

**Westdale Village BIA
Meeting Minutes**

Date & Time: Monday, May 12, 2025 @ 6:30pm

Join Zoom meeting:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81330649599?pwd=Vnhs8OWPBJ09jZhwYbCsnuppVFut38.1>

Passcode: westdale

Present: David Simpson (Westdale Law), Anita Shilliday (Alterna Savings), Mohammad (Nannaa's Eatery), Quentin Wang (OneZo), Jordan Geertsma (Snooty Fox), Paul Milki (Westdale Cupcakes), Burnadette Curtis (Westdale Theatre) Tracy (Executive Director – recording)

Regrets: Ilona Santa (formerly Casual Gourmet), Councillor Maureen Wilson/Stephanie Hilson

Guests:

1. **Call to order.** Meeting called to order at 633pm with David as Chair.
2. **Approval of Agenda.**
Motion to approve the agenda. Moved by Jordan, seconded by Quentin. Carried.
3. **Declarations of Interest.** None.
4. **Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting.**
Motion to approve the minutes of April 14, 2025. Moved by Jordan, seconded by Anita. Carried.
5. **Delegations** None.
6. **Consent items** None.
7. **Presentations** None.
8. **Discussion Items:**

A: City of Hamilton: Councillor Maureen Wilson/Stephanie Hilson

- Development updates:
 - 90 Carling St (backs on King property near Food Basics) appears mostly complete, people moved in and 20 units below market
 - McMaster residence building moving along
 - Main @ Longwood – increased heights from 18 to 25 stories
- Trees coming to Westdale Village – thank you Councillor Wilson.
- Monitoring 14 trees damaged with snow removal – all appear ok
- Green Venture garden for King @ Paisley NW – waiting for mock up. Met with horticulture to discuss other requirements.
- City Parking changes on hold. Nothing brought back yet from Hamilton Parking.
- Extra pick-ups for April 28th – no issues with student move outs
- 2 way Main Street – BIAs just added as a stakeholder in planning talks. Meeting in coming months with City of Hamilton BIA liaison.
- Patios! Until October 31st

B: Financial Update (Anita, Tracy):

- Bank Balances as of April 30, 2025 are: CIBC is \$39088.50 and Alterna is \$10732.09
- Will aim to close the CIBC this month after complete switchover so all in one Alterna account.
- Second half of 2024 levy received ~\$55000
- Funds to come: Fed Dev grant for Winter Wander \$9000, first half of 2025 levy ~\$64000
- Mallord Farm now paid and up to date
- 2023 audit nearing completion. Everything submitted, under review.
- 2024 to be submitted for end of month (once auditor adjustments received)
- Received confirmation of grant for summer students ~\$28000
- CEF grants announced \$3500 for farmers market, \$3750 Westdale Live!

- ***Motion to receive financial update. Moved by Anita, seconded by Mohammad. Carried.***

C: Westdale Theatre (Bernadette):

