



DBIA Annual General Meeting Minutes
February 13th, 2025

Call to Order

The meeting was called to order at 5:50pm

Present: Dwane Barratt, Emily Rowley, Gerry Drage, Kathryn Corbett, Melissa Brant-Dean, Wayne Jefferson, Gina Boyd, Bobbi Wright

Absent: Sarah Hilwerda

Guests: Mayor Brian Ostrander, Hannah MacAusland, Ron Anderson, Caroline Birch, Darlene Lewis, Anne Butwell, Amy McQuaid, Meg Fox, Des Rodrigues, Kendra Parris, Cher Copeman

Minutes Recorded by Caylee Close, DBIA Admin Assistant.

Introductions was given to Board and guests. Requested to begin eating then meeting to start.

Approval of Agenda – no changes made

Welcome and Board Introduction:

- Introduction of 2023 board (current to date):
Dwane Barratt, Emily Rowley, Gina Boyd, Gerry Drage, Kathryn Corbett, Melissa Brant-Dean, Sarah Hilwerda, Wayne Jefferson, Bobby Wright.

Municipality: Brian Ostrander

- Mayor Ostrander gave a short speech, thanking the DBIA for their continued partnership with the Municipality of Brighton. He spoke of in these odd times, with the new American president and his concern of the possible impacts to our little town and its businesses, especially in regards to the new tariffs (25%). Noted to staying aware in these unusual times. Working together with the Cabinet Minister and Premiere, the fortress of MCAN. As well working closely with our American neighbors, letters have been sent to Wardens to American communities in hopes to begin opening that communication more. Lastly, if these items do become to fruition, it will have an effect on Brighton, the Mayor spoke to our community's resilience, and how strong our community is and has been. Once again, he thanked the DBIA for all their hard work.

Municipality: Caroline Birch

A survey was sent out to Brighton businesses, regarding gaining some feedback on how best the Municipality can help, as well beginning a shop local campaign. Supervisor meeting was held at Presquille park, discussed really making campers aware of what is Brighton has to offer with a campaign "go beyond the gate".

Caroline offered business support or connecting, to please reach out. As well, Caroline mentioned the CIP – Community Improvement Plan, this can assist with giving grants for improvement in town like updating façade etc.

Delegations & Presentations

Des Rodrigues – BACC – unable to attend. To note the new arts center opened downtown Presqu'île Waddling Arts Center, very excited to have this new addition to the downtown area. As well, a coffee shop to open Parris & Co. Café in the Presqu'île Waddling Arts Center, we hope this will draw people and families to our downtown community.

Approval of Minutes

Motion to accept Minutes from January 9th, 2025, minutes by Gerry Drage,
Seconded by Dwane Barratt,
Carried.

Presidents Report- Gina Boyd

Noted – DBIA meetings are now being held at the Presqu'île Waddling Arts Centre.
Gina spoke to what the DBIA is and what it does for Brighton downtown throughout the year. Gina mentioned tenuous times currently as mentioned by Mayor Ostrander. Discussed again the impact tariffs will have on our community. Talked about staying unified in the community.

Treasurer's Report - Wayne Jefferson

Wayne led the board through the current fiscal year as well the 2025 budget. Discussed some of the larger dollar items. Noted the great participation of Smithfield school at our Christmas events again this year and will continue to partner with them. Question was raised regarding having the florist local for the potted flowers DBIA maintains through spring and summer. Currently we use Little Village, as they are able to meet our needs and handle the capacity. Little Village products are used by a number of local Municipalities. Dahlia May has provided the winter floral displays for a number of years, a good sturdy product.

Wayne noted the items we haven't received for the 2024 year-end report, the 2023 audit, and summer student invoices. We will sign off on the final report once received and our reserve is at a estimate of \$16,000.

Motion to accept the 2024 Financial Summary by Kathryn Corbett,
Seconded by Dwane Barratt,
Motion Carried

Wayne provided the board with 2025 budget to review. Still working on the streetlights, to install a receptacle on each pole (18 poles), this is to update the electrical making it easier and efficient to install our winter decorations the snowflakes, over time this will save money. As well, new hardware for flags will be installed.

Motion to accept putting 2500 toward updating the receptacles for the snowflakes and hardware for the flags by Bobbi Wright,
Seconded Dwane Barratt,
Motion Carried

Nominations to the Board

Gina asked the group if there is any nominations to be put forward to join the board.
Bobbi Wright Nominates – Amy McQuaid from Mortgage Architects
Melissa Brant Nominates – Darlene Lewis from Crafted Creations
Gina Boyd – Nominates Kendra Parris from Parris & Co. Cafe

Election of Board of Directors for 2024

All existing Board members ~~accepting~~ except past President to remain in current positions

- President: Gina Boyd, G.Boyd Boutique.
- Vice-President: Melissa Brant-Dean, Just Like Granny's.
- Treasurer: Wayne Jefferson, Presquile Burger
- Secretary: Dwane Barratt, Barratt's Office Pro.
- *Past President: Sarah Hilwerda, The Cellar Door.*
- Appointed Council Representative: Emily Rowley.
- Director: Bobbi Wright, The Bird House Nature Store.
- Director: Gerry Drage, Oldies Radio.
- Director: Kathryn Corbett, Lighthouse Books.
- Joining the Board – Amy McQuaid, Mortgage Architects, Darlene Lewis, Crafted Creations
Kendra Parris from Parris & Co. Cafe

Accepted above list of members for the 2025 year,

Open Forum

Roundtable – Bobbi thanked Lola's for hosting the DBIA AGM, and looking forward to working together through this year.

Meg Fox and Dwane Barratt noted looking forward to the improvement. Proud Brighton is able to help and spoke to the DBIA work.

Gerry Drage noted the Radio doing Canadian owned and local shops and their information. Noon they will be playing the Canadian national anthem.

Caroline thanked for attending the DBIA meetings and thanked DBIA for everything we do.

Kathryn Corbett spoke to all the work Wayne puts in.

Lastly Mayor Ostrander added thanks to the work DBIA does for the downtown area.

Closing Remarks

Thank you to Tracey and Dave with Lola's Café for providing us with such a lovely evening, with great food and a wonderful atmosphere.

Meeting Adjourned at 6:42 pm

Next meeting: March 13th, for 5:45 pm, at Presqu'ile Waddling Arts Center