

MINUTES

Business Improvement Area

June 25, 2019

6:30 pm – 1000 Taylor Court, Town of Bracebridge – Granite Room

1) CALL TO ORDER

Chair L. Alexander called the meeting to order at 6:35 pm and the following board members were recorded as being present.

Attendees: L. Alexander
S. Creed
C. Jordan
C. DeSanto
A. Buie, Town of Bracebridge, Councillor – arrived at 6:50 pm
C. Rushton
C. Wilson, Town of Bracebridge, Councillor
P. Burns
K. Fish

Absent NIL

Staff: R. Mattice, Town of Bracebridge Manager of Economic Development
T. Larkman, BIA Administrative Coordinator

2) DECLARATION(S) OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

L. Alexander indicates she has received a letter from a BIA member and that C. DeSanto will have a conflict of interest during the discussion about the letter. C. DeSanto confirms he will leave the board meeting while discussion occurs.

3) CONFIRMATION OF PREVIOUS MINUTES

BIA Board reviews previous meeting minutes from May 21st, 2019 meeting with the following question arose.

- a) **BIA Sip & Share** – Board would like to postpone the July Sip & Share as businesses right now are very busy. The topic is very broad and the board would like T. Larkman survey to survey the members to see what their general knowledge base is like with regards to social media. New date for the Sip & Share Thursday September 12th.

Motion: To approve the meeting minutes from the Board of Management from May 21st, 2019

Moved by: P. Burns

Seconded by: S. Creed

CARRIED

4) BIA FINANCIAL REPORT

T. Larkman provides the BIA board with an up to date financial report. See Appendix "A" for details. No additional questions arise

Motion: To approve the financial report as presented.

Moved by: C. Rushton

Seconded by: S. Creed

CARRIED

5) BIA ACTIVITY REPORT

T. Larkman provides the BIA Board with the monthly activity report. See attached appendix "B" for details. The Board discusses the report and the questions arise.

- a) **Father's Day Car Show** – Board discussed Father's Day Car show and how successful the day was. Only negative comment the board had heard was that it took too long to register and suggests that we look at doing pre-registration. T. Larkman indicates they do offer pre-registration however it is very cumbersome. S. Creed indicates he might be able to assist with this issue and feels a program could be created that would allow participants to quickly register online and the dash plaque would then just print off for them to pick up. T. Larkman will follow up with S. Creed once event season is done so we can look at the option more closely.
- b) **Street Planters** – S. Creed indicates that he has been in contact with the BMLSS about the option of the wood working students building the planters and that they are very interested in the project. The board would need to come up with some design ideas and then we can present some ideas.
- c) **Canada Day** – Tracy provides the details on the Canada Day event. T. Larkman does raise a concern regarding the marketing of the event and has brought it up to the Rotary Club and Chamber of Commerce as all the ads mention the fireworks and not the daytime activities. New ads are being created now and a poster is being made now.
- d) **Downtown Billboard** – T. Larkman indicates she is having issues finding the new owner of the property on hwy 118 where the board would like to place a billboard. L. Alexander indicates she might know the owner and will see if she can get in touch with them to discuss the option of a billboard. T. Larkman does indicated that the Town of Bracebridge and the District Municipality of Muskoka are currently reviewing their sign by-laws and will not be looking and new sign requests right now if a sign variance is needed. The board directs L. Alexander to follow up with her contact and then they will have a better idea if it is even possible in the location they want.
- e) **Downtown Activation Update** – T. Larkman indicates she has run into some issues with trying to get members to create pop up activations within Memorial park. She indicates she has 2 fitness studios interested in creating activations however the Town of Bracebridge will not let the BIA book the event it must be done through the business at the commercial rate. Currently there is not rate that allows the BIA to host events out of the park on behalf of another business. T. Larkman will work with the Town to see if there is a solution so that we can create some programming in the park.
- f) **Main Street Revitalization Program** – R. Mattice indicates that the RFP to create the flower beds on the upper end of Manitoba Street closes on June 28th and then they will have a better idea of when the work will be completed. R. Mattice also indicates that all the utility boxes in the downtown core will be covered with a wrap and this should be completed by August.