- Special programming continues – comedy, concerts, movies, private rentals
- Lots of live concert bookings – Candlelight Concerts, Hamilton Originals, film festivals, other cultural events, live concerts, lots of activity, Fringe Festival July 13-25
- **LINK to CALENDAR :** <https://www.thewestdale.ca/calendar/>
- **UPCOMING!SPECIALS:**
- **Harlequin Singers** are doing a Broadway Favorites show **Saturday May 24th 7pm:**
- NIDO is hosting a **Suubi Talent Hunt & Cultural Exchange** on **Saturday May 31& June 1:**
- This is a talent competition where artists can win a recording or dance contract in Canada and/or travel to Uganda to help advance their careers!
- **Return to the Falls** is a Documentary about Elder Betty Ross, a residential school survivor who is travelling across Canada sharing her story. **Tuesday, June 3rd at 7pm**
- Herself as well as the producer of the film will be here to connect with the community as we grow towards reconciliation. **we are looking for help supporting in hotel and/or car rentals to help their journey. If anyone can help please contact Niki at The Westdale. A gofund me page is also available on the website link**
- **Tune In Foundation** supports disadvantaged and "at risk" youth in Hamilton with music education, inspiration, & tangible personal developmental tools to impact, empower and transform youth at their core. This fundraiser is part of Hamilton Arts Week Signature Event Resonate: Steel & Soul Experience — a night of powerful music, cultural storytelling, and soulful celebration. **Saturday June 7th at 7:30pm:** [Click Here](#)
- **Sultans of String** is also here as part of Hamilton Arts Week Signature Event **Sunday June 8 at 7:30pm** tickets are Pay What You Can
- **Hometown Heroes** is presented by Vasilisa Atanackovic, a world traveling Opera Singer who grew up in Westdale so is producing her own concert with two other local professional singers and musicians to share their talent with us: **Saturday June 28th at 7pm**
- National Association of Japanese Canadians presents Dr. Setsuko Thurlow: A Historic Community Gathering Featuring the **Film The Vow from Hiroshima**. The Vow from Hiroshima, an intimate and moving documentary that shares the story of Dr. Setsuko Thurlow—a member of the Order of Canada, a Nobel Peace Prize laureate, and a survivor of the Hiroshima atomic bombing. She has dedicated her life to nuclear disarmament and peace advocacy. **Saturday, July 5th at 3pm:**
- Matching donations continue this year for the 90th from a generous anonymous donor
- BIA sponsorship 2025 still working out details
- Members night on tonight
- Increase in number of people coming to Westdale for the Theatre - a huge draw for Westdale

D: Safety and Security (Anita, Tracy):

- Update on ATM issues – no issues
- Crime update: no crime reported within BIA. 2 theft from vehicle outside of BIA.
- Tim Horton's window smashed again.
- Shoppers Drug Mart – an issue with some people late at night.
- Quentin – Amy owner of DooCoo: thefts from students, watch out to other businesses.
- Light bulbs being stolen inside Snooty Fox.

E: Real Estate update (Mohammad):

- Real Estate Report from Mohammad
- Residential: 10 new listings 25 now, 4 sold over last 30 days. More came to market, less sold, not usual spring market. Avg \$1.2M – 2 are priced high \$3.7 and \$2.4. median \$898 000
- Avg 15 days sold just under \$1M. 3 out of 4 sold in less than a week
- Businesses for sale: Bean Bar, Sport Café, Monga, Cinnaholic, Hungry Donkey
- Commercial: not much. Listings or land for lease. 2 listings for lease – office. No major transactions. Bean Bar back up for sale mid April. Not too much vacancy.

F: HPL update:

- General - New manager. Still busy. Hosted election poll.

G: Business updates (Tracy):

- Former Pete and Kay location – renovations seem to be moving along
- 948 King St W – renovations continuing in commercial and residential units
- Heal and Lettuce Love now open
- Mister Maki now open
- Hanami Thai food now open
- New Asian food shop at former Delirious Burger – White Lotus
- Former Cinnaholic Westdale – empty
- OMG – painted pink and some renovations going on, donuts and sweets, ice cream, Quentin will connect owner with BIA
- Wind/Freedom Mobile papered up for renos for ice cream shop
- Second Cup Westdale – free coffee on MAY 31st. closed short time for renos and then reopen as a Westdale Coffee shop with food, Asian cool treats
- Cold North Ink – expanded to take over former Vape Shop. Full and very busy both spots
- Westdale Pilates expanded across the street, former spot for lease
- Fuwa Fuwa increasing hours
- King West Books had a good National Independent Bookseller Day

H: Community Outreach (Tracy):

- Hosted all-candidates meeting online – very difficult to get candidates to participate. Cable 14 only got some candidates to participate as well
- Janes Walk walking tours – good participation and response.
- New book by local on Westdale area history – waiting list at King West Books.

