



**Minutes of Wednesday August 16<sup>th</sup> 2023 – Executive Meeting**

**Location:** BIA Office - 4 John St Unit 3 **Time:** 6:30 PM

**In Attendance – in person:** Masum Hossain (Chair), George Kalamaris (Vice Chair), Peter Kalamaris (Secretary/Treasurer), Suri Weinberg-Linsky, Omar Warsame, Sylvio Rodriguez, Councillor Nunziata Ward 5, York South-Weston and Audrey Swartz (Coordinator)

**Regrets:** Olumide Olatoye

**Call to Order:** The meeting was called to order with quorum at 6:34 PM. It was noted that the meeting was being recorded.

**Motion:** To approve the agenda.

**Moved By:** Omar Warsame **Seconded by:** Suri Weinberg-Linsky

**Carried 08-16-01**

Conflict of Interest – None Declared

Peter arrived at 6:41 PM

**Motion:** To approve the July 2023 Executive Meeting Minutes.

**Moved by:** Suri Weinberg-Linsky **Seconded by:** Sylvio Rodriguez

**Carried 08-16-02**

**BIA Chair's Report** 6:53 PM

Masum presented his report, the following additional comments were made;

1. Feedback from the Coordinator is that the subcommittees as they've been set up are not working, not receiving prompt clear direction for projects or board members don't have time. Proposed solutions are to dissolve the subcommittees or there's only a Chair of a Committee. If dissolved, the Coordinator will work on the projects independently and work with the Chair when needed.
2. Following escalating complaints, rather than ordering a new Bench for John St Audrey proposed to move the problem bench from Zeal Burger to appease the businesses/property owner. Suri had agreed and provided direction to go ahead with the change. Masum felt this needed to be a board decision.

**Motion:** To dissolve the subcommittees.

**Moved By:** Peter Kalamaris **Seconded By:** Omar Warsame

**Carried 08-16-03**

3. Masum asked follow up to the Councillor regarding the state of the main street, when the meeting with other social agency stakeholders will happen. The Councillor will assist to gather the contacts from the various agencies. Audrey will follow up with her office.
4. Audrey is listed as a board member of WVRA, this should be removed. BIA should be invited as a guest to their meetings not as a board status. WVRA meetings held twice per year there should be a purpose to attending the meetings. Doesn't need to stay the whole meeting or go to every meeting. Board needs reports on these meetings, along with other external meetings. Direction was to attend the meetings which the agenda items are of interest to multiple stakeholders and only need to stay until that agenda item. Time can be taken in lieu next day.
5. Need to set a date for budget meeting for 2024. Board decided on September 19<sup>th</sup> at 6:30pm.

**Motion:** To accept the Chair's Report.

**Moved By:** Peter Kalamaris **Seconded By:** George Kalamaris

**Carried 08-16-04**

**Councillor Report** 7:23 PM

The Councillor presented updates on the following items;

1. Can organize a meeting with TCHC and YWS to discuss the issues
2. Appointed as speaker, off the police services board. Offered budget committee
3. Council approved the Drinking in Parks pilot, no approved parks in Ward 5
4. Rosemount Café opening soon
5. Metrolinx discussion for usage of new station at Eglington
6. Group is looking to develop the plaza at 2011 Lawrence to get more retail, interested to meet with BIA. We can have a meeting to discuss and garner support for expansion.
7. Clarified that Devron may be appealing the OLT, as of now they haven't. Will be discussing further at the meeting on the 11<sup>th</sup>.

**Motion:** To accept the Councillor's Report.

**Moved By:** Peter Kalamaris **Seconded By:** George Kalamaris

**Carried 08-16-05**

Masum added a quick update that Naveed sold Finest Food Mart, there's a new owner.

