

ANNUAL GENERAL MEETING
DOWNTOWN VICTORIA BUSINESS ASSOCIATION

Hotel Grand Pacific
June 15, 2023

Present: Approximately 153 members of the DVBA, guests and Board of Directors in attendance (50 voting members)

Staff: Jeff Bray, Alison Gair, Rob Caunter, Becca Blachut, Madison Sutcliffe, John Kletke, Sierra Murguly, Hiroko Mahoney

1. CALL TO ORDER & WELCOME

Jeff Bray, Executive Director of the Downtown Victoria Business Association, called the 18th 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 June 15, 2023 agenda as presented.

Moved: Bruce Hallsor

Seconded: Stephanie Hartwig

CARRIED.

MOTION: That the minutes of the June 15, 2022 DVBA AGM meeting be approved as presented.

Moved: Bill Lewis

Seconded: Stephanie Hartwig

CARRIED.

4. PRESIDENT'S REMARKS

Jessica thanked everyone in attendance, saying that our downtown would not be half as appealing without the hard work of business and property owners like you. She said that it has been an exciting, and challenging, time to serve as the president of the DVBA board. Over the past year, our boundaries have significantly expanded, bringing the area encompassed by our business improvement association in line with the general public's perception of "downtown". This has meant an expansion of our Clean Team and the addition of two new staff – our Member Engagement Coordinator, Madison Sutcliffe, and our Community Events Coordinator, John Kletke.

Together John and Madison have put together two 'meet and greet' events for businesses and the Upper Fort StreetFest on June 3, which was a terrific success. The StreetFest attracted roughly 5000 people to the block and following the event several businesses reported not only new customers but record sales. On July 22nd, they have planned another event – Market SquareFest, which we hope will be an equal success. Our next Meet & Greet event will be on September 14th, please feel free to join us from 5 – 7 pm at the Herald Street Brew Works and socialize with some of your fellow business owners.

We have organized an opportunity for small businesses, who otherwise might not have the opportunity to participate on their own, to join the DVBA in this year's Victoria Pride Parade on July 9th. Reach out to any of the DVBA staff if you or your staff would like to join the DVBA contingent and show your business's Pride.

Last holiday season, we put on our Lights of Wonder event in Centennial Square, with even more entertainment and more family-friendly activations. We plan to have the lights up even longer in 2023 and we will once again fill the square with live entertainment and activity.

