



**Via Italia BIA AGM For 2023 Budget Meeting Minutes**  
**Date: November 27, 2023, at 7:00 p.m.**  
**Location: Via Italia BIA Office, 836 Erie Street East**

**Board Members Present:**, Franca Conciatori (Treasurer), Teresa Silvestri (Past President), Tony Conciatori (Director), Graham Marko (Director), Peter Vitti (Director) via Zoom  
**Regrets:**, Filip Rocca (President), Pietro DiPonio (Vice President), Mike Vonella (Secretary), Adriano Ciotoli (Director),  
**BIA Stakeholders Present:** Leo Silvestri, Grace Ferrera

Minutes Recorded and Submitted by: Brandi Myles

**Call to Order and Approval of Last Meeting Minutes:** It is noted that Filip R (President) had a family emergency and was unable to attend. Franca C. (Treasurer) is designated to preside over the meeting by directors. Franca calls meeting to order and last AGM meeting minutes from February 2023 are approved and adopted unanimously.

**President's Report for 2022**

Filip Rocca, President, submitted a written summary report which Brandi M read on his behalf.

- Via Italia received a grant for the alley network, working with the City of Windsor, and WPS to help make the neighbourhood safer. Ward funds were used to help further this project. as well. Project was over \$100,000 with 47 new LED lights and alley names made to complement BIA branding and implemented in the 911 system. Because of ward funds, and the grant, the BIA costs were minimal.
- One of the biggest Carrousel of Nations in the city was held in Via Italia with constant interactive programming, food, and festivities highlighting the Italian culture and showcasing various BIA businesses.
- Tour di Via Italia and St. Angela Fest were held again this year which drew thousands of supporters from all over to celebrate these Via Italia traditions.
- The Community Garden was enhanced with more pollinator plants and the Butterfly Festival drawing hundreds to witness the release of monarchs and learning how to plant pollinator gardens to help the environment.
- Installation of 3 outdoor artworks complementing the BIA branding with support from Art Windsor-Essex gallery.
- First of a series of networking events was held and was a success.
- Bocce court broke ground with the BIA's help as liaison with city administrators.
- Murals were created on select buildings as part of city-wide Mural Fest
- A holiday subsidy program was launched to help bring a more festive feel to the area.
- Fostered relationships with long standing supporters like TWEPI, MCC, WIFF, local magazines and media outlets, City of Windsor, Windsor Police, Windsor Fire, and Art Windsor-Essex among others.
- All of this was accomplished despite having had a board election, and the City of Windsor pausing all BIA's regular functions for over two months' time.

**Finance:**

**2023 Proposed Budget:**

**Treasurer's Report**

Presentation by Treasurer, Franca C, of tentative budget of \$125,000 for 2024 and its allocation as





broken down according to city budget template, as well as the 2022 Financial Statement draft review from KPMG.

**Discussion:**

Discussion regarding the miscommunication between auditors and bookkeeper and the daily efforts from the BIA.

Motion by Teresa S. to pass proposed 2024 budget. Board votes unanimously in favour for proposed 2024 budget. Passed.

**Open Discussion:** Tony C. and Teresa S. note two new businesses are opening within the BIA. Brandi states businesses are still signing up for the holiday décor subsidy program. General discussion on Christmas lights and when installation will be finished.

**Adjournment:**

Motion to adjourn by Franca C. All in favour. Motion carries.

**Next Meeting: December 19, 2023**

Franca C.                      Dec. 6/23  
President                                      Date

Teresa S.                      12/5/23  
Treasurer & Acting Chair                      Date

M. Brandi                      12/5/23  
Minutes Recorded                                      Date

