

**Westdale Village BIA
Meeting Minutes**

Date & Time: Wednesday, January 12, 2022 @ 6:30pm

Location: via ZOOM

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83404949282?pwd=VVJlMmdRRzdlEQklbnBDRYcnpTWdV5Zz09>

Meeting ID: 834 0494 9282

Passcode: westdale

Present: David (Westdale Law), Anita (Pace Credit Union), Ilona Santa (Casual Gourmet), Robert (Westdale Theatre), Stephanie Wilson for Councillor Maureen Wilson, Tracy (Executive Director – recording)

Guests:

Regrets: Ron (HPL), Lora (formerly Lora’s Walk-in Closet), Donna (Pure Realty Brokerage)

Declared Conflicts of Interest:

1. **Call to order.** Request from City to now record BIA meetings. Meeting called to order at 6:39pm with David as Chair.
2. **Approval of Agenda. *Motion to approve the agenda. Moved by Anita, seconded by Robert. Carried.***
3. **Approval of minutes. *Motion to approve the minutes from December 8, 2021. Moved by Ilona, seconded by Anita. Carried.***
4. **City of Hamilton: Councillor Maureen Wilson**
 - COVID-19 update. City shifted back to Step 2, indoor recreational closed and staffing issues, impacted human resources – staff working at vaccination clinics.
 - Passed unanimously at City Planning meeting for CofH Ec Dev to support local commercial areas with economic development local programs. Artists, art, Hamilton Culinary sector (patios, meters) \$750000 over 2 years. Will include a temporary senior project management officer to oversee for two years. Under Jason Thorne Ec Dev. for CofH BIAs, community downtowns and other commercial areas.
 - Development updates:
 - 90 Carling St (backs on King property near Food Basics) To construct a 7-storey multiple dwelling containing 100 units. A total of 57 parking spaces are being provided for the site, with 45 below grade, 12 contained on a surface parking area. Moving forward with permissions.
 - McMaster residence? The LPAT decision? Details released and will share at next meeting.
 - 804-816 King St W (@ Paradise) 6 storey, commercial main floor, 30 units with 20 parking spaces. Approved by the City. All permissions, up to them to get going.
 - Snow sidewalk clearing - starts DEC 2022 - “approved for major bus routes”, which looks like King Street through Westdale Village. City set out interactive map 2022 snow clearing. Priority most of Westdale will be done. Contract secured saving City \$1.4M.
 - paving of local streets - Marion N&S, Sterling, Whitton expected for 2022
 - Cootes clean-up completed in 2022? Report today at GIC, RBG there. Will be hosting public meeting in May/June. Take place in July because of fish. Councillor to send info. Cootes under

multi bridge path up to Kay Dredge Park – to be closed and will be separated there. Samples taken to send on dry days to sewer system or will go back to creek. Will be an impact to Westdale and Strathcona because trucked away. Truck route and odor issues. Will keep BIA posted.

- Churchill Park upgrades – completion expected SPRING 2022? Councillor will be meeting with Ken Wheaton this week. Motion passed to assess accessibility of lawn bowling club. Buildings under utilized looking at work needs to be done. Look at outdoor public washrooms.
- laneway behind ScotiaBank and Shoppers – update. Check with Step 2
- permanent outdoor patios coming to Council soon
- Thank you Councillor Wilson - some sweeping was done thankfully and thank you in the parkette areas and along King St W - just in time for snow arrival
- Economic Development support for events in BIAs (details to come)
- Parking: Issues when City decided to not put inserts for free parking, app flash, tickets.
- Snow removal issues. King @ Paisley. Legal responsibility for municipalities. BIA salted to help solve issue quickly, businesses owners were escorting elderly and customers with disabilities to their vehicles through the ice and snow. Area was plowed finally, after request to City.

