

# OTTAWA VISITORS CENTER

Board Meeting Minutes

Monday, February 24, 2020

5:04 p.m.

**Present:** Chair: Matt Skelly, Secretary: Caitlin Parker, Treasurer: Tom Justice, Kevin Bressendorf, Michael Cage, Heather Johnson, Mary Beth LeSeure, Scott Struchen, Executive Director: Curt Bedei, City Representative: Dave Noble, and Chamber Director: Jeff Hettrick. **Absent:** Vice Chair: Hank Wolf, and Sean Hodge **Guests:** Mayor Aussem, Donna Reynolds, and Boyd Palmer

Subject	Discussion	Decision	Next Steps - Motion
Public Comments	Discussion regarding Chamber moving to a ground floor location. Partnership with the OVC was discussed but the space was not adequate. Looking at potential locations. City of Ottawa encouraging co-location. Discussed remodeling the OVC facility to allow for co-location. Architect or contractor will need to be included in the discussion to identify feasibility. Both organizations to make a list of what they need within the facility to function.	Moved by Tom Justice, 2nd by Mary Beth LeSeure	To explore the idea.

<p>City Report - Noble</p>	<p>Looking at new receptacles, outdoor WIFI, speakers, electrical upgrade to Washington Park, underground power around the park and the alley to the park, Anthony Place opening in April or May, new Subway Wednesday with drive up following Wednesday, Domino's pizza is open, Census coming up - 49% low to moderate income, if we were 51% we would qualify for additional grants. Goal to reach underprivileged populations, committee working on it. Clean up taking place at the waterfront. Scheduled to be done by the end of summer. City of OTT contributes towards the Small Biz Development Center - can help small businesses with a multitude of services. Downtown merchants - promoting events and drawing people downtown - scarecrow fest happening again. Festival of the Arts September 2020 going to be a big deal. Creating new committees - marketing, events, ? membership,</p>	<p>N/A</p>	<p>N/A</p>
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Chamber Report - Hettrick	<p>Welcomeburger at the Jordan Block in Ottawa. Electrical hook ups available, this event will serve as the business-event lead-into Riverfest. Wednesday, July 29, 2020. Looking for ideas for involvement. Working with a number of items for Starved Rock. New group promoting repair to the trails For the Love of Starved Rock - fundraiser April 5. Economy of the area driven by Starved Rock. Looking to raise half a million to repair the trails and a handicapped acceible trail addition. Money that is raised will go into the local Starved Rock Country Community Foundation, which in turn will donate the money for certain repairs. The money will not go to the IDNR general fund. Trail Mender pale ale in support as well - donating \$1 from each pint sold. Forming a partnership with Exelon Nuclear stations to discuss a number of the findings Grundy County found in a study. Trying to stay ahead of the curve. Prairie Fox Books and Frays and Company are new members.</p>	N/A	N/A
Next Board Meeting	Monday, March 23, 2020	N/A	N/A
Next Committee Meetings	Wednesday, March 11, 2020 - Operations 1 p.m., Marketing 2 p.m., Finance emailed	N/A	N/A
Review of Minutes	N/A	Moved by Michael Cage 2nd by Kevin Bressendorf	Motion to accept the meeting minutes from January 27, 2020. Motion carried.
Old Business	CLE, L-D Mural - No Update	N/A	N/A

	Nomination Committee/BOD	Moved by Tom Justice, 2nd Kevin Bressendorf	Motion for Curt to contact the following nominees to confirm they are interested in serving on the OVC board: Sean Hamer, Holli Clark, Holly Gage, Jessica Lucas, Rich Crum, and John Ross. The nominees will be asked to submit a brief bio. All of the nominee names, with provided bios, will be sent to the City of Ottawa Council for the selection of three. In addition, Boyd Palmer will be added as an ex-officio member.
New Business	2020 Budget	N/A	N/A
Director's Report	State of the OVC Address is on April 7, 2020 at the council meeting at 7 p.m. America's mainstreet contest open	N/A	N/A
Committee Report	Operations - Discussed the website, facebook, cones used to block the driveway as people have been parking and blocking the drive. Will ask the City of Ottawa for the possibility of striping. Marketing - Articles written in NW quarterly. Finance emailed -	Moved by Mary Beth LeSeure 2nd by Heather Johnson	Motion to place January 2020 Finance report on file. Motion carried.
Adjournment	7:45	Tom Justice, 2nd Mary Beth LeSeure	Motion to adjourn. Motion carried.
Executive Session	6:18 p.m.	Moved by Tom Justice 2nd by Mary Beth LeSeure	Motion to move into Executive Session.

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6:55 p.m.	Curt Bedei left the meeting	
7:44 p.m.	Kevin Bressendorf, 2nd by Mike Cage	Motion to move out of Executive Session.
	Present: Chair: Matt Skelly, Secretary: Caitlin Parker, Treasurer: Tom Justice, Kevin Bressendorf, Michael Cage, Heather Johnson, Mary Beth LeSeure, and Scott Struchen	

Minutes typed and submitted by Caitlin Parker, Meeting, February 24, 2020 - Quorum was established