I: Streetscape (Tracy):

- Summer students started today!
- Ws are back up until Nov
- Electrical damage mostly fixed, light being fixed
- Fern planters keeping garbage out of cement planters
- More bigger City trees approved - should be planted in spring
- Flowers, planters, ferns, watering ordered with Mallord Farm
 - City planters subsidy (cement street planters) since 2006 cancelled for 2026 – all BIA subsidies and funding all cut for all BIAs in 2026
 - Thank you Councillor Wilson for assisting us in ensuring it is covered for 2024/2025 – approved in Council meeting – BIG THANK YOU
 - Planter costs to all be paid for by BIA

- Ferns in planters for Mother's Day weekend, switching to move to patios, fern in cement planters until mid June for summer planters
- Damage during snow removal crews:
 - 14 trees identified by City Forestry – pruned, trying to mitigate damage, will review
 - Some benches damaged and broken – to be repaired/replaced/reinstalled
 - Electrical severely damaged in gardens – mostly repaired with lights getting fixed
 - Submit invoices to City for payment

J: Strategy (Tracy):

- PATIOS are open! Bean Bar not doing a patio this year so there are three extra spots to be covered by BIA for safety, but more space for everybody. Well used all weekend. Some tables were broken last year. When we can, will need some more tables as more restaurants and they want more.
- Show Some Local Love, shop & dine local, organizing BIAs in City and trying for collaborative messaging – Shopping HERE. Supporting NEAR. Canada/maple leaf symbol to shop/dine/support local. OBIAA support Main Street campaign.
- Tourism: hiking, canoeing, kayaking, connection to hotels and visitors – will start more as season warms up
- Outdoor fresh, safe – shop local, eat local, support local, live music, great patios, tourism
- Social media – focus on food, businesses, theatre, activities, women owned
- Experiences in Westdale: dining, experiences, hiking, coffee shops, art, lighting
- Supporting food/drink/restaurants: social media, music, patios spring/summer/fall
- 2025 Commercial Market Assessment TBC – expected in 2025
- Hotels guidebook request to advertise in rooms. Starting Hotel Room Key promos this month. Hold for now.
- Billboard renewal? Cost ~\$1200 per month. General agreement to continue.
- Farmer's Market parking cost \$2760 thoughts? Move to around the clock and size it down? Ask Councillor for support. Try for another year – issue with staffing for farmers. Grant covers music, get students for market. Try for another year and then reassess.

EVENTS 2025:

Activation Days:

April 18-20th - Easter Weekend

May 3 & 4 - Jane's Walk

May 11 - Mother's Day

June 3-12 - Hamilton Arts Week

June 15 - Father's Day

September 20 – October 13 – Ontario Culture Days

October 26 - Spooky West

November 1 - Hamilton Day

FESTIVALS & EVENTS:

NEW! Westdale Timeless Spring Market – APR 5 from 1-8pm & APR 6 from 2-9pm.

Westdale Live! Live music JUN 10 – October 7 (TUE 4-7, FRI & SAT 5-8)

Westdale Farmers Market JUN 10 – OCT 7 TUESDAYS 4-7pm (need farmers)

ArtsFEST - JUN 20-22

ArtsWEST - AUG 8-10

Westdale Welcome Week - SEP 20 + 21 *DATE CHANGE*

OktoberWEST - OCT 3-5

Winter Wander - NOV 28-30

Vintage Markets confirmed for APR, JUN, AUG, SEP, OCT

Other:

- Westdale job board – no cost to BIA, start one with other BIAs for Hamilton – under discussion and will bring back more details
- FAM tour with influencers and hotels and tourism in spring. “Tuesday Tours at Two”
- If out and about and see things happening in another BIA or small town share good ideas.

Motion to approve and receive discussion items. Moved by Jordan, seconded by Anita. Carried.

9. Notice of Motions None.

10. Motions None.

11. General Information/Other Business None.

12. Adjournment.

Next meeting MONDAY 9 JUNE @ 630pm (2nd Monday of the month)

Meetings dates: JUNE 9, JULY 14, SEP 8, OCT (Thanksgiving change to 6th?)

MON 10 NOV – AGM at Alterna, MON 8 DEC

Motion to adjourn. Moved by Bernadette, seconded by Quentin. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 7:28pm