

Minutes of the Aldergrove Business Association General Meeting
Thursday, May 15, 2025 at 6:30 pm
At First Memorial Funeral Services – 27555 31st Ave.

Present:

Jodi Steeves, President
Jen Davies, Secretary/Treasurer
Sharon Brown, Vice-President
Vanessa Pike, Director
Bonnie Angelini, Director
Samantha Stebbings, Member
Thomas Pinter, Member
El Teljeur, Member
Phillip Cheung, Guest
Shermayne Cheung, Guest
Lilian Cazacu, Member
Baylee Webster, Member
Viginia Plant, Member
Angela Pearce, Member
Ashley Sturtevant, Member
Veronica Cave, Member
Jason Froese, Member
Christina Ford, Member
Laura from JD Farms, Member
Maple from Blackfly Beverage, Guest
Kerry Rhead, Member
Klare Nagy, Member

Regrets:

Greg Davis, Director
Sherri Martin, Director

1. **Agenda:** Moved by Jodi and seconded by Bonnie that the May 15, 2025 agenda be adopted with the addition of “Rent Increases” under Correspondence.
2. **Previous Minutes:** Moved by Sharon and seconded by Veronica that the minutes from the February 20, 2025 General Meeting be adopted as circulated.
3. **Correspondence:**
 - a. Jen advised the group that we received an email from the TOL approving our application for a Community Grant in the amount of \$2750 for the 2025 Christmas Tree Lighting Event, and also an email from the TOL approving our application for a Banner Grant in the amount of \$4737.

- b. Jen advised the group that we had sent in an application for a vendor table at the Aldergrove Fair so we could offer ABA members a timeslot for a free space again this year, but we received an email back from the Fair stating that due to the past couple years with too many issues such as not knowing who the vendors were going to be, they ended up with some being double in categories. So this year they decided there will be no sharing/rotating of the vendor booths. Jodi advised that she is discussing this with Karen Long, and Karen is talking to the Fair President John Keightley. We discussed the possibility whether the ABA could have their own vendor table and if members could volunteer to man the booth representing their individual businesses as a workaround. We will wait to hear back from Karen about this.
 - c. Jodi advised the group that she received an email from ABA member Sheena from Glow Girl Beauty Bar with concerns about sharp rent increases from neighbouring Aldergrove businesses. Discussions were had and Jodi volunteered to draft a letter to the Greater Langley Chamber of Commerce, asking for advice about advocating for businesses in regards to a cap on rent increases similar to other tenancy agreements.
4. **Treasurer's Report:** Jen updated the group with the ABA's financial position. There is \$4615.82 in the ABA bank account. We received a \$500 donation from the Janda Group for the Spring Cleanup contest. \$1382.82 was paid to Cobra Electric for installing the Holiday Banners. \$517.78 was paid for food, beverages and gifts for the AGM, \$218.04 was paid for Canada Day flag décor, and \$454.64 was paid for final Christmas tree lighting expenses. We have not received any grant money from the TOL yet. There are 3 new members since our last meeting – El Tel Design, Peace by Piece Counselling and Sabilink Accelerator Hub. Those members who did not renew in 2025 have now been removed from the membership list. We now have 72 members.

Outstanding Business:

- a. Banner update – The new Keep it Local banners have been printed and installed along Fraser Hwy. We decided to alternate the Keep it Local banners with the Thunderbird Show Park banners. We decided not to charge Thunderbird rent per pole after further discussions about the incredible economic impact that Thunderbird brings to Langley. According to their economic impact assessment report, Thunderbird brought 3400 out of town visitors to Langley for their 2019 FEI Jumping Nations Cup, and \$9.3 million visitor spending attributable to the event. They also hang their banners in Brookwood and Fort Langley and are not charged any rent in those communities. Thunderbird agreed to pay for the installation and removal of their banners.
- b. Business raid program – Jen asked the group if anyone would be interested in volunteering to organize the next Business Raid event. Ashley agreed to do it. Jen will discuss with Ashley next steps.

- c. Liking members' posts – Colin Hamilton had some great ideas at the last meeting. This is what we had discussed... “We could ask members to use this hashtag #ABA. It would be great if our members could write google reviews for other members. Email member list to all our members and ask them to write a review and support each other. Also make a Facebook post with all our members listed and tagged with Keep it Local hashtag. Pin to the top.” So far, nothing has been done since our last meeting though. So Jen will follow up with Colin and ask him for more details how to do all this so we can devise a better plan going forward and perhaps recruit a volunteer to take this on.

5. Committee Reports:

- a. Membership (Sherri, Vanessa) – nothing to report
- b. Events (Jodi, Bonnie, Vanessa and Sharon)
 - 1. Spring Cleanup contest recap – April 5-12. Veronica's Perogies and Panago Pizza tied as the businesses who sent in the most pics and so they each won \$250. Next year Jodi hopes to have more prizes. And instead of the prize going to the business who sends in the most pics, we will do a random draw of the participants to determine the winners.
 - 2. Canada Day event – We purchased some Canada flag décor and ABA members can pick them up at the Remax office M-F from 10am to 3pm. Businesses are encouraged to decorate their storefronts in the spirit of Canada Day. Starting June 15, ABA members can send in pics of their storefronts and the ABA will post the pics on our social media pages and showcase the businesses. Bonnie had an idea about posting the pics in a flash mob format. Jen will promote the event.
 - 3. Little Lemonade Legends – July 27 – location still to be determined. This event is perfect for kids aged 6-12. Jodi needs help with registration and rounding up the kids. Sharon and Jason volunteered to be judges. Jodi will create a volunteer sign up sheet. Samantha will donate \$200 for a cash prize and also sponsor a kid.

6. New Business:

- a. Group photo was taken by Jason to be posted on social media by Jen.
- 7. **Round Table:** Veronica promoted the 3rd annual Meat on the Street, taking place June 28 from 12-4pm. It will take place at the Legion and profits will go to the Starfish Backpack program. Sliders will cost \$5. This is a free event with music supplied. She is looking for sponsors.
 - 8. **Next Meeting:** June 26, 2025 at 6pm. Location TBD.
 - 9. **Adjourn:** Moved by Vanessa and seconded by Sharon at 7:46 pm. All in favour.