6) DOWNTOWN ACCESSIBILITY

A Buie indicates that the accessibility committee is still trying to meet to review the accessible parking concerns in the downtown core. Furthermore, the District of Muskoka is behind in the installation of the audible signs at the crosswalks and will be meeting with them to determine

when these audible signs will be finished. Furthermore several Lakeland and Bell guidewires have been adjusted to ensure you can properly pass by them. Lastly the committee is looking to add stop gap access ramps to several businesses within the Downtown core to make these businesses more accessible. T. Larkman is working with J. Harris on getting these ramps created.

7) HEALTH & SAFETY

T. Larkman has no health and safety concerns.

8) COUNCIL UPDATE

C. Wilson indicates that Muskoka Grown will be opening a new storefront along Manitoba Street. R. Mattice indicates the Community Improvement Program (CIP) is expanding the signage grant program to include other business areas in Bracebridge it will allow all businesses in Bracebridge to take advantage of the program. T. Larkman also indicates that CIP grant programs will be opening its second intake starting on July 1st. She indicates that new this year the Town of changed to the program to have 2 intakes – January and July which allows more businesses to take advantage of the program. It is expected the CIP program will run out of funding quickly. R. Mattice also reports that development charges for commercial property is going to remain at 0%.

9) NEW BUSINESS

a) Membership Concerns/Comments

- **Letter from owners of Lilibird – B & S Jenson**

L. Alexander indicates she has received a letter from Lilibird regarding concerns about the patios that are opening with the BIA area and specifically the number of parking spaces these patios take up. Due to the topic of this letter C. DeSanto is asked to leave the board meeting due to a conflict of interest.

Patios - The BIA board discusses the concerns about patio's and specifically regarding the loss of parking spaces to make these patios. The board states they are still in full support of having patios in the downtown core and the loss of 2 parking spaces per patio is minimal. The patios are making the downtown look vibrant and active.

On Street Parking Concerns - C. DeSanto returns to the meeting to be part of the on-street parking discussion. As per the letter received by L. Alexander B & S Jensen feel that patios are using up valuable parking spaces and members and staff parking on the street is a major issue and they feel is affecting their business. The board states to date only 6 parking spaces have been taken up by patios therefore it is not something they see as a concern. As for members and staff who park on the street the board recognizes it is an issue however feels it has been an issue even when paid parking was in place. The board discusses further to help create a solution. T. Larkman suggests looking into zoned parking where a vehicle can stay in one area for 3 hours but then must move to another area if they do not want a ticket. Board was not supportive of this option as they felt it would be to labour intensive and impossible to track through the by-law department. The board determines this has been an ongoing issue even prior to free parking and that educating those that get tickets may be the best option. T. Larkman to create a window slip that bylaw can include when giving out tickets. This slip should have the locations of all the parking lots in the BIA. T. Larkman will speak with bylaw about handing out the window slips.

- **Letter – Millbank Trading Co – M. O’Reilly**

T. Larkman presents the BIA board with the email letter that M. O’Reilly sent to the BIA regarding his concerns about movies being filmed in the Downtown core and his concerns regarding the Father’s Day Car show. See appendix “C” for details. T. Larkman indicates that she had invited M. O’Reilly to the board meeting to discuss his concerns however due to staffing he could no longer attend. The board reviewed the letter and felt that they had already discussed his issues at the last board meeting. The board indicates that they are still in support of movies being filmed in Bracebridge that the benefits of having movies filmed in Bracebridge are good for Bracebridge as a whole. The board does agree that members had some valid concerns that can be worked on if future movies do come to Bracebridge.

9) SCHEDULING NEXT MEETING

The meeting was adjourned at pm. 8:38pm The next Board of Management meeting is confirmed for July 16, 2019.

