



MINUTES

Parry Sound Downtown Business Association Board of Directors Meeting

February 21, 2024

Doug called the meeting to order at 6:33 pm

In Attendance

Board Members: Tim Dunn, Dave Williams, Don Corbett, Doug Wilton

Councill Representative:

Regrets: Kaila Stevenson, Chris McDonald

Absent: Bernice Anderson

Staff: April Denman

Guests: None

Approval of Agenda

“Motion to approve the agenda for this February 21, 2024 DBA Board of Directors meeting with the addition under New Business – Town of Parry Sound’s Resolution re: Children’s Aid Society and under Old Business – safety in the downtown

Moved by: Dave Williams

Seconded by: Tim Dunn

Carried

Approval of Minutes

“Motion to approve the Minutes from January 10, 2024 DBA Board of Directors Meeting.”

Moved by: Dave Williams

Seconded by: Don Corbett

Carried

Conflict of Interest Declaration

None declared.

Correspondence

- Meredith McCaffrey submitted an email requesting to rejoin the Board citing everything had changed for her business, staff, and their family, but things are much improved.

Resolution 24-01

“Motion to accept Meredith McCaffrey’s request to rejoin the DBA’s Board of Directors.”

Moved by: Tim Dunn

Seconded by: Don Corbett

Carried

Old Business

- Tim, Don, Chris, and April met with 3 representatives from Parry Sound CruZers to discuss the possibility of their car show remaining in the downtown area. It was proposed to close James Street each Tuesday from Seguin Street to Mary Street at the farthest, with efforts to keep the James Street parking lot entrance open when possible and from 4pm-9pm, weather and sunlight permitting.

“Motion to approve a weekly street closure in support of the Parry Sound CruZers car show.”

Moved by: Tim Dunn

Seconded by: Dave Williams

Carried

April to submit an event planner and noise exemption to the Town for approval.

- April proposes creating a Governance Committee similar to the Events, Beautification and Marketing Committees to oversee/create any changes/updates to policies per Action Plan recommendations and bring back to the Board for approval. The Board members present at the meeting prefer to have full Board attendance before making any comments.
- Safety in the Downtown continues to be top of mind for Board members. They are concerned that the increase loitering and drug use due to the downtown location of social service offices and lack of police presence is a deterrent for visitors into the downtown and therefore affecting their businesses. Board members present were emailed some talking point recommendations, asking April to submit a letter with those details.

“Motion to submit a letter to the Town asking for a plan of action with OPP input and update back to the Board by April 30, 2024.”

Moved by: Dave Williams

Second by: Tim Dunn

Email and letter on file.

New Business

- At the Town of Parry Sound’s February 20, 2024 meeting, a resolution was passed asking the provincial government to develop a policy with criteria for determining the appropriate location for the provision of in person services in downtowns. The Board feels strongly that these vital social services are not being utilized to their full capacity due to the very public location. April is asked to write a letter in support of the Town’s resolution; send it to the Minister of Children, Community and Social Services and our local MPP. Letter on file.

- PSDBA along with Parry Sound Area Chamber of Commerce, Parry Sound Area Community Business and Development Centre, Jenn O'Brian Realtor, Stand Out Business and Pardon My Garden have partnered to create a small Women's Day event held at Di Salvos in downtown on March 7, 2024 with funding support from Explorers Edge and ticket sales; this event is self funded and showcases collaboration between multiple organizations in celebration of International Women's Day.

Reports

Updates given by April.

Adjournment:

Next meeting: March 13, 2024 – 6:30pm – Parry Sound Public Library.

DRAFT