

Unionville BIA Monthly Board Meeting – September 30, 2009

Attendance: T. MacKinnon, S. Morris, G. McCormick, S. Taylor-Wood, A. Wong, Reg. Councillor J. Virgilio
R. Kadlovski, W. Kadlovski, J. Valianes, P. Vasilovsky, R. Mandelzys, A. Thambyayah, M. Tiano.

Regrets: S. Iles,

Staff (UBIA has no staff)

The Meeting of the Unionville BIA was held on June 24, 2009 at 6:00p.m., in Unionville Pizza Co., 175 Main Street, Unionville.
UBIA Chairman G. McCormick presided. Called to order at 6:19pm.

1. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST - none declared

2. MINUTES – Motion to approve minutes of 06.24.10.
Moved by S. Taylor-Wood. Seconded by S. Morris.

CARRIED

3. PRESENTATIONS

Paul Vasilovsky – 189 Main Street

Expressed concerns over Security and Parking. Wondered what ever happened to the Parking study that some businesses had to pay the Town to create? Also raised concerns about inspectors targeting Unionville restaurants. It was noted that these problems happened most often when baseball tournaments get licensed at Crosby Park. It was also noted that the UBIA and its members do not have anything to do with the licensing or liquor sales at Crosby Park during baseball tournaments.

4. DELEGATIONS / DEPUTATIONS –

Chairman noted Bill 130 and that new rules from the province and town must be followed. Chairman noted that UBIA has always tried to keep meetings open by encouraging members to attend, to speak and discuss issues, but now UBIA has been told that meetings must be more formal. Form provided for deputations, so people present could speak to an issue, similar to a town Council meeting. Same rules apply as when public is at the Town Council meetings.

R. Kadlovski noted a special “thank you” to UBIA Board on behalf of Wendy and Rob at the Old Firehall Confectionery, for all their hard work.

5. PETITIONS - none

6. a) REPORT 2009-1.9.30 - Chairman’s Report (September 30, 2009) attached
b) REPORT 2009-2.9.30 – Unionville Festivals, Events & Advertising (September 30, 2009) attached
Reports received and entered as part of minutes.

7. MOTIONS - none

8. COMMUNICATIONS

- From the Town : Markham Centre Advisory Committee asking for UBIA representative.
T. MacKinnon to be UBIA representative.
- Numerous requests to advertise with various publications.
- Heritage Markham - \$15000 grant possible at 156 Main Street for replacement of siding.

9. NEW/OTHER BUSINESS –

a. Street Improvements

- Unionville Arms – rebuilding good addition to street
- J. Valianes – new building #157
- Firehall – new Old Firehall Confectionery
- Stiver House – Doing some construction
- Kriss Fashions – newly painted, looks good
- Royal Le Page – newly painted, looks good
- What Girls Want – Award winning gardens
- Enjoy – renovations

b. S. Morris reporting for new owner at 216 Main Street (formerly Stiver House)

- Gallery going in back and basement upgrading for parties and functions
- S. Morris moving to top rear offices of Stiver House in November

- Working on front retail tenant (lots of interest)
- All work expected to be completed mid November

c. Tax Issue

- BIA taxes should “flatten” with addition of new commercial space on Main
- New office and retail space added

d. Security on Main Street

- Crosby Park – liquor inspectors called to inspect baseball leagues liquor licenses in Crosby Park, and as a result, also walked down to Main St. restaurants. These are not UBIA members creating these problems.
- Particularly strong LLBO presence at baseball league playoffs
- Restaurants to advise whether a letter to commission from UBIA inquiring about Unionville’s status with investigations was necessary
- Chair asked restaurants if they wanted to form an LLBO committee
- Who runs the baseball tournaments and why are they causing such concerns with LLBO?

e. Parking Lots

- R. Kadlovski asked if owners may consider joint plowing to save money
- Members inquired of Regional Councillor Virgilio as to when parking study was to be completed
- Discussion followed on: Town’s paid parking plan and how it was bad for business in Unionville
- Possible savings on owners working together on plowing and other maintenance
- Members raised concerns about the odd property owners meeting that was held to undermine BIA. It became a meeting to support a plan for a 10 storey building behind Conway and Mariani’s properties. Those who attended noted it was a very unproductive agenda. Mayor Scarpitti is on record for being against this project.