TOWN OF BRACEBRIDGE
Budget Variance Report

APPENDIX "A"



BRACEBRIDGE
The Heart of Muskoka

GL5070

Date : Jun 19,2019

Page : 1

Time : 3:19 pm

Fiscal Year : 2019 Period : 6
 Account Code : ??-?-820000-????? To ??-?-820000-?????

Budget Type : BUDGET VALUES

Acct Code	Acct Desc	CC1	Current Month	Year to Date	Budget Amt	Variance	% Var
REVENUE							
820000 BIA							
01-1-820000-19999	BIA Tax Levy		0.00	0.00	-177,790	-177,790.00	100.00
01-1-820000-29060	BIA Municipal Grant		0.00	0.00	-5,000	-5,000.00	100.00
01-1-820000-30000	BIA Rev from District		0.00	-3,620.52	-3,800	-179.48	4.72
01-1-820000-45112	BIA Father's Day Car Show		0.00	0.00	-3,000	-3,000.00	100.00
01-1-820000-45113	BIA Midnight Madness Reve		0.00	0.00	-2,500	-2,500.00	100.00
01-1-820000-45115	BIA Canada Day Revenue		0.00	0.00	-2,400	-2,400.00	100.00
01-1-820000-45118	BIA Fire & Ice Revenue		0.00	-43,001.25	-45,700	-2,698.75	5.91
01-1-820000-86000	BIA Trans from Reserve		0.00	0.00	-15,000	-15,000.00	100.00
Total BIA			0.00	-46,621.77	-255,190	-208,568.23	81.73
Total REVENUE			0.00	-46,621.77	-255,190	-208,568.23	81.73
EXPENSE							
820000 BIA							
01-2-820000-10001	BIA Wages FT		1,527.80	18,333.60	40,270	21,936.40	54.47
01-2-820000-10002	BIA Wages PT/Contract		0.00	2,230.44	5,590	3,359.56	60.10
01-2-820000-15000	BIA EHT		29.79	400.97	890	489.03	54.95
01-2-820000-15001	BIA WSIB		48.13	647.83	1,440	792.17	55.01
01-2-820000-15002	BIA EI		34.65	466.38	1,040	573.62	55.16
01-2-820000-15003	BIA CPP		71.05	945.75	2,110	1,164.25	55.18
01-2-820000-15004	BIA OMERS		137.50	1,567.50	3,620	2,052.50	56.70
01-2-820000-15006	BIA Ext Health Benefits		0.00	3,910.00	4,400	490.00	11.14
01-2-820000-30002	BIA Office supplies		0.00	423.35	1,200	776.65	64.72
01-2-820000-30005	BIA Memberships		0.00	450.99	440	-10.99	-2.50
01-2-820000-30006	BIA Training/Conferences		0.00	1,690.48	1,100	-590.48	-53.68
01-2-820000-30007	BIA Mileage		0.00	414.90	900	485.10	53.90
01-2-820000-30009	BIA Office Phones		0.00	1,073.68	2,000	926.32	46.32
01-2-820000-30012	BIA Misc Expenses		0.00	144.09	300	155.91	51.97
01-2-820000-30014	BIA Minor Capital		0.00	1,454.64	0	-1,454.64	0.00
01-2-820000-30015	BIA Member Meetings		0.00	0.00	200	200.00	100.00
01-2-820000-30023	BIA Sign Repair/Install		0.00	0.00	1,000	1,000.00	100.00
01-2-820000-30024	BIA Website		0.00	915.84	1,140	224.16	19.66
01-2-820000-32900	BIA Office rent/lease		376.51	2,259.06	4,500	2,240.94	49.80
01-2-820000-32901	BIA Storage rent/lease		243.14	1,458.84	3,100	1,641.16	52.94
01-2-820000-39021	BIA Fire and Ice Festival		1,432.72	51,022.77	51,750	727.23	1.41
01-2-820000-39025	BIA Classic Car Show		0.00	2,892.03	7,500	4,607.97	61.44
01-2-820000-39026	BIA Memorial Park Winter V		0.00	0.00	1,000	1,000.00	100.00
01-2-820000-39027	BIA Santa Moonlight Shoppi		0.00	26.62	4,500	4,473.38	99.41
01-2-820000-39028	BIA Midnight Madness		0.00	0.00	14,500	14,500.00	100.00
01-2-820000-39029	BIA General Advertising		0.00	2,329.69	5,500	3,170.31	57.64
01-2-820000-39030	BIA Other - Branding		0.00	0.00	1,500	1,500.00	100.00
01-2-820000-39031	BIA Planters & Flowers		0.00	0.00	61,400	61,400.00	100.00
01-2-820000-39032	BIA Christmas Decorations		0.00	101.76	1,000	898.24	89.82
01-2-820000-39034	BIA Webcam Project		0.00	1,086.80	3,800	2,713.20	71.40
01-2-820000-39035	BIA Other Beautification		0.00	0.00	1,500	1,500.00	100.00
01-2-820000-39036	BIA Canada Day		1,300.00	4,980.49	6,000	1,019.51	16.99
01-2-820000-39037	BIA Downtown Snowremova		0.00	4,880.05	8,000	3,119.95	39.00
01-2-820000-39130	BIA Seasonal Lights Repair/		0.00	0.00	4,500	4,500.00	100.00
01-2-820000-50003	BIA Tax Write-Offs		0.00	1,272.51	2,500	1,227.49	49.10
01-2-820000-76000	BIA Trans to Reserves		0.00	0.00	5,000	5,000.00	100.00
Total BIA			5,201.29	107,381.06	255,190	147,808.94	57.92
Total EXPENSE			5,201.29	107,381.06	255,190	147,808.94	57.92
Report Total			5,201.29	60,759.29	0	-60,759.29	0.00

