

Thorold BIA General Membership Meeting

MINUTES

APRIL 9, 2013

8AM

THOROLD COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

TYPE OF MEETING	General Meeting
FACILITATOR	George Cottage, Chairman
MINUTES TAKEN BY	Erica Villeneuve
ATTENDEES	Chair George Cottage, Councilor Tim Whalen, Vice Chair Serge Carpino, Erica Villeneuve + 11 members
ABSENT	Treasurer Michael Skrtich

1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order at 8:05am

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM THE LAST GENERAL MEETING

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
A motion was made by Terry Ohm to approve the minutes of the last General meeting held March 12, 2013. Second by Ricky Lakeit. CARRIED.	n/a

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

A) BICYCLE RACKS

DISCUSSION	Tim hasn't heard back from the high school.
CONCLUSIONS	The BIA will be ordering 10 of the oblong shaped bicycle racks from the manufacturer.
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Contact the bike manufacturer and order 10 ob the oblong shaped bike racks. Also find out how soon they can be installed.	George Cottage

B) WAR OF 1812

DISCUSSION	<p>The 1812 committee came to the BIA to let us know they would be bringing people here by the busload in June. Ideas to keep them here include a passport system where we can give a map to everyone as they step off the bus and they must go into each participating store and get a stamp and ultimately get entered into a draw for a prize. Stamps can be made for \$3 each.</p> <p>Terry Ohm has a contact who is in a 46 man reenactor group. He made mention of this event and they have since been booked to appear at Decew house. Terry will find out if they can be placed in the downtown area instead.</p>
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CONCLUSIONS	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
See if the 46 reenactors can be placed downtown for the 1812 weekend.	Terry Ohm
Serge Carpino made a motion to set aside \$500 for the BIA's 1812 committee to use in planning activities for the bicentennial weekend. Second by Tim Whalen. CARRIED.	n/a

C) SIDEWALK SALE

DISCUSSION	Marsha Coppola has brought in cheques from vendors who have already paid. Receipts are needed for the cheques brought in. So far there are 30 vendors booked including the Ice Dogs and Brock University. The sidewalk sale is set for May 25 (the same day as the craft show).
CONCLUSIONS	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
Get receipts for the cheques provided.	George Cottage

D) SQUEEZER

DISCUSSION	The Squeezer event will not happen this year. The weather didn't cooperate and we ran out of time. We will keep it in mind for next year.
CONCLUSIONS	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE

E) ASSESSMENT OF THE CASINO

DISCUSSION	The casino in Niagara Falls received a large rebate on their taxes. Gary Oblinsky was wondering how this would affect taxes in Thorold. The Greater Thorold Business Council has looked into it and is working on it. We will hear more soon.
CONCLUSIONS	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE

F) SIGNS BEHIND OLD FIREHALL

DISCUSSION	The signs for reserve parking behind the old firehall have been removed.
CONCLUSIONS	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE

4. NEW BUSINESS

A) BICYCLE ROUTES – DALE ROBINSON

DISCUSSION	<p>In February there was a meeting to discuss increasing cycling while boosting your business and promoting Thorold as a cycling-friendly community. Rather than planning a single event they decided to run a campaign composed of three events: May 11, 2013, one in June and one in August.</p> <p>On Saturday, May 11, there will be a “Dust Off Your Bike” event in the Battle of Beaverdams Park that will be cycle friendly and family friendly. People will be there to have your bike looked at, tuned up, teach cyclists about the specifics of a good tire pressure, seat height and handlebar height. A bike corral will be there so people can park their bikes and someone will watch it for them. The bike corral is a great idea to have for every downtown event. There will be a contest for a free bell run in-stores and online with WhatsOnThorold.com to promote the “No-Bell Prize” which is a fine of \$85 plus a \$20 surcharge for not having a bell in good working order on your bike. The passport idea will be used to get people from the park into the downtown area and the event will run from 10am to 1pm. The letters to the City had been written but not submitted so Dale will be rewriting them and submitting them in time for the April 16th City Council meeting. There will not be food vendors in the park but people will be encouraged to visit local eateries for dining. 2 guided rides will be offered and it would be nice if there was a place to take suggestions of bike paths suited to small children and families as well as difficulties and durations. A bicycle rodeo will be in the park as well.</p> <p>The Thorold Active Transportation Committee is working with this group and the MTO is offering grant money (dollar for dollar).</p> <p>The events for June and August are being planned to be a women’s only ride (June) and a family ride (August).</p> <p>The bike racks might be installed in time for the May 11 event. George will call to find out.</p> <p>Dale requires insurance for the park. The grant \$ from the MTO doubles what the committee uses. If the BIA can financially help, it would be great.</p>	
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	
Bill VanderKlippe made a motion that the BIA cosponsor the events up to \$500 for shortfalls for the three events. Second by Serge Carpino. CARRIED.		n/a

B) OTHER

DISCUSSION	<p>PERMIT PARKING The permit parking has been postponed until the downtown planning is ready.</p> <p>FIRE SERVICES The fire services review is underway.</p> <p>WSIB There is in fact a \$600 charge for WSIB to cover the street cleaner.</p> <p>BENCHES Benches are also waiting for the downtown report to be completed. That being said, benches used to be downtown and were removed because they were acting as places to loiter and smoke and merchants wanted them removed.</p> <p>POWER WASHING Power washing should be done asap. It should definitely be done before the sidewalk sale and bike event in the park. The fire department has helped in the past and could probably help us again. Tim will look into this. Power Washing could be lined up for regular cleaning every year by the end of</p>
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	<p>April and before mid July.</p> <p>SALT BINS The salt bins have been removed and will be stored by the City for the BIA.</p> <p>GARBAGE Can the BIA get the street cleaner new equipment? Perhaps the garbage sucker that they can wear on their back? This would be great for garbage but if they were to suck up a lit cigarette, that could be very dangerous. A leaf blower might work but they're noisy and Brian couldn't do that at 4am when he's out. He could wait until 10am but then there's people and cars out. Brian will bring us a list of what he thinks would be a good idea and the BIA will consider purchasing new equipment.</p>	
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	
<p>Tim Whalen made a motion to get the sidewalks power washed asap. Second by Ricky Lekeit. DISCUSSION: It should definitely be done before the sidewalk sale and bike event in the park. The fire department has helped in the past and could probably help us again. Tim will look into this. Power Washing could be lined up for regular cleaning every year by the end of April and before mid July. CARRIED.</p>	Tim Whalen	

5. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45am.