

**Locke Street BIA Board Meeting
February 23, 2026 @ 1pm
Meeting Agenda**

In person at West Town Bar and Grill - 214 Locke Street S or via zoom

Join Zoom Meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81831673430?pwd=oYrVhOh4DG7tauuAYuzSAdaCz3INFA.1>

Passcode: unlocked

Present: Bettina Schormann – CHAIR, Brandon Stanicak, Steve Knight – TREASURER, Chris Mindorff, Councillor Maureen Wilson/Stephanie Hilson, Alex Hobcraft, Robyn Allan, Tracy MacKinnon – Executive Director (recording)

Guests: Naeme - Oda Ada

Regrets: Dao Nguyen - VICE CHAIR (parental leave)

1. Call to order.

Nest has closed shop and operates online - Robyn agreed to remain as a Director

2. Approval of Agenda.

3. New Board Member (returning) Erica from Bitten on Locke. Motion to approve from Board.

4. Declarations of Interest

5. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting.

- Minutes November 24, 2026

6. Delegations None.

7. Consent items None.

8. Presentations None.

9. Discussion Items:

A: City of Hamilton: Councillor Maureen Wilson/Stephanie Hilson

- HAAA park update - 2026
- Traffic study – crosswalks on Locke Street coming at Hunter
- Construction and crosswalk and HAAA all expected in 2026.
- **Budget 2026** – Budget Chair Councillor Wilson
- Recycling – provincial changes – changes for business recycling as of JAN 2026 - City to cover recycling for 1 year with pick up on Thursdays - THANK YOU Councillor Wilson!
- Patio April 1st - OCT 31st all packed up. permanent program resumes April 1st
- Other?

B: Financial Update (Steve, Tracy):

- 2024 audit is complete and approved - thank you KPMG and Board
- 2025 audit preparation is underway
- 2026 budget approved by Board in January with 10% increase - goes to Council in March for approval
-
- ***Motion to receive financial update.***

C: Streetscape (Tracy):

- lights cut and vandalized were removed early morning after posting. Thank you Board members for message.
- lights are welcoming - do you want some up in middle of poles?
- planters with "neutral" greens hold until spring with bulbs and pansies to come

D: Sub-Committees: Hold for now

E: Safety and Security (Tracy):

- Crime update: nothing reported in or around BIA, one theft from motor vehicle on Charlton

F: Business updates (Tracy):

- Oda Ada shop at former Ore location
- Carpe Diem at former Bodega location
- Dopamine at former Acoustic Room – plans for use of patio
- Democracy closure
- Real Estate report:
 - For sale: 175 Locke St S (Shuck Truck) \$250 000
 - For sale: 197 Locke St - Albash Shawarma \$229 000
 - For sale: 184-188 Locke St S unit 3 \$2.09M
 - For lease: 140 Locke St S (former Ore) \$4000
 - NOTED: 215 Locke with sign up not listed for sale or for lease
- **Hotel Room Key**
 - to be distributed to concierge at hotels in March
 - thoughts on Tourism cards with 2026 events and promote shop & dine? Minimal cost ~\$200
 - inquiries about bus tours
- **Associate Memberships**
 - some inquiries, looking for free promos
- **BIA AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE - April 1, 2026.** Congratulations to Bitten and LuLu & Lavigne

G: Community Outreach (Tracy):

- Community groups requesting to be involved in Sundays UnLocked
- Churches requesting to be involved in Sundays UnLocked

H: 2026 Events/Festivals/Activations (Robyn and Tracy):**2026 EVENTS**

- APR 4: Easter Egg Hunt 12-2pm Saturday - good participation and comments.
- MAY 2 & 3: Jane's Walk (guided walking tours @ 12noon)
- JUN 5-13: Art on Locke (Hamilton Arts week)
- JUN 21: Sundays UnLocked (#1) 10am-5pm
- JUL 19: Sundays UnLocked (#2) 10am-5pm
- SEP 20: Sundays UnLocked (#3) 10am-5pm
- OCT 18: Sundays UnLocked (#4) 10am-5pm and Trick or Treat 12-2pm Saturday
- OCT 31: Hamilton Day – shop & dine, gift card giveaways
- NOV 13 & 14: Magic of Locke (Friday eve and Saturday daytime)
- DEC – Holiday shopping late night (3 Thursdays in DEC 3, 10, 17) with Santa and carriage rides
- More interest from businesses to participate in Sundays UnLocked.
- 2026 Sundays UnLocked: Vintage vendors will use parking lots at Picks & Sticks for all four SUL event, and may do some larger parking lots on some days.
- Bluette/DropSpot plan to continue some collaborations on runs with some businesses like Donut Monster, Arties, Dopamine, Bardo, Bitten, Play With Clay

I: Live music 2026 program:

- Live music – pre-Junos promotions March 12-22 live music on Locke St
Indoors venues able to host – The Squire and West Town. All businesses asked.
- Live Music Thursdays – at The Squire
- Live music now Tuesdays at West Town
- 2 buskers working well – play in warm enough weather
- Live Music – something to build on
- Hamilton 2026 – Music City

J: Strategic Marketing: response to tariffs and economic effects

- Shopping HERE. Supporting NEAR. (Shopping, Dining, Supporting)
- Local Canadian small businesses. FAM Tours at Two on Locke Street – influencers, tourism
- Social media, signage, promotions.
- Open for BIA businesses to share items, messaging, etc. and offer or photos/videos for social media promotions
- Hotel guide – now online – Locke St section
- Tourism and hotel inquiries
- TD Coliseum big concerts see visitors to Locke St

10. Notice of motion None

11. Motions None

12. General Information/Other Business

13. Adjournment.

Next meeting MON 30 MARCH at 1pm at West Town. (last MON of month at 1pm).

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Meeting Minutes**

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Passcode: unlocked

Present: Bettina Schormann – CHAIR, Brandon Stanicak, Steve Knight – TREASURER,
Councillor Maureen Wilson/Stephanie Hilson, Robyn Allan, Erica Savoy
Tracy MacKinnon – Executive Director (recording)

Guests:

Regrets: Dao Nguyen - VICE CHAIR (parental leave), Alex Hobcraft, Chris Mindorff

- 1. Call to order.** Meeting called to order at 1:10pm with Steve as Chair.
Nest has closed shop and operates online - Robyn agreed to remain as a Director
- 2. Approval of Agenda.**
- 3. Declarations of Interest**
- 4. Approval of Minutes of Previous Meeting.**
Motion to approve the minutes of November 24, 2025. Moved by Robyn, seconded by Bettina. Carried
- 5. Delegations** None.
- 6. Consent items** None.
- 7. Presentations** None.
- 8. Discussion Items:**
 - A: City of Hamilton: Councillor Maureen Wilson/Stephanie Hilson**
 - HAAA park update - 2026. Expected to start in spring with parclosed all of 2026.
 - Traffic study – crosswalks on Locke Street coming at Hunter, hoping for 2026. other area changes
 - **Budget 2026** – Budget Chair Councillor Wilson. lower tax increase passed at 3.87%. lower than 4.25% expected and desired by mayor. new budget process with mayor introduced and amendments proposed by Councillors.
 - Recycling pick ups going fairly well. Large snow removal needs better communication and to not have the parking blocked all day long for nothing. Ward 1 meeting and BIA offered to assist with clearing parking in time for large snow removal in evening. Ward1 office following up with roads
 - Main Street 2 way changes coming
 - Appreciate Ward 1 support for Sundays UnLocked. \$15000 support for road closure costs.
 - Patio April 1st - OCT 31st all packed up. permanent program resumes April 1st

B: Financial Update (Steve, Tracy):

- 2024 audit is complete and approved - thank you KPMG and Board
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- 2026 budget approved by Board in January with 10% increase - goes to Council in March for approval
- *Motion to receive financial update. Moved by Robyn, seconded by Bettina. Carried.*

C: Streetscape (Tracy):

- lights cut and vandalized were removed early morning after posting. Thank you Board members for message. Same lights used in Westdale with no issues of cutting on the poles.
- lights are welcoming - do you want some up in middle of poles? yes, agree looks good all year.
- planters with "neutral" greens hold until spring with bulbs and pansies to come

D: Sub-Committees: Hold for now

E: Safety and Security (Tracy):

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 - thoughts on Tourism cards with 2026 events and promote shop & dine? Minimal cost ~ \$200 inquiries about bus tours. Yes, agreement to do.
- **Associate Memberships**
 - some inquiries, looking for free promos
- **BIA AWARDS OF EXCELLENCE - April 1, 2026.** Congratulations to Bitten and LuLu & Lavigne for winning 2026 awards. Event April 1st.

G: Community Outreach (Tracy):

- Community groups requesting to be involved in Sundays UnLocked
- Churches requesting to be involved in Sundays UnLocked. Erica offered to assist with looking at a community groups. They should be asked what they will do to enhance

H: 2026 Events/Festivals/Activations (Robyn and Tracy):**2026 EVENTS**

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- MAY 2 & 3: Jane's Walk (guided walking tours @ 12noon)
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- Open for BIA businesses to share items, messaging, etc. and offer or photos/videos for social media promotions. Some businesses requested visits.
- Hotel guide – now online – Locke St section
- Tourism and hotel inquiries
- TD Coliseum big concerts see visitors to Locke St. Bettiona noted increase in dinner guests when events are on at TD.

10. Notice of motion None

11. Motions None

12. General Information/Other Business

13. Adjournment.

Next meeting MON 30 MARCH at 1pm at West Town. (last MON of month at 1pm).

Motion to adjourn. Moved by Robyn. Carried.

Meeting adjourned at 2:12pm.