

# Thorold BIA General Membership Meeting

## MINUTES

JANUARY 15, 2013

8AM

THOROLD COMMUNITY CREDIT UNION

<b>TYPE OF MEETING</b>	General Meeting
<b>FACILITATOR</b>	George Cottage, Chairman
<b>MINUTES TAKEN BY</b>	Erica Villeneuve
<b>ATTENDEES</b>	Chair George Cottage, Councilor Tim Whalen, Treasurer Michael Skrtich, Vice Chair Serge Carpino, Erica Villeneuve, John Bratton, Lauren Krupa, Marsha Coppola, Ricky Lakeit, Jenna Daust, Mary Jane Tremblay (GNCC)
<b>ABSENT</b>	

### 1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order at 8:03am

### 2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM MEETING DECEMBER 11, 2012

<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>
A motion was made by Marsha Coppola to approve the minutes from the last General meeting held December 11, 2012. Second by Ricky Lakeit. CARRIED.	n/a

### 3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	The programs currently underway are ongoing and will have updates next month.
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>

### 4. FINANCIAL REPORT

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	The BIA still has a budget set at \$36K and we will be carrying forward \$1400 from last year.
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>

## 5. NEW BUSINESS

### A) GREATER NIAGARA CHAMBER OF COMMERCE

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Mary Jane Tremblay from the GNCC came to speak to the BIA members about the “One Less Trip” Campaign which encourages shoppers to stay local and help businesses in Canada handle the decrease in traffic after the Christmas season.</p> <p>There is a website for the campaign where shoppers can take a pledge to take one less trip across the border and in return, they gain access to business deals and coupons from local merchants. This is at no cost to the merchants. The only costs are for sponsorships.</p> <p>This is not a Chamber program but the Chamber is acting as a catalyst to get more stores, BIAs and cities on board. They are looking for two things: support and a sponsorship for anything from \$500 to \$2000. In exchange for the sponsorship the sponsor will get an ad on the website and posters across the region.</p> <p>Please contact the Chamber with any questions or to get involved. Some business cards have been left with the BIA executive board.</p> <p>Question: What is the Chamber doing to lower taxes here?          Response: The Chamber went to Ottawa in April to lobby against the tax exemption (announced in March). Currently they are putting programs like One Less Trip in place and gaining support to have the manpower to help fight in Ottawa.</p>
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	Thank you to Mary Jane Tremblay from the BIA for coming to share this information.
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>

### B) ROAD HOCKEY

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>The road hockey tournament in the past has raised lots of funds for March of Dimes Canada. Last year we raised approx. \$7000. This year, should the BIA continue to work with the March of Dimes or run a road hockey tournament by ourselves and do something different with the proceeds? This is deferred to the next executive meeting.</p> <p>Hockey tournaments are going to be sending out booklet packages featuring local merchants to their players in advance of them coming to Thorold. This will allow team members and parents to pre plan their day and hopefully include shopping downtown.</p>
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	

### C) DOG FECES

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>There have been reports of dog feces located throughout the downtown area. When this happens, reports of where the feces is located should be reported to Erica who will then be able to check the cameras to find out who is leaving it behind. This information can be used to contact the individual and let them know that further action can be taken.</p> <p>The vet office offers baggies as people come &amp; go.</p> <p>Tim will bring this issue up at Council tonight.</p>
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	<p>Contact Erica with information regarding feces when it comes to your attention.</p> <p>We can contact the City for signage warning that you must clean up after your animals.</p>

## D) EVENTS

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Marsha asked if the BIA would like to proceed with a Spring Sidewalk Sale this year and coincide the event with the craft show.</p> <p>Marsha asked if the BIA would like to proceed with the planning of a Touch-A-Truck event in the downtown area. It would include touching and climbing into trucks, a driving track, via rail safety, a crashed car setup, helmet safety, obstacle course, etc.</p> <p>It would be done in September and be advertised through the schools for maximum exposure. The event will need lots of space for the festivities as well as lots of parking.</p>
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>
Serge Carpino made a motion to give Marsha a \$500 budget for the sidewalk sale. Seconded by Michael Skrtich. CARRIED.	n/a
Serge Carpino made a motion to proceed with the Touch-A-Truck event planning and allow a \$500 budget. Seconded by Tim Whalen. CARRIED.	n/a

## E) OTHER

<b>DISCUSSION</b>	<p>Next time there is a change to the meeting schedule for any reason (including holidays), these changes should be posted to the website.</p> <p>The speaker system downtown needs to have the interior audio separated from the exterior. The volume is connected and to be louder outdoors, indoors must be much louder. This cannot occur regularly so the BIA will look into separating the speaker systems.</p>
<b>CONCLUSIONS</b>	
<b>ACTION ITEMS</b>	<b>PERSON RESPONSIBLE</b>
Look into costs for separating the speaker systems from indoors to outdoors.	Michael Skrtich

## 5. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 8:47am.