

**Minutes**  
**York-Eglinton BIA**  
**Wednesday, September 27, 2006**  
**St. Thomas Aquinas Church Hall**  
**6:30 p.m. – 7:45 p.m.**

**Present**

Arnold Rowe – Vice Chairman  
Marjorie Renwick-Treasurer  
Nick Alampi - Chairman  
Roland Beggs--Board Member  
Henrich Plummer – Secretary  
Frank Cuccio- -Member  
Joe Torrone--Member  
John Ferrari-Member  
Paul-A & S Bakery  
John Pecchia

**Absent**

Leroy King – Board Member  
Robert Osbourne – Board Member  
Rep. From Councillor Palacio's Office  
Geoff Shore – Board Member  
Howard Samuels – Board Member (deceased)  
Vennicia Brown--Board Member  
Marvia Herrington – Board Member  
Michael Saunders-Economic Development  
Enzo Torrone –Board Member

**Meeting call to order and Welcome:**

The Chairman, Nick Alampi called the meeting to order at 6:30 pm. Mr. Alampi informed the few members present that this meeting is to update members of what is happening with BIA at the City, get their ideas and input for the coming year. Members started speaking to each other while Mr. Alampi spoke to them. Mr. Alampi told members that he would not accept derogatory comments and unproductive behaviour.

**Welcome:**

Nick Alampi welcomes the members to the meeting

**Apologies for Absent:**

Ms Hackett--New Member  
Ben Rothman -- Councillor Moscoe's office  
Mr. Geoff Shore and Enzo Torrone sent their regrets  
Leroy King-- was unable to be reached by contact the information on file.  
Vennicia Brown--Board Member

## **Update:**

### **BIA Boundary**

Arnold Rowe informed the members that the proposal to strike a boundary from Marlee to the western side of Dufferin has been approved by the city. Letters will be sent out in the form of a poll. There will be three options

1. Strike a boundary from Marlee to the Eastern side of Dufferin
2. Strike a boundary from the western side of Dufferin to Chamberlain
3. Current boundary from Marlee to Chamberlain

Mr Arnold Rowe, the vice-chair informed the members that the city has instructed the BIA to continue business as usual. He stated that the life of the BIA is the same as the municipal government. At the AGM a new board will have to be elected. He told Mr. Torrone who has been disruptive since the start of the meeting that he will get a chance to vote. Nick Alampi also informed Mr. Torrone that his proposal is been considered by the city.

### **Repairs of Globe Lights**

Nick Alampi informed the members that repairs on the globe lights would be starting within a few weeks. He also informed them that the trees would be replanted in fall 2006 and spring of 2007.

Mr. Alampi informed the members that that the AGM is scheduled for November 8, 2006. He stated that individuals interested in running for the board should state why they should be nominated. Mr. Joe Torrone blurted out that the people do not want a BIA. He was informed that this meeting was not an AGM but a planning meeting to determine the agenda for the AGM. He continued to disrupt the meeting by yelling out that the people did not want a BIA. At this point Nick Alampi, the chair asked for a point of order.

### **Budget and Projects 2007**

Mr. Arnold Rowe told Mr. Torrone and the others that the board decided to call this meeting to give the members an opportunity to participate in the decision-making process for 2007 operating year. He further informed the members that the proposed budget for Administration and Projects is \$58,360.00. He said that there is no capital project. John Pecchia asked for a copy of the budget. He was given a copy. John Pecchia reviewed the budget and stated out loud to members. "This budget means nothing and we are just waiting until the poll." Mr. Torrone yelled out "we want the BIA closed down." Mr. Alampi told the members that there would only be a budget for Administration. And things such as banners were not budgeted for. He also told the members that a balance would be submitted at the AGM. At this point the meeting became disruptive and Nick Alampi asked for a point of order.