BIA FINANCIAL REVIEW

BIA Board Meeting – June 25, 2019

Comments Regarding GL Report run on June 19th, 2019 and includes all expenses to date.
See attached Budget Variance Report

GL ACCOUNT COMMENTS

REVENUE

BIA Father's Day Car Show – Currently show 0.00 but I have cheques that I just submitted and still collecting from the sponsors. Total revenue \$3300 once it is all received.

BIA Canada Day

Revenue – 2500.00 (\$1000 RBC Spring Clean-up, \$1500 – Heritage Canada Grant) Amount has not been received but is expected.

EXPENSES:

BIA Office Rent / Lease

- June Rent – 376.51

BIA Storage & Rent

- Monthly Rental Fees -243.14 2 storage 10x20 storage lockers)

Fire and Ice – Expenses

- Explorer's Edge agreement

General Advertising Expenses

- Bandshell Concert Series in Memorial Park partnership funds - \$500
- Gift Certificate Reimbursement - \$225.00

Father's Day Car Show

- Expensed paid out for event - \$2892 – however still have quite a few invoices.
- Expected expenses - \$7959.00 minus HST Rebate

Canada Day Car Show

- All entertainment has been expensed - \$1300
 - Still have items that will be invoiced after the event.
-

OTHER COMMENTS

- Giant board games – purchased 3 giant board games to use out on the street and during events. Will be splitting this cost between all 5 events - \$1091.00 = \$218 per event.

APPENDIX "B"

BIA STAFF MONTHLY REPORT Page: 1
June 2019



TO: BIA Board of Management
FROM: BIA Administrative Coordinator, T. Larkman
SUBJECT: BIA Administrative Coordinator Monthly Activity Report –June 2019

Below is a list of BIA activities that I have working on since the last board meeting. This is for informational purposes.

PROJECTS

FLOWERS

- BIA Flowers were installed on June 11th & 12th. The contractor had some issues with the grass in the barrels and we have had this replaced. The town has purchased new hanging baskets that are located on the bridge that have a water reservoir. We have been told this will cut back significantly on maintenance and watering costs. We will review this at the end of the summer. The BIA also has a sample but is a much larger hanging basket more similar to what we have now and all the street banners have been removed. No complaints yet about the banners being removed.

Flags

- Canada Flags located on the buildings and on the bridges are going to be replaced this week as per Public Works Department.