**Treasurer Report** 7:36 PM

Peter Kalamaris presented the report, the following comments were made;

1. There was a \$0.49 discrepancy in the expense report, to be reviewed later
2. Will be sending the updated budget spend YTD for review to make next year's budget.
3. Sat down with Audrey to discuss some in house accounting changes.
4. No word from Rafiq on our 2022 audit.

**Motion:** To accept the Treasurer Report

**Moved By:** Suri Weinberg-Linsky **Seconded By:** George Kalamaris

**Carried 08-16-06**

**Coordinators Report** 7:41 PM

Audrey presented the report, and the following comments were made;

1. Purchase the basket hardware and have David install for next year.

**Motion:** To purchase two hanging basket arms from Classic Displays.

**Moved By:** Suri Weinberg-Linsky **Seconded By:** Peter Kalamaris

**Carried 08-16-07**

2. Clarified that the meeting with various BIAs will be discussing strategies to deal with the issues we are facing in a workshop led by Downtown Yonge.
3. ECDI and Costi had a meeting with Castlepoint and police regarding safety issues, more specifically their female staff is being harassed. Created a Who to Call page and distributed to members. Suggested to distribute hard copy to businesses and post to website. Safety issues on private property should also be reported to City property standards.
4. Rogers contract is up, best was \$109.99 + hst deal. Bell offered \$69.97 + hst deal. Advised to contact Rogers and ask them to match or beat it. If not, go ahead with Bell.

Frances left the meeting at 7:56 PM

5. Proposed to extend Live Music Nights into the Fall Festival, to bring entertainment, rather than bouncy castle. The board did not see the direct benefit for the businesses as it's not on the main street. Offer in-kind support such as promotion, flyer distribution etc. We do not support requests that cost money that are not our own events.
6. Plan to send out RFQ publicly and to a few known contacts like Hypitch for service and go from there. Suri suggested to reach out to Laura at Mount Dennis. Was suggested to set a budget for the RFQ rather than hourly, for \$3,000 labour + \$500 expenses.

7. Concern around the event scope changing year-to-year if we rely on sponsors. Audrey stressed that if the BIA wants to ensure certain items are part of the event, there needs to be more contribution from the BIA levy and less dependent on grants/sponsors/vendors which can be precarious.
8. Audrey clarified why we had a surplus in 2022 of 18K and not additional programming; one grant of 15K was approved a month before the event and there was not time/resources to book additional programming. Therefore in the end we had a surplus.

Sylvio left the meeting at 8:23 PM.

9. Indoor market pays for itself, outdoor assets are owned by BIA. Only large rented or temp equipment are sponsored. Suggested sponsor of train CN rail, VIA rail. More likely to get smaller level sponsors than the higher levels. Feedback from sponsors last year were more options, to give them more agency for their organization to show their branding.

**Motion:** To approve Event Assistant job posting for \$3500.

**Moved By:** George Kalamaris **Seconded By:** Peter Kalamaris **Carried 08-16-08**

**Motion:** To approve Event Operations RFQ with changes; \$3000 and \$500 contingency.

**Moved By:** George Kalamaris **Seconded By:** Suri Weinberg-Linsky **Carried 08-16-09**

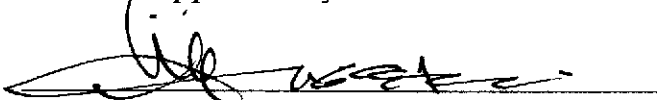
10. There was discussion about controversy over Dream in the media. The position of the board is this is a transient landlord-tenant disagreement and political matter. We shall continue to include Dream for sponsorship opportunities and not engage with online criticism.

**Other Business** 9:00 PM

Request to change or remove the rainbow flag at the office window as Pride Month is over.  
Next meeting date will be September 13<sup>th</sup>

**Meeting Adjournment:** Masum called the meeting to a close at 9:01 PM.

Minutes Approved By:

  
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Chair, Masum Hossain

Sept 13/2023  
Date

  
\_\_\_\_\_  
Vice-Chair, George Kalamaris

SEPT 13/2023  
Date