5. Safety and Security:

- Update on ATM issues – Anita. Pace now locked at closing after issue with person and TD now locked.
- Crime update: NO RESIDENTIAL, B&E COMMERCIAL – King St W no details Dec 12th

6. Westdale Theatre – Bob Crockford:

- Restaurants and theatres closed January 5th as moved back into Step 2 for at least 3 weeks
- Sold lots of popcorn and beer on new Friday night trial of concession sales
- Bringing back film clubs
- Hopefully not a long lockdown
- Virtual programs continue and bring in some revenue
- Hamilton Originals continuing and doing well
- Message on marquee fundraising is bringing in revenue

7. Financial Update:

- Bank Balance as of December 31, 2021 \$29 625.96 (emailed to Board)
- Deposits coming in: still to add to total + student grant ~ \$8000 + ~\$1300 Christmas grant + \$2000 Hamilton Day grant + \$200 free parking grant + my main street funds
- More year end expenses to come
- First half of levy for 2022 to be deposited in late January/early February
- Agreement at December meeting to streamline expenses and find efficiencies in 2022.

8. Business updates:

- Real Estate update – Donna (held up attending meeting)
- HPL update – Ron
 - *Reduced hours Tue-Thurs 10-6 and Fri- Sat 10-5. Hours for the foreseeable future.*
 - *Open with limited capacity*
 - *Construction expected sometime in spring*
- January 5th moved back into Step 2. Theatre creative, Allure and Westdale Pilates online
- Colio Wines and Thornbury Cider shop open beside UPS
- Smoke's Pouterie coming to UPS building – under renos
- Shoe Repair building more interior demolition – expected Bubble Tea

- Renovations at UPS building and Charlie's Chopsticks building – 2 cannabis stores to open at former Charlie's location and right beside at Vape 180.
- Westdale Barber expected to move beside Pita Pit soon
- Renovations going on at former Langley Cleaners (building permit posted)
- Little action at building where fire was beside Dragon Court (reached out to owner, nothing)
- Rapid testing for small businesses out of stock but more expected back through Hamilton Chamber of Commerce (out of stock)
- Patios – steps to make them permanent, hopefully for spring 2022. We are ready!
- Cannabis shops – two more to open, with two side by side.
 - 300m from schools is only provincial guideline, but not a strict rule
 - City request 150m from schools, libraries, clinics, etc., but all Provincial decisions.
 - City info office to end April 2022 (provincial funds) and may approve continuing office (information only)
 - Letter from BIA to comment? To add guidelines? (still a provincial decision). Decided not to comment to municipality since all provincial decision.

9. Streetscape:

- Street planters cleared out – minimal garbage with pylons, some theft, positive and negative comments.
- Planters ordered for 2022. Similar to 2021 our own unique designs Palms, greens, flowers, potato vine – might be hard to get plants and might need to substitute. Already being advised of supply issues. Watering and planters, hanging baskets organized with Mallord Farm for 2022.
- Ferns in patio planters to “soften and clean” the space and transform parking lots somewhat.
- Light displays can change colour. Pink for Valentines, Green St. Patrick's Day, etc.
- Suggestion to look at theatre signage to see if opening on days not rented. Plug in some funds and messages. Check with theatre.

10. Strategy:

- Theme: Westdale Village is alive and open for business.
- Fresh, green, outdoor, safe
- Outdoor fresh – skating, trails, hiking, canoe, kayak, etc.
- LIGHTS colours
- Farmers Market and adding artisan market (favourable test run last September on Fridays – good reviews from businesses, patios, residents, customers. Tuesdays 4-7pm June - October.
- Outdoor dining patios (large permanent plus parkettes for activities). Working with CofH for permits and making them permanent.
- Live Music, art and artisans – looking at ways to enhance
- ArtsFest, ArtsWest, OktoberWest – outside funding for events
- Billboards – Main @ Haddon, Hwy 403 (ArtFest, ArtsWest, OktoberWest buys) ***Motion to proceed with second billboard for 2022. Moved Anita, seconded by Ilona. Carried.***
- Grants looked at to see what is possible to enhance programming, marketing and events.

11. New business.

Elections: City October, BIA Board members at November 2022 AGM. Thank you and Happy New Year

12. Next Meeting February 9, 2022 via ZOOM

13. Adjournment. ***Motion to adjourn. Moved by Ilona. Carried.*** Meeting adjourned at 7:30pm.