Downtown Spring Clean Up

- On June 11th the BIA has scheduled a street wide spring clean up with the RBC bank. Due to weather this was postponed until June 17th. Many of the members took the time to clean outside their storefronts and I have 5 members come out for the clean up in the evening. We were able to remove 5 bags of garbage & 10 compost bags of sand and other debris from the street. This clean up provides us with a \$1000 grant from RBC which we put towards our Canada Day festivities.

BIA NEWSLETTER - Downtown Scoop – June edition – was put out June 6th

EVENTS & Promotions

Father's Day Car Show

A complete review with the membership has not been done as of yet due to the timing of this event however please see below for comments about the day.

This is the 11th year of the car show and for the 2nd year it has grown in participants and visitors that attended. The event attracted locals and outside visitors. We received news coverage on the day of the event through CTV and many merchants have indicated that their sales were up from previous years events.

Registration Revenue – \$630 – after expenses paid out.

Total collected - \$1050 – minus \$420 for – participants prizes, volunteer meals, day of expenses paid on the spot.

Sponsorship Revenue - \$3300 - I am still awaiting sponsorship cheques and hope to have them all collected in the coming weeks.

Expenses: \$7959.00 Including HST

Please note the BIA qualifies for the HST rebate so this amount will adjust once all the bills have been submitted and paid.

Overall the revenue is \$930 more than we had budgeted in the BIA budget and I expect to be within budget after HST rebates. Invoices are just being received.



SET UP:

Went very smoothly this year. We had Camp Muskoka Staff that helped us throughout the entire day on the barriers and assisted us with the set up and clean up of the street. We could not have done it without their help, and they were very helpful and professional to work with.

REGISTRATION:

We stuck with just the 1 registration desk this year and thanks to Karen Fish and Shirley Gordon who managed to get everyone processed. It was again a record number of cars that registered at this year's event. We stuck with the one location due to the lack of volunteers that could look after this part of the event because of this we would have lost registration fees as we had participants that choose not to climb the hill or register their car. Registration closed at 11am which continues to be a good time.

PARKING: Overall this went well most participants are able to park themselves however would be nice to have more volunteers who can help with this aspect to ensure they are angled enough for the fire route and that they get as close as possible to the curb when they park. We still have issues with filling Taylor Road with activity, none of the cars wanted to park in this area so we need to create a reason to attract cars and visitors down into this area.

Lastly, a member had a suggestion of parking the vehicles up the center of the street we discussed this option but determined that it would not work and would not give us enough space for a fire route.

SPONSORSHIP

This year the committee worked very hard and was able to raise \$3300 in sponsorship plus vendor and participation fees. For the 8th year in a row the BIA has secured Rocky Island Tire Co. as its main sponsor at \$700 plus we have Muskoka Chrysler, Kubota North, Speedy Auto Glass \$500 each. Bronze – Fowlers - \$150 and we had 16 – Trophy sponsors.

PARTICIPATION FEE

The committee chose to charge the participants \$5 this year. It was felt it would help offset the cost of the show and help purchase prizes versus the BIA asking the membership for prizes. Total amount raised at registration after was - \$1050.00 after fees paid out on day of which included prize cash, volunteer lunches and other misc. items we will be depositing \$630. We received no negative comments this year about a registration fee. We put together 150 goodie bags for the participants and each received a dash plaque for taking part.

STAGE & LIVE MUSIC:

We returned to doing a stage for this year's event and the feedback has been terrific. Getting rid of the DJ was well worth it as suggested we continue with this again. I had planned to put out some sound systems in other areas of the town with iPod but ran into the issue transferring music to the iPod's. Need to work out something for the other areas of the street to add some entertainment.

TROPHIES:

We were able to increase the number of categories at this year's car show event and we boosted 16 categories. We also had the following main trophies for the following categories Best in Show in memory of Bob Attwood, Farthest Travelled, Best Bracebridge Car in Memory of Graham Wykes, most unique. For the 3rd year in a row we had the participants vote. Those that voted got a chance to win 1 of 3 - \$100 cash prizes. We received 40 participant voting cards which eliminates the need for judges.

