



## MINUTES

**Hespeler Village Business Improvement Area (BIA) October Board Meeting**  
**Hespeler Heritage Centre, 11 Tannery St. E. Cambridge**  
**October 9, 2024, 6:30pm**

**Committee Members in Attendance:** Mike Napier, Tara O'Donnell, Cory de Villiers, Natasa de Villiers, Tim Hillborn, Rhonda Hudson, Helen Shwery, Laura Pearce, Marina Gigovic (virtual), Kelsey Vere

**Regrets:** Mike Devine, Saul Resendiz, Danna Greer

**Guests:** N/A

**Meeting Called to Order:**

Cory called the meeting to order at 6:41pm. No conflicts were declared.

**Approval of Minutes**

Three sets of meeting minutes to be approved this month.

Approval of June Minutes

Moved by: Cory de Villiers

Seconded by: Tim Hillborn

In favour: Mike Napier, Natasa de Villiers, Tara O'Donnell, Helen Shwery

Against: None

THAT the June 2024 minutes of the Hespeler Village Business Improvement Area Board Meeting be approved as written.

Approval of August Minutes

Moved by: Cory de Villiers

Seconded by: Tim Hillborn

In favour: Mike Napier, Natasa de Villiers, Tara O'Donnell, Helen Shwery

Against: None

THAT the August 2024 minutes of the Hespeler Village Business Improvement Area Board Meeting be approved as written.

Approval of September AGM Minutes

Moved by: Cory de Villiers

Seconded by: Mike Napier

In favour: Tim Hillborn, Natasa de Villiers, Tara O'Donnell, Helen Shwery

Against: None

THAT the September 2024 AGM Minutes of the Hespeler Village Business Improvement Area Board Meeting be approved as written.

### **City Update: Laura Pearce**

City is undergoing the ECDEV action plan strategy outlining scope of next 5 years. Once approved, Laura to share initiatives and tactics as it relates to the Hespeler BIA and core areas. Some of the motions that are currently pending:

- Downtown Cambridge BIA proposing an expansion. The process would be the same if Hespeler wanted to propose an expansion of the BIA.
- Permanent road closure on Main St. between Water and Ainslie. In November they'll consider 3 options.
- Hespeler Heritage Study has moved to the plan phase. Upcoming public information (PIC) open house on Dec 4 at 7pm at the Hespeler Legion. If anyone interested, contact Joanie Parsons (Laura can send her contact). Anticipated to go to council in April 2025
- Reminder to submit permit applications for hanging holiday decor.
- 50/50 funds need to be spent by Dec 31.
- The City undertaking a comprehensive review of all 3 BIAs of relationship with the city. Report coming to council sometime in Nov.
- Laura attended an Ontario Association BIA event. She plans to share some highlights and takeaways next month.

No update from Helen Shwery.

### **Chair Update: Cory de Villiers**

#### Treasurer Update

Rhonda Hudson has come forward to volunteer as the new Hespeler BIA's Treasurer. She would not be a voting board member. No signing authority yet, but she will get it. Tim will check with the bank.

Motion to have Rhonda Hudson join the Hespeler BIA Board as a non-voting volunteer Treasurer

Moved by: Cory de Villiers

Seconded by: Marina Gigovic

All in favour - Mike Napier, Tara O'Donnell, Natasa de Villiers, Tim Hillborn

Against: None

THAT Rhonda Hudson, non-voting volunteer Treasurer, of the Hespeler Village Business Improvement Area be approved.

#### BIA ~~Audit~~ Budget (budget, not audit)

Changes in budget for 2025: Getting grant revenue in years previous but not successful in 2024.

#### EDAC Grants

Voting for lighting of Jacob's Landing (EcDev program) postponed again. Expecting in the November EDAC meeting to get everything approved. Email Cory if you'd like to see the proposal.

### **Executive Director Update: Kelsey Vere**

#### **BIA Board Meeting Location**

New permanent location for the BIA board meetings will be Hespeler Heritage Centre. Board members can still attend virtually.

#### **Dam lights**

Robin is no longer able to commit to updating the dam lights. Mike Napier to take this on. Cory to show Mike how it works. Will need to fix dam lights whenever they turn off or if we want to change the colour.

#### **Music & Lights in the Village**

Kelsey working to have the old string lights removed from the evergreen tree at the cenotaph before Nov. 16.

### **Walk Queen Update**

Postponed until next month as guests were unable to attend.

### **Other Updates**

#### **Garbage collection**

Concerns were raised about garbage collection during summer street closure. Changed from being at either end of the road closure to in front of their shop all year round. Hasn't heard of any issues with this pilot. City is undergoing a review for what garbage collection will be going forward. Region is proposing a change from bags to automated bin garbage collection. Region did approve an automated garbage bin collection going forward at a minimum of 4 days/wk. Approved last month or August and we've been advised that the Region's staff will connect with update BIAs and city staff on this. Concern noted for apartments and businesses downtown.

#### **Explore WR membership and Halloween Hunt**

Idea to offer some sort of incentive for the first 5 memberships being sent in. Include FAQs - does it cost anything, will I be spammed, etc. The greater dense membership they have from Hespeler, the greater support they can justify - we want them to promote Hespeler so we need to show up as members.

#### **BIA Christmas Lights**

Nothing preventing BIA members from using BIA Christmas lights. We have extra lights we can lend members if they want to decorate their holiday windows. Snowflakes are still going up. Trees in the park are still being lit this year.

#### **Guest Speakers**

Laura to speak with Kelsey about how the process looks when we have a guest speaker

#### **Music & Lights in the Village**

Cory invited Tara to be our representative for Music & Lights in the Village again. She will decide on this.

### Blooms of Paradise

Business owner indicated a concern for communication in the community about their intention for business. She's taking appropriate action and requests the BIA's support in the process, as needed. BIA will support in any way we can.

### New Pet Store in Hespeler

Tim noted there's a new pet store opening across from the variety store (where the cannabis store was).

Question was raised about the status of the rental building on corner of Queen St. and Guelph Ave.

### Patio Removal for Winter

Laura to look into patio end date for 2024.

### **Next Meeting**

The next Hespeler Village BIA Board Meeting is set for Wed., Nov. 13th, 2024 at 6:30pm at the Hespeler Heritage Centre, 11 Tannery St. E, Cambridge.

### **Close of Meeting**

Moved by: Cory de Villiers

Seconded by: Tara O'Donnell

All in favour: Mike Napier, Natasa de Villiers, Tim Hillborn, Marina Gigovic

Against: None

THAT the October 9th meeting of the Hespeler Village BIA Board does now adjourn at 7:29pm.

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Chair – HESPELER BIA

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Recording Secretary