



hamiltoninternationalvillage.ca

Board of Management Meeting

Date: June 8th, 2023

Location: Zoom

Present: Herb Wodehouse, Maja Pravnovic-Kogut, Kristin Kusturin, Clay Burns, Peter Quaglia, Melanie Lourenco

Also Present: Susie Braithwaite, Brendan Wetton, Cristina Geissler, Sgt. Cory Gurman

Regrets: Suzanne Lanthier, Councillor Kroetsch

Absent:

1.	Meeting Called to Order: 10:02 AM	
2.	Changes to Agenda: None	
3.	Approval of Agenda: (QUAGLIA/LOURENCO)	CARRIED
4.	Approval of Minutes: April 14 th , 2023 (PRAVNOVIC_KOGUT/LOURENCO)	CARRIED
5.	<p>Crime Manager Update Sgt. Cory Gurman: Sgt. Cory Gurman noted 9 assaults, 1 break and enters, 1 theft from auto and 1 theft. Compared to the stats for last year in the same month, crime is trending down. Cory noted is not a complete picture of the area. Cory added thefts from auto are trending down due to a recent project targeting the wave of thefts which started in the West End. Susie asked Cory about the City of Hamilton's encampment protocol. The social navigators are out on site to try and match people in encampments with the supports that they need. Cory also noted he did a walk-through of Ferguson Station and people were using power from the streetlight polls. It was discussed that drug use is on the rise in the BIA. Cory noted due Bill C-5, put forward by the federal government; federal prosecutors are not prosecuting the same type of drug offenses. Cory mentioned that the HPS is working to get more people on foot in the core. Susie noted that it has been challenging as the BIA has lost the only event space. Susie added she has been receiving a lot of complaints from surrounding businesses including Shakespeare's as they have been impacted by the issues at Ferguson Station the most. Susie noted many of the issues regarding safety in the BIA have been getting out of hand. Cory mentioned that part of the problem with Ferguson Station is that it is designated a public park. Herb thanked Cory for being part of the board meeting today and helping with many of the issues in the area.</p>	
6.	<p>Pride Crosswalk Intersection: Susie noted the launch of the pride crosswalk intersection at Theater Aquarius was a great event. Susie added over 100 community members were at the launch event. Susie thanked all of the board members that were able to attend that night. Susie noted the City of Hamilton did try to clean the crosswalk before the launch event; however, this was not fully accomplished. Mike Fields from the City of Hamilton has noted that they will be working on trying to get the crosswalk cleaned and look at other options. Susie noted that once the crosswalk is clean it will be photographed. Susie added a new page on the website with more information about the crosswalk will be completed in the coming weeks. Herb said it really was a fun event and congratulated Susie and Brendan on this great accomplishment.</p>	
7.	<p>Open Streets Hamilton: Susie noted Open Streets Hamilton will be held on Father's Day weekend. King Street East will be closed to vehicle traffic. Businesses are encouraged to move out onto the street that day. Susie added that the City of Hamilton summer concert series will be held on that day. Ferguson Station was the original location for the</p>	

