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**Alliston Business Improvement Association
Board of Directors Meeting December
Friday December 2, 2016**
(Date change due to Grand opening of new member)

7:30 am

ABIA Boardroom

Chair: Mike Jerry

MINUTES

Attendance: Chair Mike Jerry, Vice Chair Ward, Director McGurk, Director Stubbs, Town Liaison Councillor Michael Beattie.

Regrets: Director MacKenzie, Secretary/Treasurer Ro Davoodian, Deputy Mayor Jamie Smith

Welcome

Chair Jerry shared that Director Deputy Mayor Jamie Smith was in hospital. He is doing better and we all wish him a speedy recovery.

Amendments and Approval of Agenda

None noted

Director MacKenzie sends regrets and give proxy to Director McGurk.

Secretary / Treasurer Davoodian sends regrets and gives proxy to Vice-Chair Ward.

Approval of agenda

Motion to approve: Director McGurk, second Vice Chair Ward, carried

Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

Director McGurk will refrain from discussion on street planters.

Amendments and Approval of Previous Minutes (November 2016)

No amendments

Motion for Approval: Director Stubbs, Second Director McGurk, carried

ABIA Good News shared by Directors

Treasurer Report

Budget 2017

Ro and Linda to be at Council budget meeting Monday 10 am

Motion to accept 2017 budget as presented: Vice Chair Ward, Second Director McGurk, Carried

Council Report from Town Liaison (Michael Beattie)

Budget meetings progressing well

Looks like a 2,6 % increase

Discussion about Restaurants operating from residential property –

The original motion has an exception for any grandfathered businesses..but the bylaw change will prevent any new businesses from starting up.

Stairwell, the project is stalled currently, but Councillor Beattie will speak to Rick Vatri and councillors to see how this project is progressing as we need completion on this asap.

Our goal as a Board is to continue to better communication between council and Alliston BIA.

Councillor Beattie shared that he and a few councillors are working at adding projects to budget for things such as roads repair, because our roads in the ABIA catchment area can use some immediate work.

GM Report

- Visited our New Members Fresh co., and Windsor House Coffee shop. Lemon Tree no longer operating, unit is for lease. Marketing campaign for Christmas has been successful drawing shoppers downtown.
- Planters – the Town has ordered plants for 2017 direct from a grower. This topic to discuss further under beautification along with garden at Young and King.
- Alvin Young - GM Spurr and Chair Jerry to facilitate a meeting between Council, Staff and Alvin Young's company representatives regarding building on vacant lot owned by Mr. Young.
- Banting Memorial High School –At the start of 2017 prepare a video of community/ students
Then present to Simcoe County School Board trustees in the spring.

PILLARS:

Communication

WIFI

Director McGurk had another meeting yesterday (Dec 1st)

The IT company can fit all install into our current budget but comes down to running costs.

Provide opportunity to business members – to use their current equipment at a discount ABIA rate.

Director McGurk will be talking to Trevor Peyton (Town IT) to see if we can ride on the Town band width and share ownership of the whole project ABIA /and/ town. Lori Bedford is corporate services and heading an IT master plan along with Trevor Peyton for Town. The Alliston BIA will reach out to learn more about this master plan and if our project for WIFI in the downtown will fit into this plan. Next meeting will be in new year.

Events

- RURBAN Christmas- The event went very well. Local store owners said their sales were the same as the previous year (or increased in some cases) and we cut costs by not having to use some equipment as with previous years.

Marketing

- Movies with Santa – Three Saturday mornings at the Circle Theatre, showing a family Christmas movie from 9:30 am – Noon. Santa was there and we had some activities and snacks. The cost was very minimal to rent the Theatre, and produce tickets. Our marketing stayed very similar as we piggybacked onto the Rurban Christmas event and we had a good turn out for all three dates.
(The first Sat. Was over 70, the second was approx. 50 and the third movie is tomorrow.,) Visitors were to spend \$30 + in downtown Alliston to obtain one free pass to the movie.

Beautification

Planters- The Town Parks and Recreation Department had a meeting with GM Spurr and the BTBIA Coordinator on Wednesday Nov 30th, regarding the process of ordering the 2017 planters. It was shared by Town Staff that the town was going to go direct to the grower for the 2017 plants to save on costs and that they had found a grower in Port Perry. They had indicated that calls were made to some suppliers and they had received some quotes. The ABIA Board of Directors directed GM Spurr to email back formally demanding a proper RFP process so that all business including local business had the opportunity to quote.

New Business

Christmas Directors Dinner - A traditional gathering of Board member to thank them for volunteering their time throughout the year.

Tuesday December 6th at 7pm

Our newest member venue: Pizza Romantica on Victoria Street.

Motion to adjourn: Director Stubbs**Adjournment**