

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
DOWNTOWN VICTORIA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Held virtually, via Zoom
8 am, October 14, 2021

Present: Approximately 38 members of the DVBA, guests and Board of Directors in attendance (20 voting members)

Staff: Jeff Bray, Alison Gair, Rob Caunter, Becca Blachut

1. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

Jeff Bray, Executive Director of the Downtown Victoria Business Association, called the 17th Annual General Meeting to order at 8:05 am.

2 & 3. ADOPTION OF AGENDA and APPROVAL OF LAST YEAR'S MINUTES

MOTION: To adopt the proposed October 14, 2021 agenda as presented.

Moved: Jessica Walker

Seconded: Anna Wray

CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.

MOTION: That the minutes of the October 8, 2020 DVBA AGM meeting be approved as presented.

Moved: Kathy Whitcher

Seconded: Jonathan Michaels

CARRIED

4. CHAIR'S REMARKS

Teri Hustins observed what a tiring and exhausting year the past one has been, due to the uncertainty and restrictions caused by the pandemic. She was thankful for the entrepreneurial spirit and creativeness, collaboration, and cooperation of downtown businesses, which helped keep the number of permanent business closures relatively low. She was also very thankful for the locals of Victoria, who have provided encouragement and support over the past year and a half.

When Teri walks through downtown, she sees the signs of recovery – new businesses opening, increased foot traffic, the return of public events. She was happy to announce that the DVBA will once again be presenting Lights of Wonder in Centennial Square, with the support of our title sponsor, Starlight Investments.

Finally, she thanked departing Board member Jonathan Michaels for his tireless work on the Board.

5 & 6 & 7 AUDITED 2020 FINANCIAL STATEMENTS and APPOINTMENT OF AUDITORS and 2022 PROPOSED BUDGET

Pam Smith, of Grant-Thornton, discussed the audited financial statements prepared by Obara Lee. They performed their usual thorough review and found no material concerns. The DVBA ended 2020 in a cash-positive position, carrying forward a surplus of \$84,000. Due to the cancellation of events, much of the 2020 event budget was reallocated to focus on marketing. We received funding from Western Diversification, which was used for marketing purposes and to create the very popular 'Downtown Delivers' program.

Regarding the 2022 proposed budget, Pam noted that it was based on our annual levy but that the DVBA would be seeking other funding sources, such as sponsorship for Lights of Wonder, in order to leverage our influence further.

MOTION: That the audited statements be accepted as presented.
Moved: Jonathan Michaels Seconded: Stef Hartwig **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MOTION: To appoint Obara & Company to audit the DVBA's financial statements for 2021.
Moved: Mary-Jane Posno Seconded: Richard Egli **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

MOTION: To approve the 2022 proposed budget as presented.
Moved: Pam Smith Seconded: Teri Hustins **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY.**

8. PRESENTATION OF THE 2021-2022 BOARD OF DIRECTORS

Jeff presented the new Board of Directors: President Teri Hustins, Vice-President Dan Sawchuk, Treasurer Pam Smith, Secretary Anna Wray, Richard Egli, Stef Hartwig, Bill Lewis, Sophia Pugh, Nima Rohani, Mike Spence, Susan Snell, and Jessica Walker.

9. CLOSING REMARKS AND ADJOURNMENT

Jeff thanked everyone present for attending, and for a successful previous year, before asking for a motion of adjournment. He indicated that once the business of the meeting closed, he would present a short summary of the DVBA's work over the past year, followed by an open question and answer session.

MOTION: That the 2021 Annual General Meeting be adjourned at 8:29 am.
Moved: Ian McPhee Seconded: Jonathan Michaels **CARRIED UNANIMOUSLY**

Jeff Bray, Executive Director

Teri Hustins, President