

**VILLAGE OF RICHMOND HILL BIA
BOARD OF MANAGEMENT MEETING**

December 6, 2016

8:45 – 9:55 AM

Village of Richmond Hill BIA

10097 Yonge St. Unit 1

Richmond Hill, ON

MINUTES

A meeting of the Village of Richmond Hill BIA was held on Tues., Dec. 6, 2016 at 8:45 a.m. at the Village of Richmond Hill BIA, 10097 Yonge St., Unit 1, Richmond Hill, ON with the following members in attendance:

Farhad Abbaszadeh, Farah Aghajani, Nancy Le, Elham Moaveni, Mehrdad Sabouhi, Ron Smit, Councillor David West,

Regrets: Sarah Nejad, Marj Andre, Kevin Sedighi, Councillor Tom Muench

Jae Kim and Richard Szafranski were also in attendance.

Staff: Ashley Poy, Betty Johnston

ADOPTION OF AGENDA

Moved by: Elham Moaveni

Seconded by: Ron Smit

That the Agenda be accepted with the addition of one item - "Feedback TD Bank".

Carried Unanimously

DISCLOSURES OF PECUNIARY INTEREST AND GENERAL NATURE THEREOF

There were no disclosures of pecuniary interest by members of the BIA Board of Management under the *Municipal Conflict of Interest Act*.

ADOPTION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

1. Minutes – Village of Richmond Hill BIA Board of Management meeting of Oct. 11, 2016 and Nov. 2, 2016

Moved by: Elham Moaveni

Seconded by: Nancy Le

That the minutes of the Village of Richmond Hill BIA Board of Management meeting held on October 11, 2016 and Nov. 2, 2016 be adopted according to the following changes:

Oct. 11, 2016 Minutes, page 3 & 4, be amended to state:

Downtown Properties

First bullet to read

“The Board discussed the properties that need attention.”

Second bullet

Substitute ‘e’ for ‘é’ in the name Neil Garbe

Third bullet to read

“Property by-laws can be enforced.

Remove first three lines on page 4.

Carried

BUSINESS ARISING FROM PREVIOUS MEETING

2. AGM 2016 Feedback

Discussion

- positive response re: attendance (Ron Smit)
- positive meeting (gifts and prizes helped attendance)
(Councillor David West)

SCHEDULED BUSINESS

3. TD Bank Account – Mehrdad Sabouhi

TD Bank contacted Mehrdad Sabouhi about a BIA bank account

- created by Richmond Hill Business Improvement Corp in 1995 before the present BIA was formed.
- no action on account for 11 years.
- Mehrdad Sabouhi met with Calvin Ho, former BIA Board Member, to get any information with respect to the TD account.

The Town will be responsible for the money. (Councillor David West)

4. Village Pages and Website Update – Mehrdad Sabouhi

- The new website is ready. The password will be removed so the public will be able to view it.
- The Village Pages are being finalized. The BIA members will be able to follow a link to check that their page is correct.
- The Village Pages will be sent for printing.

Facebook is available. It is being monitored.(Mehrdad Sabouhi)

- Ashley Poy should close the old Facebook and the designer for Village Pages will open Facebook and Twitter accounts that are to be updated weekly with events. (Mehrdad Sabouhi)
- Someone needs to be in charge of posting messages.
- Someone should be hired to be in charge of Facebook and Twitter(Councillor David West).
- Possible contact with Seneca College (Richmond Hill) – Social Media Program- to hire someone. (Ron Smit)
- Ron Smit will contact a possible candidate to get in touch with Mehrdad Sabouhi about the position.

5. Parking Signage in Village Core – (Councillor David West)

A meeting with Grant Taylor from the Town, Mehrdad Sabouhi, Farhad Abbaszadeh and Councillor David West will ensure a walk in the Village.

- Businesses are complaining about the lack of parking. Is it possible to rent parking spaces in businesses that have available parking? (Farhad Abbaszadeh).
- The master plan in the Downtown Core is close to approval resulting in the placement of obvious signs to note parking on Yonge St.
(Councillor David West)
- Possible solution for present would be for businesses to note the nearest parking area, in their window.

6. Statue/Bench Project Proposal – Mehrdad Sabouhi

Mehrdad Sabouhi proposed:

- A project to encourage shopping in the core.
- The cost of statues would create an open concept museum business area and beautify area.
- Create an educational opportunity for students and tourists.
- Media opportunities to highlight Village core.
- Seeking potential sponsorships and a contribution from BIA.
- Artists and volunteers will be requested.

Discussion

- Concern that statues should be locally (Town, Provincial, Cdn.) produced. (Ron Smit)
- A Public Art Policy is in place. (Councillor David West)
- A Public Realm Place-Making Study is being completed.
- Councillor David West will set up a meeting with Town staff and Mehrdad Sabouhi to determine their suggestions for design.

7. Approval of Hengameh Hosseini to the BIA Board

Moved by: Ron Smit

Seconded by: Councillor David West

Motion

That Hengameh Hosseini join the BIA Board.

Carried

NEW BUSINESS

8. Introduction of Jae Kim and Richard Szafranski (Candidates for BIA Board)

Jae Kim shared that he:

- graduated from York University and has had experience in environmental initiatives.
- His family owns Yummy Korea and has been in area since 2007.
- Wishes to contribute to the growth in the downtown area via relationship with other BIA owners.
- Proposes targeting marketing which captures markets to specific locations where community gathers (hospital, arena, library).

Richard Szafranski (owner of TaTi Cafe)

- Opened a business three months ago.
- Originally opened a business in Richmond Hill in 2001.

Mehrdad Sabouhi emphasized that:

- Commitment to attend the BIA Board meetings, once a month, is required.
- Board members must be actively engaged in projects and take full responsibility as Board members.

NEXT MEETING

The next meeting of the Village of Richmond Hill BIA will be held on Wednesday, Jan. 11, 2017 at 6:30 p.m.

Ashley Poy will send a calendar of meeting dates for 2017.

ADJOURNMENT

December 6, 2016

The Village of Richmond Hill BIA

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Adjournment

Moved by: Elham Moaveni

Seconded by: Nancy Le

That the meeting be adjourned.

Carried Unanimously

The meeting was adjourned at 9:55 a.m.

ACTION LIST – Appendix ‘A’ to the December 6, 2016 minutes

APPENDIX A

Action List Related to December 6, 201

Ashley Poy should close the old Facebook and the designer for Village Pages will open Facebook and Twitter accounts that are to be updated weekly with events.

Ron Smit will contact a possible candidate to get in touch with Mehrdad Sabouhi about the position to post activities on BIA's Facebook and Twitter.

Councillor David West will set up a meeting for himself and Grant Taylor from the Town, Farhad Abbaszadeh, and Mehrdad Sabouhi to walk the Village re: parking designation.

Councillor David West will set up a meeting with Town staff and Mehrdad Sabouhi to determine their suggestions for design related to The Public Realm Place-Making Study.

Ashley Poy will send a calendar of meeting dates for 2017 to BIA Board members.