

November, 2018

North End Business Improvement Zone

Letter from the President

My fellow North End BIZ Members,

Another year has passed. Many great things were achieved this year. I want to thank the board for their dedication and their time. We all know that as business owners we put in long hours. Then, to sit at a board meeting for a couple more hours makes for an even longer day. Mostly I, along with the other board members, would like to thank Astrid for her dedication and all her hard work. These projects could not be done without her hours of hard work. While it is the board that comes up with the ideas for the projects, it is Astrid that turns our visions into reality.

Of all the projects this year, I think the most successful would have to be the hanging planters. It took three years of planning, but I think it was well worth it. We partnered with the Selkirk Avenue BIZ to split the costs, equipment and personnel. The girls from the MB 4 Youth Urban Green Team Program were great, and quite possibly the best summer students we have ever had. This partnership worked out very well, and we look forward to working with Selkirk BIZ and MB 4 Youth again.

Hopefully you took notice that our holiday lights are up already. It adds so much to the area. Help us light up Main Street! We are once again selling 25-foot-long, LED string lights (available at the Annual General Meeting). Each heavy duty, commercial grade string consists of 50 LED bulbs and costs \$20.00 (taxes included). These string lights are for member businesses only to decorate their storefronts.

As great as this year was, there is unfortunate news. We currently are experiencing a decline in businesses which is going to significantly affect our ARV rate. As well, several businesses have appealed their assessments and won. While that is great for them, and I am happy that they won, it has further reduced our ARV.

To sum this up, the board looks forward to the tasks ahead in 2019 and to another great year. We thank you for your continued support, and wish you all the best in your businesses as well as your personal lives.

All the best,

Keith Horn

President