
Correspondence

- Amy Black: Email on file – concerns about the proposed new development at the south end of town and how Downtown can stay relevant through the growth. Board discussed staying on track to ensure downtown continues to offer a beautiful and unique experience; discussions about partnering with Chamber to offer workshops specific to styling/merchandizing windows or ways to draw customers into your business; social media/AI sessions; Beautification Committee offers free consultations. April to connect with local merchandizers to explore this service.
- Dave Williams: Letter of concern regarding Witches Walk sponsorship: Board received email that was also sent to the Town. There was no discussion. Board requests staff reply as formally received.

Old Business

Action Plan:

“Motion to approve the Mileage Policy as updated.”

Moved by: Kaila Stevenson

Seconded by: Chris McDonald

Carried

Lending of Stereo System Policy was reviewed. Discussion to revise policy to include:

- A flat rental fee of \$250 per day for the general public + a \$1,000 damage deposit for all users, fully refundable upon inspection if the equipment is returned in good working order.
- DBA Members may borrow the stereo system free of charge, subject to the same \$1,000 refundable damage deposit.

Revised policy with above changes to be approved at the November Board meeting.

Reports

- Financial: Kaila shared the bank statement and updated spread sheet.
- Beautification: Bernice reports that the inground garden flowers have been removed, leaving the salvia until the frost gets to them. Grasses were donated to Community Support Services for their Broom Make and Take workshop for Witches Walk. Town Dock planters were a big hit throughout the summer and seasonal changes. Committee working on a tree plan for all of downtown.
- Events: Witches Walk & Girlfriends Weekend coming along as expected.
- Marketing:
- Council Representative: Chris reports new sidewalks going in at Market Square Park, a new sound system at the BOCC and Seanan from Boston Pizza made a deputation to Council about a skating rink installation near the bandshell at the Town Dock. Details are still being worked out.
- Staff Report: Full report on file – highlights include meeting with the Towns’ Planning Department staff about the correspondence received regarding the Façade Improvement Program and member experience. The comments were well received by staff and plans to add amendments such as links to sign by-laws and other information that will make the financial experience more transparent.

April also highlighted her meeting with Stephanie Phillips to discuss a more accurate way to make levy decisions, requested member contact list and levied amounts for each property. Also discussed how the DBA can be informed when property owners change – possibly through taxation department.

Adjourn at 8:08pm

Next meeting: November 12, 2025 – 6:30pm – Parry Sound Public Library.