10. IN-CAMERA ITEMS - None

11. ADJOURNMENT Moved by T. MacKinnon, seconded by S. Taylor-Wood
Meeting adjourned at 7:18p.m. That the meeting do adjourn.
Special thanks to M. Tiano for use of premises.

CARRIED

CHAIRMAN'S REPORT: 2009-1.9.30

Traffic Calming repairs on Carlton – success of stage one removal and return of intersection at the urging of the UBIA – just waiting for parking sign is to be returned at SE corner of Main Street. Working on Phase 2 and crosswalk marking on south side of Main. Thanks to Councillor Virgilio, the Unionville Ratepayers and the Unionville Villagers Association for working with us to help solve this. Looking at parking options in front of Varley.

A proposal by URA, UVA & UBIA has put forward in a joint effort to solve the safety issues.

Unionville Festival followup. The Friday was a success – in place of dance, as Crosby Arena is closed for renovations. Much better working with Festival Committee in celebrating their 40th. Sent them a thank you note along with our contributions. Banners up along with new Unionville heritage figures – all in time for Festival weekend- made a little bigger to cover for loss of flowers - hopefully. Parade route southbound works best – what UBIA uses for Olde Tyme Christmas Parade.

Streetscape flowers – now we get to see what it looks like. Smaller sized hanging baskets and the removal of all dwarf trees was not contemplated nor discussed. Remember, UBIA was not consulted before Town made decision for flower purchases for season.

After decisions made then UBIA was called to have the report read to them in March and a map was given to look at UBIA March meeting, after which UBIA unanimously agreed that they did not approve of the flower reductions.

HST – sent out a memo regarding provincial/federal proposal for sales tax harmonization aka the HST. Have been seeking information from MPP Michael Chan's office. Will forward as we get it. Definitely something all should consider. The Markham Board of Trade has endorsed HST.

Importance of the Unionville Brand. Unionville is a valuable name which conjures up a definite image in the general public's mind. It is exclusive, valuable, and desirable. Many others want to use it but it belongs to Unionville. It is our economic advantage over all our competitors. When others use Unionville or erase the name Unionville or degrade it they are hurting your business. It is good business to protect the name Unionville – which is one of the premier tourism/heritage/shopping brands in the GTA let alone Ontario.

Bandstand solution. After discussions with UBIA Board we attended a meeting with Mayor and Councillor Virgilio. Special thanks to Sharon and Tracy for attending with the Chair. Afterwards the UBIA decided to cover the music at the Unionville Bandstand rather than have it left empty. The Mayor was very appreciative. Thanks to Tracy for rapidly programming another Summer full of concerts. Sylvia noted Mayor is happy. Agreement worked out with Councillor Virgilio which included agreement on program funding.

Public Washrooms. The original publically accessed washrooms at Crosby Arena, a UBIA proposed economic solution from a few years ago, will be properly indicated, with better marked with signs, which have been posted. UBIA volunteers helped Town Place and design signs which guide people to Crosby Arena. Also, the Varley Gallery washrooms are available when it is open. Councillor Virgilio is assisting to use public washroom contingency funds to cover portable washroom expense at bandstand this year.

Keep in mind, in keeping with the traditions of the Town of Markham, we are breaking for the very busy summer - our next meeting is last wednesday in September.

Tony Wong – long time UBIA member and a strong supporter of Unionville has passed away. He will be missed. Condolences forwarded. Funeral this Saturday at Highland Funeral Home.

UNIONVILLE FESTIVALS & EVENTS, PROMOTIONS REPORT: 2009.2-6.24

UPDATE ON BUSY SUMMER SEASON:

- Canada Day rundown of activities- Wed. July 01
- Unionville Celtic Fest – July 11
- Simcoe Festival- August 3
- Unionville Jazz On Main Festival– Aug 14-16 and August 21-23
- Doors Open – August 29
- Heritage & Big Band Festival – Sept 07
- ALL SUMMER LONG – July 01 to September 07- Summer Concert Series
- After Labour Day – into Heritage Harvest Fall September & October

ADVERTISING:

Toronto Star, many GTA advertising options available for reduced prices to UBIA members. A lot more partnership advertising being done for more coverage.

