



MEETING MINUTES

Date:	August 24, 2018
Minutes Prepared by:	Alexis Rabin

Bylaws Update

- Existing copy highlighted and brought up to date with:
 - Modes of acceptable communication. Striking fax communication and validating email communication.
 - Board numbers required to meet quorum.
 - Fiscal year end amended to June 30.
 - Notification requirements for meetings.
- Motion to Approve Amended Bylaws – Ron, Second – Michelle, Motion Carried

President’s Report

- WBA Membership growth from 39 in June 2017 to 46 in June 2018
- Clients like Blueline, Walton and A & A can likely be written off due to inactivity
- WBA’s goal is working to push through upgrades to services/infrastructure with Andrew Knack and City Council. Mayor, Don Iverson has lent his support on this issue.
- The best opportunity in 40 years to have a favorable result is October 16, 2018 where a meeting is scheduled with Executive Council. Maple Ridge Councillor and Councillor Bev Esslinger both part of the Executive Council have an interest in seeing this motion pushed forward. Members of the WBA in attendance will be allowed five minutes to speak. Collect as much supporting data in order to present the strongest case individually and as the WBA. Justifications for infrastructure development include improvements increase the property value of the Winterburn Industrial area, which in turn would generate additional property tax back to the City. With infrastructure complete the road bans resulting from maintenance to 199 Street would not be required saving costs to the City for re-routing.
- Proposition for increase to infrastructure on a 50/50 cost sharing basis accumulated through taxation increases.
- Is the City raising their 50% using the funds collected as property taxes which have increased 22%. Other areas of Edmonton Industrial experienced a 3% property tax increase. When asked for an explanation WBA was directed to Anton Szabo (email attached eluding to land in the area had sold for higher than it was purchased justifying the increase).
- Neighborhood Renewal Fund was developed in order to amass funds for business owners to use. However, when funds were attempted to be utilized, it was decided it did not apply to Winterburn area as it was not for “renewal” as services were non-existent. The Motion will be put forward to utilize these funds in future for Winterburn infrastructure development.



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- Currently business owners face poor infrastructure including: lack of road maintenance/completion, lack of access to water for personal use and safety requirements, non-existent communication lines into businesses. This does not correlate with the City’s increase in property taxes.
- Maria voiced that battling with the City in the long term has netted her a 2% return on her property taxes on average. This is no longer a possibility as they are not sending out assessors, but it is a costly online process.
- Premises security is an issue. Property theft and the resulting damage have increased. City Police are advising awareness is key. There was suggestion of a community commercial property watch program; however, it appears to have fallen by the wayside. Increase awareness by contact with neighbors as thieves will often scout the day previous, with the theft occurring the day following. Take appropriate security measures to protect your property.

Promotion of WBA

- Promotion of WBA through professionalism on the website, as well as growth of membership on the website. Information from the sign in sheet will be used to upload member websites for those not already listed (could also use links to each others business sites to promote WBA.
- Chloroplast signs could be generated if there is an interest for fences IE: “X is a Member of WBA” and also Certificates generated for inside businesses.
- Promotion is a time commitment from the membership, looking for volunteers to lobby, write letters to officials, etc.
- May try piggybacking with the Acheson Business Association for some functions and to have a combined voice as they are more established/larger.

Re-Nomination of Board Members

- Brad, Patricia, Maria, Constantin, Weston, Marion.
- Positions to be determined at the next meeting.
- New board members welcome – shows of hands if interested (None).
- Can become a member of the board at any time or during any meeting.

Board Meeting Format and Frequency

- Informal format; social networking to garner business.
- Meeting take place quarterly. The third Tuesday of the month at 2pm for 30-45 minutes.

Next Regular Quarterly Meeting

- Sept. 18, 2018 @ 2pm; Ketek boardroom (20204 – 110 Ave. Edmonton, AB).