

MINUTES OF THE UBIA BOARD MEETING

July 15, 2015 at 9AM @ Blacksmiths Bistro 166 Main Street Unionville

PRESENT: Sara Iles, Elisabeth Mensher, Tony Lamanna, Larry Mariani, Regional Councillor Jim Jones, Councillor Don Hamilton, Parveen Jhingan, Simin Jahedi

UBIA Members Present: Sharon Taylor-Wood, Terez

GUESTS: Wes Rowe, Joshua Furlano, Domenic Dicianna,

REGRETS: Stacey Sinderman, Rob Kadlovski, Ryan McLachlan

Staff: Kendra Hui

QUORUM: Yes

1. Meeting called to order at 9:10AM with Elisabeth Mensher as Chair. Elisabeth welcomed everyone to the meeting and assured all attendees had copies of the documents sent prior to the meeting.

2. Approval of the agenda.

Moved by Tony Lamanna.

Seconded by Sara Iles.

MOTION CARRIED

3. Approval of May 27th, June 17th, and June 23rd Meeting Minutes.

Moved by Tony Lamanna.

Seconded by Sara Iles.

MOTION CARRIED.

4. Meeting decorum and behaviour, In Camera meetings, BIA Meetings, Bill 130, City of Markham.

Chair Elisabeth explained that in the past meetings have not been conducted the way they should have, as everyone should be cordial and civil. Chair Elisabeth then stated that many members of the UBIA have declined attending to meetings to the fact that there is too much "drama". Chair Elisabeth noted that everyone must keep personal issues with one another out of the meeting in order to conduct a meeting properly and successfully. The Chair then stated that In Camera meetings are for members only and those who are not physically there cannot vote on matters in the meeting. Chair Elisabeth referenced Bill 130 as well as the code of conduct.

5. Washrooms

Chair Elisabeth explained the washroom discussion that occurred in last month's UBIA meeting, stating that it was frustrating the board is not receiving a straight answer and requested an update from Councillor Don Hamilton and Regional Councillor Jim Jones. Don Hamilton replied by stating that the washrooms have not been included in the 2016 budget because the 2016 budget in general has not been confirmed. Chair Elisabeth asked Councillor Jim Jones if his contact at the city confirmed if it had been put in the 2016 budget or not. Jim Jones replied and said that the commissioner at the City showed there was no budget in 2016 for the washrooms to be built on Main Street

Unionville. He then assured that he will put in a request to include the washrooms into the 2016 budget by the next UBIA meeting on August 19, 2015. Councillor Don Hamilton explained to the board and members, that it is not a miscommunication with members of the city because they initially selected a spot by the stairs for the washrooms but there are opposing views coming from certain people. Councillor Hamilton further explained that Mayor Frank Scarpitti takes those comments and feelings into consideration, therefore overruling the initial decision to place the washrooms by the stairs. Tony Lamanna mentioned that last year a unanimous vote was put forward to place the washrooms by the stairs and was brought to Councillor Don Hamilton. Don Hamilton then agreed although it was a unanimous decision at the time, certain residents came forward and argued that they would not like the washrooms put by the stairs, thus creating the “back and forth” between councillors and Mayor. Jim Jones confirmed that the budget for the washrooms would roughly run between \$200,000 to \$400,000. Chair Elisabeth stated that it was to her understanding there was money allocated to the washrooms but a location was not determined yet and if there is money, why can't the city begin building the washrooms. Councillor Don Hamilton explained that the budget that was put aside for the washrooms in the past was then used for the Stiver Mill because the money was not being used and must be used before the year ended. Councillor Jim Jones explained the washrooms will be put in the 2016 budget. Councillor Don Hamilton interrupted and stated Councillor Jim Jones is unable to say that indefinitely but can ensure the request will be put in October. Councillor Jim Jones agreed and stated he will have it submitted for the 2016 budget. Councillor Hamilton stated it is difficult to come to a final decision of where the washroom will be built because there is always an opposing vote. Sara Iles then asked how just a few people can change the location, when majority vote for it to be built by the stairs. Councillor Hamilton replied by saying the Mayor always takes into account everyone's votes and comments, therefore it is difficult to make a final decision. Councillor Jim Jones stated he will bring his contact at the City of Markham, Phoebe Fu who is responsible for management, to the next UBIA meeting so the UBIA can move forward with the washrooms. Jim Jones continued by stating they are close to completing the plans for the washrooms and will bring them to the next meeting as well. Jim Jones confirmed he will ask Phoebe to attend the next meeting to answer all questions as well as provide the UBIA with a report on the washrooms.

Recorded Vote: Sara Iles, Elisabeth Mensher, Tony Lamanna, Larry Mariani, Regional Councillor Jim Jones, Councillor Don Hamilton, Parveen Jhingan, Simin Jahedi, Sharon Taylor-Wood, Domenic Dicianna, Terez, Wes Rowe

6. Streetscape

Councillor Don Hamilton applauded Tony Lamanna for the streetscape work he has done for Main Street Unionville. Tony mentioned he is looking to strategically put benches throughout the street to accommodate visitors. Tony continued by stating the new heritage banners will be put up following the Pan Am and ParaPan Am Games. Tony Lamanna brought up the issue of lighting at two locations on the street as they are dark, therefore causing a safety issue at night as well as not being on brand with the rest of the street. Councillor Don Hamilton mentioned that the UBIA add a section the

the BIA by laws under “property streetscape standards” including that when a business’ store front is not up to street standard they will receive a warning, and if the problem is still not tended to, a contractor will be asked to fix said problems at the owners expense.