info@hamiltoninternationalvillage.ca • (905) 522-1778

f @internationalvillage.bia t @HamIntVillage i @internationalvillagebia



hamiltoninternationalvillage.ca

	<p>concert however the City of Hamilton has said that it is not safe to hold the concert there and a new location will be chosen. Susie noted there has been feedback from some of the residents living in 260 King Street East. Residents will be able to leave the building but will not be able to re-enter the building's parking garage until after Open Streets Hamilton is completed. Susie explained the BIA will be providing 300 bags to be given out by Open Streets Hamilton volunteers on the day of the event.</p>
<p>8.</p>	<p>Motion for Parking Share Revenue and Contribution to Operating Funds: Susie noted a motion for Parking Share Revenue and Contribution to Operating Funds from the City of Hamilton is needed. Cristina explained a report will be going to council in the coming weeks outlining these funds. Susie said the contribution to operating funds is received yearly from the city of Hamilton and needs to be spent that year. Susie added it might be the last year for the Parking Share Revenue from the City of Hamilton and that some may need to be saved for following years. Susie noted the Contribution to Operating Funds goes to projects including banners, Fernando for graffiti removal and office equipment. MOTION: That the Board of Management approved the parking share revenue for 2023 in the amount of \$12,362.71 be spent on events, programming, and activations. (PRAVNOVIC-KOGUT/BURNS) CARRIED MOTION: That the board of management approve the contribution to operating funds for 2023 in the amount of \$7,308.03 be spent on graffiti removal, banners, beautification, and office equipment. (QUAGLIA/PRAVNOVIC-KOGUT) CARRIED</p>
<p>9.</p>	<p>Motion for Block Party Event: Susie noted last year Clay did the block party event with multiple businesses in the area. Susie mentioned that the BIA is looking to partner on this event this year through sponsorship of printing costs, social media-boosted posts, and balloons on the street that day. Clay noted the block party turned out to be a good event last year and he's looking to get more people involved this year. The idea was to clear out summer stock and get ready for the next season; businesses last year were open late and took part in a giveaway. Clay noted he is aiming for the week of August 24th. it would be a similar event to last year with the possibility of the businesses participating running their own giveaways in the store. Melanie asked how late businesses were open. Clay said businesses were open until 8pm on that day. Herb thanked Clay for partnering with the BIA on this and hopes we get a great turnout. MOTION: That a portion of the Parking Share Revenue in the amount of \$1,500 the allocated to the International Village Block Party event in August that will be facilitated by Clayton Burns (noting that Clay is a board member). (LOURENCO/KUSTURIN) CARRIED</p>
<p>10.</p>	<p>Motion for BIA Office Lease Renewal: Herb excused himself from the meeting and passed the chair to Peter. Susie noted the BIA office lease is up for renewal and there is a slight rent increase of \$175 compared to the previous year. Peter read the motion and asked for questions. None were heard. MOTION: That the BIA office lease be renewed for two years falling within the budgeted allocation in the levy to rent for both years in the amount of 1,275+HST per month. (PRAVNOVIC-KOGUT /KUSTURIN) CARRIED</p>
<p>11.</p>	<p>Ferguson Station: Susie noted that it is sad to see people that have nowhere else to go at Ferguson Station. Susie added the city of Hamilton presented their new encampment protocol to Council. It was rejected because it was not taking a</p>