OVERALL REVIEW:

Overall it was a very successful event. Total number of cars that registered was 210 cars which is one of the highest registrations however we had much more on the street that did not register. The amazing weather and the fact that it poured rain for Gravenhurst can attribute to the success this year. The street was jammed with visitors and we suspect we had around 8000 people throughout the entire day. This cannot be confirmed with counts but based on Fire and Ice number and the congestion on the street it was jammed.



This event continues to grow in the number of visitors that come to see the vehicles and although many merchants indicate is not a “shopping” day I had quite a few members indicate they had better sales than they have had in the past. More shopping seemed to happen this year than in the past. Furthermore, the restaurants were packed. It has been an extremely slow spring as per the members on the street this event brought many out and it is the hope of the planning committee that it can continue for future years.

CANADA DAY:

The last week I have been working on finalizing all BIA member participation, signage and other activities associated with the event, below is a list of activities and vendor details.

Budget:

BIA 2019 Budget: 6000 / Revenue: 2400

Actual Expected expenses - \$8000 Confirmed Revenue / Revenue: \$2725

- Extra expenses this year included increase pricing for musicians, cost to bring staff in to run fun inflatables on a holiday, Additional cost for Science North to cover hotel rooms for after the event and cube van needing to be rented for an extra day due to the day the holiday falls on.

Marketing – This is a joint event with the Rotary club of Bracebridge and we are receiving \$1500 for a grant to help our event, this grant is included in the above revenue. As part of the agreement they are to be jointly marketing the event. I have not received any posters to date but was told today they are coming. Furthermore, their radio ads only mentioned the evening activities. I have put a few \$\$ to some facebook ads to help promote the event and have talked to the radio about creating an ad for us that they will include with the Rotary ads.

July 1 Noon to 8pm (street closing at 9am for set up)

Downtown Activities

Noon – 8:00 pm

Science North – Feel the Rush Interactive Exhibit

Kids Crafts by Giggle & Glue

Fun Inflatables

Main Stage: Entertainment

12:00 – 12:50 – Briar Summers

1:00 – 1:30 – Ronno the kids entertainer

1:40 – 2:55 – Neil Hutchinson

3:05 – 4:30 – Angie Nussie

4:40 – 5:50 – Mike Philips

6pm – 6:30 – Ronno – Kids Entertainer

6:40 – 8pm – Jessica Ryan

Bracebridge Bay Activities

5pm – Beer Tent with Muskoka Brewery

6pm - Duck Race

7pm – 10:00 – Live Entertainment

8pm – Floatie Race

9:55pm O’Canada

10pm Laser & Fireworks Show

Volunteers – Pinegrove Baptist church will be supplying 4 helpers for set up and another 2 helpers for clean-up.

Street Security – Muskoka Chrysler will be supplying 4 vehicles for us to use at each end of the road closure to ensure the street is secure. The BIA will have the keys to vehicles if they require to be moved in an emergency.



Street Vendors – I am in the process of finalizing the street set up. Have had a few challenges with members concerns and how to navigate. Location of Chip truck, stage and power are a few of the concerns that I am working on final location should be published Wednesday.

Street Vendor List - Red = Non-BIA member / Black = BIA Member

Lions Club	Duck Derby Tent	Henna
Lemonade Stand	The Burger Shoppe - Spud Truck	PD Murphy
Muskoka Bear Wear	Veranda Outlet booth	Minds Alive
Paul & Lea Kane	Rende	Tigg's
Leaf Filter	Moose FM	Rotary Club
Katherine - Pottery Chancery Lane	Signatures	Muskoka 411
Muskoka Cheer	Veranda Outlet - #8 – 9	Dion Wilson Games
Leaf Filter	Veranda Booth (22)	Fashion Closet Booth
Rotary Club	Veranda Booth (24)	Nook & Cranny
	Moose Crossing Booth	Rita Houston

Other Items on the street will include

- BIA Craft Area for kids
- Fun Inflatables – Obstacle course, Bouncy Castle
- 60 ft table for visitors to sit and eat at.
- Stage

Overall feel the event is ready to go other than the mapping of the street. Just working on the layout with members concerns being considered.

