



Downtown
Kitchener
Business
Improvement
Area

July 22, 2026
8:30 a.m. – 10:30 a.m.
260 King St. W., #300
Kitchener, Ontario

BOARD OF DIRECTORS - MEETING MINUTES

Present: Linda Jutzi, Darryl Moore, Cara Watson, Phong Tran, Martha Wallace, Jordan Dolson, Julie Phillips, Laird Robertson, and Aura Hertzog.

Regrets: Councillor Debbie Chapman, Jessica Toomer, Sarah Pearson, Mayor Berry Vrbanovic, Michael Rederer, Councillor Stephanie Stretch, and Sgt. Ryan Leslie.

Guests: Alison Grech and Cst. Ed Earl. **Recorder:** Stefanie Golling.

The meeting began with Darryl Moore as Chair at 8:33 a.m.

APPROVAL OF AGENDA/DECLARATION OF CONFLICTS

Moved by Phong Tran, seconded by Cara Watson

"That the Board approves the July 22, 2026, agenda."

Carried Unanimously

APPROVAL OF MINUTES

Moved by Martha Wallace, seconded by Jordan Dolson

"That the Board approves the June 24, 2026, minutes."

Carried Unanimously

WATERLOO REGIONAL POLICE SERVICE

Cst. Ed Earl joined the meeting on behalf of WRPS to share several updates, including recent investigations, connecting people to resources, and education to ensure public safety.

Directors further discussed overnight security, hot spots, and upcoming changes to available resources.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT UPDATES

Aura Hertzog provided updates on behalf of Economic Development, highlighting upcoming events and programming, including Wayback Festival, Waycool Vintage Fest, King Street Unplugged, and King StrEATery Food Truck Festival.

Directors further discussed safety in laneways, measuring success, and member engagement.

EVENT & PLACEMAKING UPDATES

Linda Jutzi shared that the DTK Welcomes the World (FIFA World Cup broadcast) activation attracted approximately 35,000 attendees over 6 weeks, received positive feedback from both businesses and participants, and had no security incidents. Ms. Jutzi highlighted that the activation effectively encouraged visitors to use the piazza and frequent nearby businesses, reduced crime, and enhanced vibrancy in the East End.

Directors further discussed future opportunities, including the 2028 Olympics (which will take place in our time zone) and the need to continue expanding activations and beautification efforts in the East End.

2027 DRAFT OPERATING BUDGET

Linda Jutzi presented the first draft of the 2027 Operating Budget for discussion. Directors reviewed the line items in the Activate and Beautify & Enhance categories, as well as the HR changes. The feedback provided will be used to adjust this draft for presentation at the August meeting.

Action item: Linda Jutzi to prepare a letter to participating members with the changes to the Patio Program in 2027.

Action item: Stefanie Golling to send Directors a Doodle Poll link for the August meeting.

ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Laird Robertson, seconded by Jordan Dolson
"That the meeting adjourns."

Carried Unanimously