



**MINUTES OF THE BLYTH BIA BOARD MEETING
HELD AT THE BLYTH & DISTRICT COMMUNITY CENTRE
WEDNESDAY, AUGUST 1, 2018 AT 8 am**

Board Members present: Karen Stewart (Chair), Gary van Leeuwen (Vice-Chair), Deb Sholdice (Treasurer), Irene Kellins, Paul Hallahan, Cat O'Donnell

Others: Colleen Jordan, Shane Yarema, David Sparling, Reece Sparling, Jennifer Triemstra-Johnston, Chris Johnston, Denny Scott (The Citizen), Jason Lamont, Laura Simpson (Huron County Planning Dept)

Regrets: Crystal Taylor, Gil Garratt (Secretary), Natasha Fritzley

1. Call to Order, Welcome and Opening Remarks

Chair Karen Stewart called the meeting to order at 8 am and welcomed everyone.

2. Agenda – Motion to approve agenda: BBIA 33/18

Moved: Gary

Seconded: Irene

Disposition: Carried

3. Minutes of the Prior Meeting –Motion to receive report: BBIA 34/18

Moved: Gary

Seconded: Irene

Disposition: Carried

4. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest - None Declared

5. Financial Report

Deb reviewed the financials. The main activity on the accounts are the income and expenses of the Blyth Artisan Market.

Motion to approve: BBIA 35/18

Moved: Deb

Seconded: Cat

Disposition: Carried

6. Township of North Huron Update – no representative present

7. Blyth Artisan Market Project – Deb

Discussion about re-naming the project from Artisan market to something more diverse and to let people know about the produce, committee will consider if the Market is resumed next year. Also, ideas around expanding the presence for Thresher weekend. Sunday markets had to be cancelled due to lack of interest from vendors.

8. On-Line Presence & Branding Project – Karen

The RFP was issued and we have received 5 applications to date. The marketing committee will

meet to review the applications and interview 3 candidates on August 16 at 8:30 am

9. Plaques & Portraits Project – David

David will meet with Brock Vodden to review the final drafts of the scripts. Blyth Printing will be printing the plaques. Community Futures is donating \$250 to the project. The great fire at the turn of the last century will have its own series of plaques with the “arson” theme.

10. Flower Me Blyth Project – Pick A Posie – Jennifer

Still waiting on confirmation of location with North Huron due to insurance complications.

11. Wi-Fi – Downtown wide wi-fi project is being explored through a community sponsorship project that CIBC provides to community as part of their exit strategy. The BIA will have them go ahead and determine the set-up costs and ongoing expenses before agreeing to allow them to set it up. The project would have to be through Bell Canada, as that is the provider their Community Wi-Fi projects all use.

12. Street Signs – Motion to create a list of all branded street signs that are needed and arrange with North Huron to get them replaced.

Motion to approve: BBIA 36/18

Moved: Gary

Seconded: Deb

Disposition: Carried

13. Community Improvement Plan – Blyth & Wingham

Laura Simpson of the Huron County Planning Dept presented a draft copy of the plan, explaining that once approved it would facilitate the community revitalization program that they have received a \$42000 grant through OMAFRA for. This will be in consultation with the BIA's, EcDev Committee, and a town hall/open house style meeting with the public. Ideally they would like to have a draft to council in September. The Blyth BIA suggested expanding their geographic location to be Queen St from Westmoreland to Blyth Road (instead of Drummond to King), with the stipulation that it focus on commercial properties, i.e. façade improvements, accessibility and pedestrian safety.

14. Bike Repair Shop – The BIA met Jason Lamont and welcomed his bicycle repair shop, operating currently behind Pick a Posie at the corner of Queen and Dinsley Sts.

15. Adjournment

MOTION: BBIA36/18

MOVED: Gary

- That there being no further business before the Blyth BIA Board, the meeting is hereby adjourned at 9:30 am