in the park event, as well continued support for the art in Casey lane.

Discussed the ongoing issue of litter/garbage facing our downtown area, and ways to improve it with the hope to grow the initiative to keep our downtown cleaner. Continue to beautify Brighton with seasonal planters and flowers; summer and winter. The DBIA was pleased to lend its support for the 2nd year as a monetary contribution to the amazing initiative from Just like Granny's for their Christmas dinners program. And continued sponsored of public skating events.

Overall, it's been a hard year but we have persevered, worked hard. Gina thanked everyone attending for their hard work and support.

Gina made a point of discussion to the initiative of keeping the community more informed of what the DBIA is and what the DBIA can do for its businesses as well the community.

Treasurer's Report - Wayne Jefferson

- Wayne discussed the obstacles faced with installing (current and additional) snowflakes to the street poles around an electrical issue. Wayne put forth to partner on the cost for installing the new receptacles. Mayor Ostrander inserted that this is a Municipality issue and should be fixed at the Municipal level - discussions to resolve the issue ongoing with staff. The DBIA is meant to beautify, therefore Municipality will support funding to be put towards partnering for a new sign or other downtown beautifying initiatives.
- 2023 Financial Summary provided to the group. Wayne led the group in review of the 2024-2023 Financial Summary, discussed significant line items. (1 outstanding item – 2022 Audit invoice)

Motion to accept the 2023 Financial Summary by Gina Boyd

Seconded by Dwane Barratt,

Motion Carried

Wayne provided the board with 2024 budget,

Motion to accept the 2024 budget by Dwane Barrat

Seconded by Melanie Horner

Motion Carried

Homelessness - Jeff Wheeldon

Jeff gave a brief summary of homelessness currently facing our community.

Jeff attended the Legal Center Justice Forum for Homelessness, discussed the legal and social issues surrounding homelessness and what municipalities are doing. As well the introduction to the Intermunicipal Task Force of Northumberland consisting of 6 or 7 towns to facilitate what needs to be done and what the county is doing. Discussed meeting with the county COA to better align our programs and policies to work together and collaborate. Observing other towns and how they have reacted, understanding how our systems work and how we can run them more efficiently.

To understand the broader context, legal decisions like encampments; for example a homeless individual can not be evicted if they have no where to go, it is unconstitutional, therefore what other plan or program can we have in place to respond.

Encouraging a future for Brighton moving forward to be supportive to one another.

Discussed social services access, as well discussed locally a universal sign/poster that can be put in windows of downtown Brighton businesses on how to access those needs/services.

Nominations to the Board

No additional nominations to the existing Board brought forward.

Election of Board of Directors for 2024

All existing Board members accepting to remain in current positions

- President: Gina Boyd, G.Boyd Boutique.
- Vice-President: Melissa Brant-Dean, Just Like Granny's.
- Treasurer: Wayne Jefferson, Presquile Burger
- Secretary: Dwane Barratt, Barratt's Office Pro.
- Past President: Sarah Hilwerda, The Cellar Door.
- Appointed Council Representative: Emily Rowley.
- Director: Bobbi Wright, The Bird House Nature Store.
- Director: Gerry Drage, Oldies Radio.
- Director: Kathryn Corbett, Lighthouse Books.
- Director: Melanie E. Horner, Firing Time.

Motion to Accept above list of positions for the 2024 year by present members,
Motion Carried

Open Forum

Construction is starting, will go on for 2 years, Prince Edwards st will be impacted with closing down or detours as well will impact any downtown business on that road.

Sarah Hyatt- New additions to oldies

Closing Remarks

Thank you to Tracey and Dave with Lola's Café for providing us with such a lovely evening, with great food and wonderful atmosphere.

Meeting Adjourned at 7:15pm

Next meeting: March 14th, at 5:45 pm, The King Edward Community Center