

**St. Catharines Downtown Association
Minutes**

47th Annual General Meeting

**Tuesday February 25, 2020 – 5:30 p.m.
St. Catharines Club, 77 Ontario Street**

Welcome & Introductions

The St. Catharines Downtown Association Executive Director Tisha Polocko welcomed everyone to the 47th Annual General Meeting of the St. Catharines Downtown Association. City Councillor Mat Siscoe and staff in attendance were acknowledged as well as NRPS District 1 Commander Marco Giannico and fellow officers Moir, Engelen and Cross. Tisha introduced the St. Catharines Downtown Association Board of Management (John Blanchard, David Cooperman, Joe Critelli, Tracey Finley, Brian Gasbarini, Michael Mazzolino, Robin McPherson, Joseph Viola, Jennifer Wallace and Scott Wark).

Call to Order

Chairperson Scott Wark thanked and addressed the meeting delegates. Chairperson Wark highlighted some of the wonderful positive changes the Downtown has experiences over the past year, but also did touch on the various issues currently facing the core. He indicated that the St. Catharines Downtown Association is working on proactive solutions and with other community minded organizations to move forward.

Chairperson Wark officially called the 47th Annual General Meeting of the St. Catharines Downtown Association to Order at 5:41 p.m.

Tisha Polocko thanked Chairperson Scott Wark for his remarks and asked for approval of the Annual General Meeting Agenda as presented.

Moved: David Blanchard

Seconded: David Cooperman

“To accept the Agenda for the 47th Annual General Meeting of the St. Catharines Downtown Association as presented.”

MOTION CARRIED

Councillor Mat Siscoe on behalf of the Mayor and City Council brought greeting to the St. Catharines Downtown Association and Membership. Councilor Siscoe spoke on the various accomplishments that the downtown has seen over the years and the vibrant City it has become.

Presentation and Approval of the 2019 Audited Financial Statements

Scott Plugers, CPA, CA, from KPMG presented the audited 2019 Financial Statements to the membership.

Tisha Polocko thanked Mr. Plugers for his review of the audited financial statements. No questions were asked regarding the financial statements. Tisha Polocko asked for a motion from the floor to accept the 2019 Audited Financial Statements as presented:

Moved: Jennifer Wallace

Seconded: Michael Mazzolino

“To accept and approve the 2019 Audited Financial Statements of the St. Catharines Downtown Association as presented to the membership.”

MOTION CARRIED

Presentation and Approval of the 2020 Downtown Association Budget

Tisha Polocko presented the 2020 Budget. She also reviewed initiatives and events that had taken place in 2019 and those slated for 2020 through a power point presentation.

Tisha Polocko asked for a motion to accept the proposed 2020 Budget as presented.

Moved: David Blanchard

Seconded: David Cooperman

“To accept the 2020 St. Catharines Downtown Association Budget as presented”. MOTION CARRIED

Presentation from the Niagara Regional Police Services

District 1 Commander Marco Giannico addressed the meeting delegates. He firstly introduced officers Virginia Moir, Rusty Engelen and Jeff Cross who were also in attendance. He spoke about the Foot Patrol officers assigned to the Downtown Core. Inspector Giannico also indicated that new officers are required to do field work and this includes foot patrol. He also indicated the need to report crimes and that the NRPS do have on line reporting which makes things much easier to assess. Inspector Giannico reiterated the need to report graffiti and to have it cleaned as quickly as possible. The CCTV cameras in the Downtown are now linked into the system at headquarters making it easier to review. He also encourage the businesses to utilize Crime Prevention Through Environmental Design (CPTED) strategies aim to reduce victimization, deter offender decisions that precede criminal acts, and build a sense of community. CPTED's goal is to prevent crime by designing a physical environment that positively influences human behavior.

Adjournment

Tisha Polocko thanked all for taking the time to attend the Annual General Meeting and encourage members to call or stop by the Association office at any time.

There being no further business the St. Catharines Downtown Association 47th Annual General Meeting was adjourned at 6:42 p.m.