### **Discussion of Proposed Activities for 2007**

John Ferrari, owner of Latina Clothing stated that he would like to see promotion of the area through radio and TV advertising. He said that he wanted more money for all types of media promotion. John said, "We need to let the people know that we are still here." Mr. Alampi asked John what kind of money he wants to budget for publicity and promotion. He said that he wanted to see on-going advertising. John stated further that redevelopment is needed in the area. He said that the BIA should have done something about the closure of CIBC bank at the corner of Eglinton and Oakwood. Nick Alampi told him that it was a corporate decision not to have a bank at Eglinton and Oakwood. The chair stated that the BIA took steps to find another bank to open in the area. There was a discussion with economic development and three levels of government on the matter.

Nick stated that the BIA was only able to attract Holding and Loan Company. He told Mr. Ferrari that the board could not use BIA funding to influence the Bank to stay. He said that it was a decision that was decided at the Headquarters of the Bank. John Ferrari stated that we need to attract anchor businesses to the area. Mr. Rowe replied we needed to keep the clean in order to attract anchor business in the area.

Nick Alampi added that we need a large grocery store that will create jobs. When asked for his opinions on next year activities, John Pecchia stated that he did not want anything. Mr. Alampi told John Pecchia that this was his opportunity to speak and that he did not want to hear his issues at the Annual General Meeting he wants to hear them now.

Nick Alampi asked Mr. Torrone what are some of the changes he would like to see. He said that his issues were safety. He wanted to rid the area of criminals and drug dealers. Mr. Torrone further added that he wanted the area clean and a 24-hour police patrol put in place

Mr. Alampi clarified; Mr. Torrone do you want us to spend BIA funds hiring off duty officers. At this point the meeting became disorderly and was ruled to order by the chair. Mr. Torrone, Mr. Pecchia and Mr. Cuccio got up to leave the meeting. Mr. Alampi asked them to leave their contact information. They left their information and exited the meeting.

### **As the discussion Continues...**

Paul of A & S Bakery stated that he wanted to see more people shopping in the area. Mr. Alampi gave Paul some ideas of how to generate traffic in his store. He told Paul that the BIA office could provide a student volunteer that would stand at the corner and hand out free samples of bread and cakes etc. Mr. Rowe informed Paul that the BIA offers a free web page on its website too all members.

Nick Alampi informed Paul who was attending his first meeting that the board members do not get paid for doing BIA work. He told Paul that John Pecchia was on the board and he only made objections and that John Pecchia made the proposal to the City to divide the BIA.

John Ferrari stated that events such as the Jazz Festival are not cost effective. It shuts down the streets and parking lots. Mr. Alampi response was that such events brought a significant amount of free media coverage from the Star, the Globe and other media outlets. He further added that this event brought 25 new families to this community. Other Board members told John that he has to make sacrifices.

Mr. Lorello, owner of the Musical Instrument Store and a Music Instructor stated that he does not get any support from the BIA. Nick Alampi asked him what he meant by he does not get any support from the BIA. Mr. Lorello response: "No traffic, No Parking, No pedestrian around." He stated that business was slow for him and he had distributed flyers to the homes in the area but got no response. He further added that the lack of parking on Eglinton was affecting his business severely. Mr. Lorello said that Internet was killing his business because people could get instruction for cheaper price than his. Mr. Alampi informed Mr. Lorello that the things have changed. He informed Mr. Lorello of the free web page.

John Ferrari questioned the Roses promotion initiative. He stated the BIA spends \$1000.00 for 100 boxes of flowers. Mr. Beggs, a board member stated that his business benefited from the Valentine Roses cross promotion give away.

John Ferrari asked if it would be more cost-effective to have a large BIA as opposed to a small one. Mr. Rowe stated that the levee and capital cost sharing would be reduced. He said that this means that the budget will reduce by \$85,000 or less and the BIA would be more manageable

Mr. Alampi stated that it was difficult to attract businesses such as large sit down restaurants because of the City's parking regulations. He said that this area was zone for fast food restaurants only. Nick Alampi pointed out that the city responded to numbers.

### **Adjournment**

Mr. Arnold Rowe adjourned the meeting at 7:55pm on a motion. The motion was put to the floor and Marjorie Renwick seconded the motion.

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**Nick Alampi**  
**Chairman**

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**Henrich Plummer**  
**Secretary**

**Moved by:**

**Seconded by:**

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**Board Member**

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**Board Member**