

OTTAWA STREET BIA MEETING
February 24, 2026
BOARD MEETING MINUTES

M. Carruth
T. Lute
A. Clark
E. Grad
S. Weiler
A. Lynn
K. Rogelstad

A. Mayer
P. Fonovic
A. Lantos
K. Nunn
C. Chabot
M. Weide
J. Weide

Welcome & Introductions – M. Carruth

Minutes for Board Meeting – M. Carruth

Motion to approve minutes from January 2026

1st T. Lute 2nd K. Rogelstad Carried

Treasurer's Report – E. Grad

Ottawa Street Bia: \$81,439.15 Contingency: \$780.29

Beautification Updates – S. Weiler

Benches:

Beautification updates were provided regarding benches and the parkette. The last two benches are ready and are awaiting permission from the City for installation, with work on hold until approval is received. An update was also shared on the parkette, where the City is exploring the option of either replacing the benches, tables, and fluted garbage receptacles with new black furnishings or repainting the existing ones, which may be more costly. The goal is to have the existing furnishings painted by May 1st or have the new replacements installed by that time.

BIA Advisory Committee – S. Weiler

Passport Working Group

BIA Advisory Committee updates were shared regarding the Passport Working Group and commercial recycling. Through the Passport Working Group, a BIA subcommittee, an open call was issued for marketing ideas to support food-based businesses across 12 Hamilton BIAs, following the lack of success of the previous NOSH initiative. Applications closed on Monday, and Barton Village BIA is currently reviewing submissions and preparing a summary for discussion by the subcommittee next week as part of this City-funded marketing initiative.

Commercial Recycling

An update was also provided on commercial recycling, noting that Ottawa Street BIA, along with many other BIAs, advocated on behalf of commercial corridors at a recent General Issues Committee meeting. On February 6, 2026, Hamilton City Council voted

14-1 to approve a motion extending city-funded blue box recycling services for commercial properties, BIA members, and non-profits until December 31, 2026.

BIA Coordinator– S. Weiler

Interns

An intern C. MacInnis has joined to support video storytelling and promotional content development for Ottawa Street BIA initiatives. Her planned projects include Stitched with Flavour: The Sew Hungry Series, consisting of eight two-minute episodes featuring Ottawa Street food establishments; Sew Much More Than Food, consisting of eight two-minute episodes highlighting Ottawa Street retail, service, and experience-based businesses; and an Attendees Guide, a two-minute video outlining where to park, what to bring, free activities, donation information, and other event details. Cassandra is a local resident and Ottawa Street enthusiast with a background in film and commercial production, and currently serves as Lead Production Manager for Corus Entertainment's Creative Services Department.

An additional intern has been hired, H. Anderson, to support Sew Hungry planning and event coordination. Her responsibilities will include assisting with the planning, organization, and coordination of food trucks for Sew Hungry, providing on-site event support including setup, coordination, and guest assistance, supporting outreach to local businesses, partners, and community members, and helping with Sew Hungry administrative tasks and communications. Heather is a McMaster graduate and Hamilton resident with event support experience through her work at The Cotton Factory. She will be assisting with the April 18th Movie Night and Sew Hungry.

Community Meeting

It was noted that S. Weiler and P. Fonovic will attend the upcoming community meeting regarding construction at Ottawa Street and Main Street. The meeting will take place on Thursday, February 26th at Laidlaw Memorial United Church and will be held with Ward 3 and the City of Hamilton.

Other – S. Weiler

Dismissal

Next Meeting: March 17th at 6:00pm

Location: Online Online