



**Preston Street BIA
BOARD MEETING MINUTES**

**December 9, 2025, 10:00am
Teams Video Call**

Attendees: Steve Moffatt, Marcus Filoso, Joey Frangione, Shauna Bradley, Tony Zacconi, Claudio Lepore, Lauryn Santini, Lindsay Childerhose, Katie Hetherington

Absent: Ariel Troster, Sabrina Mtanos

1. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Tony Zacconi and Steve Moffatt at 10:03 am.

1.2 Approval of Agenda:

The agenda was approved by Steve Moffatt.

1.3 Approval of November Minutes:

The November minutes were approved by Steve Moffatt.

2. Executive Director's Report:

2.1 Annual General Meeting Review

The Board agreed that the AGM was a successful meeting, with over 70 attendees, and expressed appreciation to Shauna for hosting it at the Heart and Crown. It was also noted that some questions regarding parking remained unanswered.

2.2 Parking Advocacy

Lindsay informed the Board that she spoke with Daryl from the Glebe BIA who indicated they are not moving forward with parking advocacy at this time. The Board suggested continuing to reach out to other BIAs to understand their approach to parking. Steve proposed creating a monthly or bi-monthly survey for BIA members to collect parking-related data.

- Lindsay will create an email survey to collect parking data
- Lindsay will reach out to Westboro BIA and Rideau BIA to discuss parking

2.3 Archway Committee Update



The archway committee met on November 27 and outlined clear next steps. Committee members are to gather quotes for the project and report back.

2.4 2026 Sponsorships

Farinella advised they may submit a proposal in the new year for Easter and Halloween events. The Board discussed a reported comment from the most recent Tuesday Club event that was perceived as racially insensitive. The Board reaffirmed the BIA's commitment to respectful, inclusive conduct in all BIA-supported initiatives. Potential responses were discussed, including a formal warning, discontinuing sponsorship, and identifying alternative social groups. The Board agreed to issue a formal warning to Tuesday Club.

- Steve and Lindsay will connect with May from Farinella
- Lindsay will draft an email to Cameron from Tuesday Club regarding sponsorship

2.5 2026 Boundary Expansion

The Board agreed to hold an in-person meeting in the new year to discuss the BIA's approach to engaging new businesses and property owners, and to review what the BIA can offer them.

- The Board will brainstorm ideas for initiatives and activities to utilize a larger budget.

3. Marketing Update:

3.1 Preston Street Holiday Gift Grab 2025

Katie updated the Board on recent social media giveaways and presented statistics showing increased engagement. She also shared the recent Instagram interview series that highlighted local retail businesses.

4. Financial Status

4.1 Financial Update

The Operating Status Report showed the BIA is currently \$1,500 over budget, but several outstanding grant payments are expected before year-end. Although the Board previously approved going over budget to cover the deposit for the Little Italy signs, the BIA may still finish the year on budget. A clearer financial update will be available in two weeks.

5. New Business

- Taste of Little Italy date options will be sent out by email for the Board to offer their feedback. The date is to be announced in January 2026.



- The Board discussed the Heritage Mural Panel program. Businesses must have 15–20 years in operation to qualify and are required to submit a letter to the BIA explaining their historical significance on Preston Street. The goal is to have them in place by the spring in time for the mural unveiling.
- It was noted that the Escapade Music Festival has moved its dates, which may allow the Ottawa Italian Festival in 2026 to return to its traditional Father’s Day weekend.

6. Adjournment

The meeting was adjourned at 10:30 am.

Action Items

- **Lindsay:** Create survey for BIA members to collect parking data
- **Lindsay:** Reach out to Westboro BIA and Rideau BIA regarding parking
- **Steve and Lindsay:** Connect with May from Farinella
- **Lindsay:** Draft an email to Cameron from Tuesday Club
- **Lindsay:** Email the Board date options for Taste of Little Italy 2026.
- **Lindsay:** Send the Board the cost of the mural panels
- **Lindsay:** Email the City of Ottawa to see if the Ottawa Italian Festival can be moved back to Father’s Day weekend