



Working together with our community

Downtown Revitalization Meeting Minutes The Corporation of Norfolk County

October 31, 2019 at 8:00 a.m.
Delhi Tobacco Museum, Delhi

Present: Michelle Balan (Simcoe BIA), Joe Botscheller (Simcoe BIA), Paula Boutis (Norfolk Solicitor / By-Law Enforcement), Linda Branderhorst (Simcoe Chamber), Coun. Mike Columbus (Norfolk Council), S.Sgt. John Fashing (OPP), Jason Godby (Norfolk Public Works), Clark Hoskin (Norfolk Tourism & Ec. Dev.), Doug Moyaert (Delhi Chamber), Jim Norman (Delhi Chamber), Andy Putoczki (Delhi BIA), Matt Terry (Norfolk Communications), Ted Willey (Norfolk Tourism & Ec. Dev.).

1. Welcome & Review Meeting Minutes

Everyone introduced themselves. Clark Hoskin chaired meeting. Minutes from September 12, 2019, were reviewed.

2. Updates

A. Downtown Simcoe BIA Report

Michelle Balan reported on ongoing projects: parking directional signs (in discussions with Public Works), murals, Culture Days event in alleyway, Council approval for security cameras, electrical outlets needed for lighting and cameras, office move to 26 Peel Street, and landscaping work. Michelle Balan and Ted Willey are communicating regularly to ensure invoices are paid by Dec 31, 2019.

- **Follow Up:** Simcoe BIA making deputation to Council in November for approval of electrical outlets for cameras and lighting

B. Downtown Delhi Report

Jim Norman reported Delhi Chamber is compiling list of non-compliant residences in first-floor commercial spaces. Joe Botscheller expressed concern about effect of non-compliant residences on BIA levy revenues. Delhi Chamber is working with Nick Kinkel of OMAFRA on First Impressions exchange with another community. Tony Kleiner Jewellers has closed. Working with high school on apprenticeships to assist employers and youth. Doug Moyaert reported work on corporate sponsorship for Delhi Arena, and concept of an independent energy source for Delhi. He has been working with Michael Simoes of Public Works.

- **Follow Up:** Jim Norman to send non-compliant addresses to By-Law Enforcement (519-426-5870 ext 6015) to investigate.

C. **Housing & Homeless**

Simcoe BIA connected with Indwell on design phase for exterior lighting. OPP concerned about absence of local homeless shelters.

- **Follow Up:** At future meeting, discuss homeless issue with involvement of Housing staff.

D. **Garbage**

Michelle Balan contacted owner of building about garbage. Apparently a neighbor was leaving the garbage there.

E. **By-Law Enforcement**

By-Law Enforcement staff now report to County Solicitor Paula Boutis. She reported on need for a consultant to review by-laws to ensure wording matches signage, and other issues. There are not enough enforcement staff.

- **Follow Up:** Simcoe BIA to contact Norfolk Communications (Matt Terry) to educate citizens about parking blitzes.

F. **Library**

No update.

G. **Heritage & Culture**

No update.

H. **Policing (OPP)**

S. Sgt. John Fashing reported on very successful Foot Patrol Program in downtown Simcoe last summer on Fridays and Saturdays from 5pm to 10pm. Uniformed police officer paired with Auxiliary officer engaged citizens and offshore workers. Street Crime Unit has ongoing investigations and warrants. Crime rates are trending downward.

I. **Public Works**

Jason Godby attended to answer questions related to Public Works.

3. **Initiatives**

A. **Simcoe Secondary Plan**

No update.

B. **Imperial Oil Property**

No update.

C. Governor Simcoe Square Upgrades

The budget was cut for construction of an accessible courtyard at Governor Simcoe Square.

D. BIA Space Initiative

No update.

E. Vacant Building Registry

Economic Development staff are working on a report to Council about a Vacant Building Registry for commercial and industrial properties.

F. CIP Incentives

Norfolk County's Community Improvement Plan incentives are open for applications for 2020. Apply at norfolkbusiness.ca/business-incentives/.

G. Empty Storefront Tour

Ted Willey will be working with Delhi for spring 2020. Chamber or BIA should act as lead. Norfolk County can provide support.

H. Food Trucks

No update.

4. Downtown Events

Port Rowan's Shop the Shore happens Nov 8-10.

Port Dover's ChristmasFest and Christmas in Vittoria happen on Nov 16.

Waterford Christmas Stop & Shop happens on Nov 18.

Simcoe BIA is planning downtown event for Panorama opening night (Nov 30).

On Dec 6-7, Delhi has scheduled Christmas Tree Light Up and Santa Claus Parade.

5. Other Business

A. Saving Mileage Costs

Suggestion was made to rent a car if someone needs to travel more than 200km, rather than charging mileage to an organization.

B. Drive-Thru Garbage

Suggestion was made to encourage drive-thru restaurants to install garbage receptacles so that patrons can drop off their garbage when ordering. This would cut down on litter.

C. No Smoking / No Vaping Signs

Suggestion was made that all businesses should ensure they are posting “No Smoking / No Vaping Signs” so they are not fined. For more information, contact Michelle Lyne at the Health Unit.

D. ALL Norfolk Recreational Centre

Proposed location of the “Hub” was discussed.

6. Next Meeting

Next meeting will be held in early January 2020.

7. Adjournment

The meeting terminated.