

BILLINGS ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT MINUTES

Thursday August 14, 2019
7:30 pm Park Centre - Lower

Present: Sharon Alkenbrack (Chair), Suzanne Darlaston, Todd Gordon (EDO), Sharon Jackson (Councillor), Rick Rusk

Regrets: Diane Larocque

Call to Order: 7:30 pm

Motion to Accept Agenda (as amended – New Business, Games tables, Scrabble board, Senior’s Forum): Rusk-Jackson. Carried

Pecuniary Interests: none

Adoption of Minutes (as amended): Suzanne-Jackson. Carried

Financial Report: None

Old Business:

- a) Poetry Trail:
3 poetry (Haiku) boxes were installed – at the Old Mill, the Maze, and the Park Centre.
- b) Summerfest Update:
Discussion of how the event went this year. Circulation of Sharon’s informal report. Discussion about variation for next year. Should we ‘change it up.’ Suggestion of a “storytelling festival” approach for next year. Members to consider the idea and bring back thoughts for the next meeting. One challenge of the current arrangement if a wide range of small events spread around the whole lower village. Need to do better advertising and more local PR.
- c) Rebranding Update:
Todd provided an update on the rebranding process, namely that the slogan has been approved by council, and the committee is moving ahead with the LOGO contest, featuring 1 \$500 prize.
- d) Seniors Forum:
As per June meeting: Organize a forum to solicit ideas, needs, desires of community seniors. October 2nd and 9th discussed as possible dates. If going ahead, this will need to be posted and organized, with at least some sort of basic format.

New Business:

- e) Salmon/Scarecrow Festival:
Committee members are looking at different types of scarecrows – variations – to ‘freshen’ the contest this year.
Salmon Festival still a good idea but needs more thought and planning/integration. Postpone launch of this event until 2020.
- f) Bonnie Kogos Event:
The EDC is acting as ‘host’ for a book launch event for Bonnie Kogos. Expenses the responsibility of Kogos.

- g) Christmas in Kagawong 2019:
This event will be held November 15, 16, 17 this year. Discussion of a combined Scarecrow Hunt and Christmas in Kagawong mailout flyer. Otherwise a little early for CIK detailed discussion.
- h) Storytelling Festival:
As a possible alternative for Summerfest. As discussed in Summerfest Update.
- i) Games Tables
The chair expressed gratitude to the EDO for securing the new games tables at the life-sized game board (part of the Main St. Revitalization Project), and Public Works for the installation.
- j) Scrabble Board:
The chair posed the possibility of installing a life-size scrabble board in the vicinity of the game board. The idea needs more though including a cost estimate, thought about space/location for installation, etc.

Adjournment: 8:23 pm. Darlaston. Carried