

Thorold BIA General Membership Meeting

MINUTES

SEPTEMBER 11, 2012 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, Brian Stevens, Erik Olesen, Alan Parker, Terry Ohm, Terry Dow, Marsha Coppola, Tracy Nola, Ricky Lakeit, Nicole Cairns, Diana D'Intino, Lauren Krupa, Jeff Blais, Mandy Melinko, Const. Patrick Boal
ABSENT	Treasurer Michael Skrtich

1. CALL TO ORDER

Call to Order at 8:03am

2. APPROVAL OF THE MINUTES FROM MEETING AUGUST 14, 2012

ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE
A motion was made by Marsha Coppola to approve the minutes from the last General meeting held August 14, 2012. Second by Ricky Lakeit. CARRIED.	n/a

3. BUSINESS ARISING FROM THE MINUTES

A) BUSINESS LICENSING

DISCUSSION	Business Licensing was voted down at Council 8-0.
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE

B) GARBAGE & PARKING FLYER

DISCUSSION	The flyer is done and at the printers. It is due to be circulated this week to each merchant and resident of the BIA.
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE

C) WEBSITE

DISCUSSION	Erica now has access to the back end of the website. Let her know of any changes/additions you would like.
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE

D) BIKE RACK COMMITTEE REPORT

DISCUSSION	The Bike Rack Committee has decided to open the design of the bike racks to the public and hold a contest. The winner will have their design chosen and installed through the BIA. Details to come on the contest.
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE

E) HALLOWE'EN COMMITTEE REPORT – MARSHA COPPOLA

DISCUSSION	Marsha has provided the BIA with the volunteer sheet for the schools as well as the map for the parade route. This year the route includes Albert Street and part of Ormond Street. The volunteer form includes the "Thorold Santa Claus Parade" and "Christmas Comes to Thorold" events also.
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE

4. NEW BUSINESS

A) MERCHANTS PARKING IN FRONT OF THEIR OWN BUSINESS

DISCUSSION	There have been reports of merchants parking on the street in front of their own buildings. This takes parking away from customers and the BIA will request stronger enforcement of the 2hr parking limit.	
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	
Request stronger enforcement of the 2hr parking limit on Front Street.	George Cottage	
Look into bylaw to see what we can enforce for merchant parking.	Tim Whalen	

B) 2013 BUDGET

DISCUSSION	<p>The board must get the 2013 budget to the City. If you have anything you want to add to the budget let the executives know ASAP.</p> <p>Christmas lights (more/better/new ones) are requested. New ones are needed as some are burnt out and not functioning. Brian will count which ones are not working and let the board know. The existing light decoration will go up right after Hallowe'en and Marsha will be notified so she can help oversee the process.</p>	
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	
Count which lights are not functioning.	Brian Stevens	

C) TRUCKS ON FRONT STREET – TERRY OHM

DISCUSSION	<p>Terry had brought forward earlier the idea of restricting truck traffic along Front Street. Terry did a survey of 18 Merchants downtown and no one had a problem with the idea of limiting truck traffic. The sign could read "No Through Trucks – except for delivery". The issue with this is the difficulty to police it.</p> <p>It might help for merchants to take notes of what trucks are going up and down the street.</p> <p>It might be a good idea to limit truck traffic on Front beginning at Merritt Street.</p>	
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	

D) THOROLD COC

DISCUSSION	<p>A meeting was held last week regarding the Thorold COC. In 2 months the Thorold COC has got 75 members. In 8 years the GNCC has got 86 Thorold members. The meeting ran long but ultimately resulted in the GNCC agreeing to take the motion of returning the Charter to Thorold back to their membership for a vote.</p>	
CONCLUSIONS	Terry Dow will email the application.	
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	
Terry Ohm made a motion that the Thorold BIA formally recognize the Thorold Committee of Concern in their efforts to restore their Charter by writing a letter of support and filling out an application for membership. Second by Diana D'Intino. CARRIED.	n/a	

E) WEEDS DOWNTOWN

DISCUSSION	The BIA has hired an addition worker to help Brian occasionally with the weed situation.	
CONCLUSIONS		
ACTION ITEMS	PERSON RESPONSIBLE	

F) OTHER

DISCUSSION

There is an asphalt patch on the corner of Clairmont/Sullivan/Front. Someone fell and was injured. The patch is temporary.

Constable Patrick Boal is here to help answer some policing questions.

Q: What is the policing schedule for Thorold?

A: There are 2 officers for Thorold. 2 during the day and 2 at night are on patrol. Boal tries to walk the beat on his lunch to keep up appearances. Occasionally Thorold officers have to help out at Brock University. Ghost cars might deter damage to property. Parking at the Moose & Goose when it lets out could also help. Extra duty officers might be a good idea.

Q: Can video be used to catch people?

A: Yes, as long as you can identify them. There was a break-in at QB Gallery where the burglar was wearing a hoodie and you couldn't tell who it was but the getaway car was parked under the camera with a visible license plate. They couldn't get the man on camera but arrested the car owner on other charges.

Beaverdams Park and Beer Store are problem areas for a group of people drinking. If you see them, let the police know. Hopefully the police get there while the people are still doing it. The police can do something in the event that these individuals are drinking/fighting/swearing. If they are just sitting there, there isn't much that can be done. This happens in the middle of the day.

Q: Who pays for Extra Duty Officers?

A: (Don't quote me on this) Whoever hires the officer usually pays for them.

Q: What are some major issues downtown?

A: Drugs (5 o'clock at the corner), parking, drinking, Moose & Goose, Prince of Wales. The Moose & Goose issue usually subsides by October. It's just frosh week now. The key is to report things when they happen, even if the police can't make it there in time. Let them know about it anyways. If they catch someone, parameters can be set up such as "Do not come within 50 metres of Front Street" or "Do not enter Thorold". Immediate jail time would be issued if those terms are violated.

Press Release for Niagara Nights of Art – Terry Dow

Individuals from history will come alive in locations through downtown in flash mob style. Jordan Setacci will be present. A Laura Secord recreation will occur along Front Street and a request for road closure from 5pm to 7pm has been requested.

Marsha Coppola

Marsha needs a flatbed truck for her Santa Claus parade float. Serge Carpino recommends Archie Shindoni.

Her Barbie event at the spa is Sep. 30 9am to 8pm and she requests merchants be open and hospitable to the many people scheduled to attend.

She is looking at the weekend of Dec. 15th and 16th for Christmas events. Anyone with fresh ideas please let her know.

Marsha also needs pylons for the Hallowe'en parade. It is recommended to go to the City for those.

Co-op meeting – Terry Ohm

Terry has a meeting at the High School to discuss enhancing their co-op program at the school and the possible BIA bursary.

Garage Sale – Terry Dow

This Saturday (September 15th) is the Thorold Community Garage Sale. Come on out and add your sale to the Thorold Tourism website.

5. ADJOURNMENT

Meeting Adjourned at 8:45am.