Moved by Tony Lamanna.

Seconded by Larry Mariani.

MOTION CARRIED.

9:50AM Joshua Furlano and Regional Councillor Jim Jones leave meeting.

7. Website

Chair Elisabeth explained the situation regarding the Main Street Unionville website, as it was hacked into June 22, 2015, then brought back up on July 5, 2015. Chair Elisabeth continued by stating she had contacted the Marin Marketing Group and they provided her with the proposal, initially sent to Marketing Committee members on May 21st, re-sent again on May 22nd, and resent a third time on June 26th. The e-mails sent from Marin Marketing Group did not receive a response from the Marketing Committee. The Marin Marketing Group notified Chair Elisabeth that the website will be completed once they are provided the proper direction as well as content required to move forward.

Chair Elisabeth pointed out that had the Marketing Committee submitted the proposal to the board earlier, the website would have been up and running by now. Motion was put forward that the executive UBIA team work the with UBIA intern and Marin Marketing Group to create the new and improved website that focuses on businesses and business activities on Main Street Unionville.

Moved by Parveen Jhingan.

Seconded by Larry Mariani.

MOTION CARRIED.

8. Creating a Facebook page for UBIA Merchants.

Chair Elisabeth introduced the idea of creating a private Facebook page for UBIA merchants in order for them to collaborate, share ideas, and build a community among the members.

Moved by Tony Lamanna.

Seconded by Parveen Jhingan.

MOTION CARRIED.

Terez leaves meeting at 10:05AM.

9. Driver for Pan Am Shuttle.

Larry Mariani stated that the Pan Am Shuttle that brings visitors to Pan Am Events and back to Main Street Unionville has not been successful for the 3 days it has been running. Tony Lamanna asked if it is possible to allocate the CCT money originally given to the shuttle to reallocate it to possibly bringing entertainment to the street. Both Chair Elisabeth and Councillor Don Hamilton stated that the CCT budget can not be re-allocated and must be used as stated in the submitted budget. Subject then changed to Jazz Festival.

10. Jazz Festival Update.

Chair Elisabeth explained that Sara Iles, Larry Mariani and herself met with the TD Markham Jazz Festival representatives to discuss what the BIA receives in return from the \$3000 we are giving the festival. Chair Elisabeth continued by stating the BIA in return receives a half page ad in the Jazz Festival brochure, even placement of bands throughout the street (reaching the Planing Mill). Elisabeth then stated that the Jazz Festival committee is now requesting an extra \$800 in order to provide bands on the Sunday of the Festival.

Domenic Dicianna leaves meeting at 10:15AM.

Elisabeth stated she will ask for clarification on the details of the Jazz Festival including, exact dates of road closures and entertainment as well as the number of bands the street will receive on Sunday. Larry Mariani mentioned that if the BIA decides to provide the Jazz Festival with an extra \$800 that the bands should start later and stay later as the street is busier later in the day on Sundays.

11. Main Street Construction

Concillor Hamilton and Chair Elisabeth confirm that the entire road will not be closed, as it is just going to be a lane closing. The construction will begin following Labour Day and signs will be put up approximately a month before to remind the public the street will be under construction at this time.

12. Summer Intern

Chair Elisabeth re-introduces intern, Kendra Hui to UBIA members explaining that her job is to assist the Chair, UBIA merchants, creation, managing social media, creating ads and so forth pertaining to Main Street Unionville. Chair Elisabeth continued to explain the intern's job is not to help merchants personally, for example helping them to plan their own personal events for their business.

13. New Business

Larry Mariani asks what the progress is on the Queens Hotel. Tony Lamanna mentions that the board should touch base with the merchants and invite them to attend the next the future of the street. On topic of streetscape, Chair Elisabeth mentions Old Firehall Confectionary is constantly leaving their store front covered in garbage and filth, as their customers are throwing their ice cream, drinks, and other products purchased from Old Firehall, on the ground. She continued to state that when there is garbage on the street, it is unsettling to visitors as well as it is not up to the physical standards of Main Street Unionville. Councillor Don Hamilton confirmed he will contact Rob Kadlovski and notify him it is his responsibility as a business owner to ensure that his store front is clean and up to street standards.

14. Next Meeting

Elisabeth mentioned that many merchants were upset the UBIA meetings are scheduled

in the morning, as they are not able to attend at this time. Present board members stated that meetings at 6PM would not work for them as they are needed at their business. Chair Elisabeth confirms that there is no change to the time of future meetings.

Sharon Taylor-Wood brought up the topic of offices being situated as store fronts on Main Street Unionville. Councillor Don Hamilton stated that offices such as “Royal LePage” are able to be on the street as long as they are 10 metres away from the store front. Sharon Taylor-Wood argued that the office space is occupying the front door facing the street, therefore causing a conflict. Don Hamilton asked that intern, Kendra Hui e-mail “RPunit@Markham.ca” for the decision application in regards to office spaces on main street, in particular Royal LePage, as to what the ruling is when for the front door being used.

Motion to Adjourn.

Moved by Parveen Jhingan.

Seconded by Sara Iles.

MOTION CARRIED.

Meeting adjourned at 10:52AM.