info@hamiltoninternationalvillage.ca • (905) 522-1778

f @internationalvillage.bia t @HamIntVillage i @internationalvillagebia



hamiltoninternationalvillage.ca

	<p>human rights/compassionate approach. Susie noted she has been advocating to the City of Hamilton for the businesses surrounding Ferguson Station that have been seeing impacts. Norm Schleeahn, the director of Economic Development, has been very supportive in trying to find solutions. Susie noted that the BIA does not have any control over the current emergencies facing the City of Hamilton. It has been hard for us to manage the day-to-day operations with everything else happening. Susie noted that in the past it was small businesses that brought downtown back, now that these issues are here the city of Hamilton needs to do more to support businesses. Cristina explained the Downtown Hamilton Commercial Vacancy Report will be at GIC next week with several recommendations to increase public works services to the Downtown Core. Cristina added it would be great if the Downtown BIAs could do a delegation. It was discussed that the City of Hamilton staff are very aware of the issues affecting the downtown core and that it is frustrating to see the BIA staff divert time more time to these issues. Susie noted it is a hard time for the city and that we need to be compassionate and understanding as the City of Hamilton works to resolve some of these issues.</p>
<p>12</p>	<p>Programming Discussion: Susie asked for suggestions for events later in the year. Herb noted that the City of Hamilton has chosen to not hold events at Ferguson Station. Susie mentioned that Emily from the Downtown Hamilton BIA is having a lot of issues with the Gore Park Promenade this year. Susie added it would be good to focus more on activations in the area and relook at a holiday programming later in the year depending on the environment. Clay agreed indoor events would be a good consideration for the BIA, including looking at some of the larger vacant spaces to hold events. Clay added we can look at different ideas to get the businesses including a holiday scavenger hunt. Clay mentioned the BIA should not be investing in events right now. The rest of the board agreed.</p>
<p>13.</p>	<p>Community Engagement Coordinator Update: Brendan noted the conversion of Main St. East is planned for 2024. The public is being asked for feedback on this plan. We have sent a couple of questions regarding the layout of the street to be answered by the City of Hamilton staff. For the majority of our area, Catherine to Wellington, we will see two eastbound lanes, one westbound lane, and left turn lanes at many intersections. There will be no on street parking and a new loading zone in front of the Hamilton Parking Private lot property. Brendan added there are a couple of issues including a raised center median that starts at Ferguson Ave. and goes until Spring St. that we are still seeking more clarification. Brendan mentioned a new design update has been presented to Council for the Hamilton LRT project. Many of the changes for the area were already known in 2019, including the reversing of Spring St. to southbound traffic and the removal of the travel lane from Spring St. to Wellington St. Brendan added other changes include a making both the Mary St. and Wellington St. stations center platforms and the removal of lights at Jarvis and Walnut streets. Brendan noted over the winter we lost a number of banners. James our installer has reinstalled and secured them. Brendan noted a comprehensive street light review of all of the decorative poles in the area has been completed and send over to the City of Hamilton to get some of the poles repainted and repaired. Brendan noted the BIA ran a Mother's Day giveaway. We had over 211 entries and gain about 60 new followers. The community response was very good for this give away and another is planned for Father's Day weekend. Brendan mentioned the Hamilton Fringe Festival returns to Theatre Aquarius July 19th-30th and are looking to cross-promote the festival with businesses in the area. Businesses can sign up to provide a discount or special for Fringe Festival goers. Brendan noted the new summer campaign with GoBIA is being prepared, it will have a new look and feel to bring more attention to the posts and launched later in the month. Brendan mentioned the City of Hamilton has released the 84-page document outlining some of the details around the new entertainment district renovation/plans for the 2021 deal with the Hamilton Urban Precinct Entertainment Group (HUPEG). Brendan mentioned he will be going on vacation for the week of the 26th of June. Brendan shared a short presentation (see below) to talk about the</p>

info@hamiltoninternationalvillage.ca • (905) 522-1778

f @internationalvillage.bia t @HamIntlVillage i @internationalvillagebia



hamiltoninternationalvillage.ca

	professional development trip that he and Susie recently went on to talk to the Downtown Brantford BIA and tour other similar cities.
14.	<p>Executive Director Update: Susie explained that it might be good to split up the CHCH Morning Live segments this year from focusing on the holidays to general awareness of the BIA with two separate segments filming in the summer and fall. Susie added this time would allow for the gardens to be in bloom and help drive some traffic to the area in times that are not as busy as the holiday season. The first would feature four different businesses in the area and would air on July 11th. Susie mentioned that she did a delegation to the Hamilton Police Service Board with Emily from the Downtown Hamilton BIA to express concerns from the area and ask for more support. Susie added after the delegation to the Hamilton Police Service Board a separate meeting was held with the Chief of Police, the Superintendents, and the Downtown Hamilton BIAs to continue the conversation. Susie noted that in addition to the delegation a number of downtown businesses and hotels have also begun expressing concern over some of the issues we are currently facing. Susie mentioned she will be doing another delegation to council with Emily from the Downtown Hamilton BIA to talk about the issues affecting the downtown core and support the Downtown Office Vacancy Report from Economic Development next week. Susie noted the request to appoint Suzanne Lanthier as a director on the Board of Management has been approved by council.</p>
15.	<p>Other Business: Maja noted Luv La Vie has decided to stay in their building.</p>
16.	<p>Next Meeting: The next meeting of the Board of Management will be held in September 14th, 2023.</p>
17.	<p>Adjournment: 11:29 AM (PRAVNOVIC-KOGUT/BURNS) CARRIED</p>

info@hamiltoninternationalvillage.ca • (905) 522-1778

f @internationalvillage.bia t @HamIntVillage i @internationalvillagebia