T. MacKinnon reviewed and discussed UBIA policy for items such as meetings, purchase of property, etc. as requested by the Town in regards to Bill 130 after a meeting was held with Clerk's Dept at the Town and Councillor Virgilio. Councillor Virgilio assisted with wording for clarification, which was appreciated. T. MacKinnon to report back with policy for approval, after discussing with Town staff.

Questions raised via email from Councillor Joe Virgilio:

Answers to the questions by UBIA in bold.

1. The minutes should reflect the names of those present and the mover of a motion. Full names of the mover and seconder to be used rather than simply first names.
Minutes already reflect all of those present and the movers and seconders of all motions. First names have been used for at least the last 7 years so that UBIA members may get to know their neighbours along Main Street. From this point on, first initial as last name will be used as per Town minutes.
2. The full names of those attending the meeting to be inserted in the minutes.
See above.
3. Need to clarify that the monthly meetings are of the Board of Directors. All members of the UBIA are free to attend but they are not directors and as such cannot form part of quorum nor are they entitled to vote.
The top of the UBIA minutes always states the date, location, and that it is the monthly UBIA minutes of the meeting held at the particular location and at the particular time.
Quorum has always been the majority of directors, although for the past 7 years, UBIA members have always been notified, invited and encouraged to attend and participate in the UBIA.
4. The only members that can move motions at the monthly meetings of the Board of Directors of UBIA are the directors. Other members of the UBIA are free to attend of course but since the meeting is of the Board of Directors only a director can move a motion and second it. The only individuals that can vote are the directors. The one example was the motion to adjourn the meeting. By making this clear it will avoid problems when a contentious matter arises and a vote is to be taken it will be important to establish who can vote.
Monthly meetings have UBIA Board members move and second motions and the UBIA annual meeting may have UBIA members move and second motions. One motion at one meeting in 2008 had a new UBIA member attend and subsequently was listed as a seconder of a motion to adjourn, however, since Roberts Rules of Order only requires one person to motion an adjournment, it was not an issue.
5. Suggestion was made by Deputy Mayor Heath that UBIA should apply to Celebrate Markham for a grant for the Christmas parade held the first Friday in December as well as for the summer entertainment program at the Bandstand.
Since the UBIA has been invited to apply for Celebrate Markham grants by the long term Chair of the Celebrate Markham Committee then UBIA will apply.
6. You have mentioned in your minutes that Staff had not contacted you regarding some matters. I advised that was correct at the time of the specific meeting but you subsequent a response was provided. It was asked of me to have you insert in the minutes that if subsequent correspondence is received or the matter dealt with that it be noted in the minutes at the next meeting.
Yes, you are correct. In regards to Town staff contacting the UBIA after decisions were made about the street flowers for 2009, it was noted that the UBIA was not contacted prior to purchases and planning of flowers for 2009, however, UBIA did meet in March 2009 with Town staff to discuss what was already decided, as noted.
7. UBIA Representation on the Varley Art Gallery Foundation Board has been requested. In light of this one of your members, Edward Mariani has been appointed. This should be reflected in your minutes.
The UBIA position on the Varley Gallery Board was removed by the Varley Gallery Board a couple of years ago and the UBIA position on the Varley Gallery Board has not been reinstated. The fact that the Town appointed a citizen who also happens to be a member of the UBIA has not changed the absence of the UBIA position on the Gallery Board. The UBIA has not appointed a member because this position has been eliminated by the Varley Gallery Board. UBIA has requested that the UBIA position be reinstated and, should this happen, the UBIA will appoint its representative. So, currently, the UBIA does not have a representative on the Varley Gallery Board.
8. Markham Centre Advisory Committee. UBIA is to have a representative. You were advised in January of this year. An email was sent to you today regarding membership on the MCAC which confirms that UBIA is a member. Richard Kendall has asked that UBIA needs to appoint a member of UBIA and advise Richard Kendall.
Yes, an email was received from Richard Kendall in January and a request for UBIA to be notified of meetings since, but none were received. The UBIA did notice that the UBIA was to be left off the Markham Centre Advisory Committee at the June Town meeting, but did request that the position remain. No volunteers at this time wanted to be on this Town Committee.