

# North End Business Improvement Zone

## Annual General Meeting

November 14<sup>th</sup>, 2019, 1076 Main Street (Binh An Restaurant)

### MINUTES

**Attendees** (Including 1 volunteer) 33 as per sign in sheet

1. Networking and dinner.
2. The meeting was called to order by President Keith Horn at 8:02 p.m. All attendees introduced themselves and what business in the zone they were representing. The owners and staff of Binh An were thanked for a wonderful meal and volunteer hostess/bartender Eileen Shewchuk was thanked for her service.
3. President Keith Horn appointed the Biz administrator as Minute Taker for the AGM.
4. **Motion: To approve the Minutes of the North End Business Improvement Zone 2018 Annual General Meeting, Dr. Zheng, Seconded Colin Burdeniuk, Carried.**
5. President's Report: Keith Horn briefly went over his report (included and distributed as part of the AGM package prior). New to the AGM package this year is a Projects Report and the Auditor's Report to the Board of Directors.
6. Financial Report
  - (a) **Motion: To approve the 2018 Audit, David Kan, Seconded Ross Eadie, Carried.**
  - (b) **Motion: To appoint Myers Norris Penny (now MNP) as the Auditor for the North End BIZ 2019 audit, Kerstin Warren, Seconded Brian Petrynko, Carried.**
  - (c) **Motion: To approve the proposed 2020 North End BIZ Budget, Dr. Zheng, Seconded Rob McDonald, Carried.**
7. Report on all nominations received by the deadline of 4:00 p.m. November 8<sup>th</sup>, for board positions: **None received.**

**The 3 candidates put forward by the election committee have been appointed by acclamation.**

1. Shelley Greschuk (new)
2. David Kan (returning)
3. Jessica Thompson (new)

## 8. Discussion of Streetscape Elements and 2020 proposed projects.

Keith Horn advised that the BIZ had applied for several grants to assist in street maintenance; particularly equipment for summer projects; transit shack maintenance and new large dual stream garbage/recycling bins. The BIZ will be advised in early Spring if those grants (or portion of) have been approved. Discussion as to City of Winnipeg Streetscaping capital BIZ fund and if the BIZ received some of this fund what project(s) it would work on: Installation of new decorative banner poles (possibly lit) to relocate the hanging baskets from the hydro poles to biz poles in order to display them in pairs; expand the hanging baskets; explore some larger gateway features; improve the appearance and safety of the Higgins underpass pedestrian entrances on the North End BIZ side.

## 9. New Business (From the Membership)

(a) Overall cleanliness of the Zone: Members wish to see a program that extends the work that the Urban Green Team does in the summer / more funding put towards UGT; weekly garbage pick up all year round; by-law enforcement regarding illegal dumping in bins and vandalism of bins; public urination/defecation behind member garbage bins and in recessed doorways / possible public toilets; and that all members must take some responsibility for cleanliness in front of their businesses.

(b) Improved lighting and safety in the Zone: Members wish to see increased lighting (the BIZ ran a safety light installation program over several years, installing 40 lights in the zone). Councillor Eadie stated that the City is currently seeking input from citizens regarding their opinions on streetlighting in Winnipeg and the interactive survey is online at the City of Winnipeg website. The BIZ administrator will forward this link to all the members and post it on the biz website.

(c) Improved communication between BIZ members regarding safety concerns: Members would like to see an App (recommended was WhatsApp) that all the members can utilize to communicate (texting) safety issues such as vandalism; graffiti; aggressive behaviours; panhandling; public nuisance; robbery (and attempt); drug dealing and whatever other relevant information they have about an event in progress, in order to alert the other members. A sign in sheet was circulated asking for cell contact numbers of those members interested in participating. It was stated that in order for this to be successful, the majority of the members need to participate. The BIZ administrator will forward this information by dropping off letters to all the biz members as well as posting on the biz website.

(d) Improved communication and advertising / advocacy for the BIZ: Utilizing Facebook (though older platform and younger audience moving away from this), Instagram, Twitter (and other social media) to connect, support and advertise member businesses within the zone to each other and the larger public (i.e. Downtown Peggy). Confirmation that a new board member will be part of the committee working specifically on this for 2020.

(e) MLCC Robberies: The businesses within close proximity of the MLCC are experiencing issues as well: increased police request to review security cameras; overspill from aggressive/brazen thieves; and a general societal increase in disregard for the law (thieves) due to little/negligible consequences for behaviour.

- (Members were advised that there was plenty of food left over and if they wished they could pack take out containers provided by the restaurant.)

**10. Motion to adjourn: David Kan**

*Meeting adjourned at 8:49 p.m.*