OTHER BIA ACTIVIES

- Attended the Explorer's Edge Annual General Meeting on June 18th in Parry Sound
- Still no confirmation about our Main Street Grant application.

APPENDIX "C"

Email Received – Friday May 24, 2019

Tracy as I addressed with you I have major concerns over the past event with the movie people, of which I knew that was the focus already by the township and you clarified also with the fathers day car event

- I will not get into all the particulars of who said, who did , who etc, will try to keep this as concise as I can, but I do get frustrated
- Re the movie
- we need to **control the media of what is and how it is being reiterated to the public**, not ask but enforce and control as this is how my first frustration came to be with this whole event
- all facets of the township the retail included, need to work together, this was not in evidence with this movie, not at all, and the answer is not for the stores to go on sale and get in the spirit of the event, as was reiterated to me
- having said that there is a way to coordinate and benefit all, not just the restaurants, hotels, Ronas and Home Depots of the world, not when it is totally at the expense of the downtown retail, as was the case for this event
- when the township gives basically carte blanche to the movie and set up people for the movie, with no concern, and I say no concern for how it affects our business downtown, THIS IS JUST WRONG
- in the beginning when Peter and Don approached me I reiterated to them I wished this media issue be resolved , as I heard from a customer that it was being said due to street closures and parking issues (this is when they were doing the shoot at the bliss store) to basically stay away, so it needed to be resolved before I would entertain allowing them to dress my storefront, not addressed it would not happen
- long story short , it was addressed and sent to me to appease me, as it was put to me, honestly should have been under control from the beginning and not for just me but for all the downtown retail
- I was going to hold my ground and say NO just due to the lackluster responses and lack of concern for the downtown retail , but Don from the movie people reiterated that my store front was crucial to the movie, due to a very important scene was to happen right in front of my store, so I did the right thing, I was not upset with the movie people, as they had basically told they could do as they please, I was totally frustrated and upset with the township, Don reiterated to me about the \$250, I reiterated to him that honestly did he think that would cover the loss of business over the week and I say week, not just one day, a week of total disruption of our parking downtown, I was doing it to penalize the messenger idea, I even had it said to me that due to me caving?? but that is how it was put, that my credibility was now in question. Simply I did the right thing this time
- will I do it again, be forewarned NO, as I have forewarned Peter and Don of the same, that in my opinion, for all retailers downtown add a zero , we might think about it and for them to be sure I would be speaking to everyone downtown
- I actually did not get a shocked reaction, I truly believe they have been getting off cheap
- I can go on , this was not in the best interest what so ever for the downtown retail, it showed me the lack of concern for our downtown retail by the township, no other way to put it, there were those that benefited and I am very happy for them but it can not be at the expense of our downtown retailers. PERIOD

I AM GOING TO SAY THIS, and this was reiterated to Peter and Don also, when these movies come up AND THIS IS AN ABSOLUTE MUST, a meeting of ALL that will be affected needs to happen before any agreement between the township and the movie people happens, things need to be addressed, if this had of happened before hand for the one just past, so much would have been avoided

I truly wish this to be addressed with every one, not to just be pushed aside, and to be noted as a couple of retailers grumbling, quote on quote

THEN THERE IS THE ISSUE WITH THE FATHERS DAY CAR SHOW

Since the meeting long ago where as I truly believed it was , if not all, definitely a majority that it was to be moved offsite, then reiterated to me that after the meeting with the survey it was voted back in as is

Yet I speak to a lot and I mean a lot of retailers and they are of the same opinion as I, it needs to be offsite

What do we do here, I do not wish anything in front of my store, and I believe if you took a consensus of all the rest , many many would wish the same

This again totally disrupts the downtown business, sorry they being the car shows are not what they used to be in yester year

I would like to know how this will be handled or not handled, then I will take from there, I DO HAVE A VOICE, and will use it

Mark