



Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee

MINUTES

A meeting of the Stratford Communities in Bloom (CIB) Advisory Committee was held on Thursday, September 14, 2023 at 12:00 p.m., in the Mansbridge Room at the Stratford Rotary Complex.

Committee Members Present: Councillor Brad Beatty – Chair Presiding, Barb Hacking, Mary-Anne Krutila, Carys Wyn Hughes

Staff Present: Casey Riehl – Recording Secretary

Absent: Councillor Bonnie Henderson, Cindy Carlson, Kimberly Richardson

1. Call to Order

Councillor Beatty, Chair presiding, called the meeting to order at 12:06 p.m.

Land Acknowledgment

Moment of Silent Reflection

2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

3. Adoption of the Previous Minutes – June 1, 2023

Motion by Carys Wyn Hughes

Seconded by Mary-Anne Krutila

THAT the minutes from the Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee meeting dated June 1, 2023, be adopted as printed. Carried

4. Business Arising from Previous Minutes

4.1 Update on Ted Blowes Garden – Barb Hacking

Barb Hacking reported that she has started relocating plants into the garden and cleaning up for the winter season. The Parks Board has approved the installation of lights for the waterfall and the electrician has determined the proper locations. The lights will be run from the same app that the lights under the bridge are controlled from. The funds for the Confederation Park waterfall lights restoration project will be covered by the 2023 special project fund. The only additional cost may be a router installed close to this location. Ms. Hacking reported that to date, they have not spent the allotted amount on the garden maintenance this year. She did report that some of the donated magnolia trees from last year have died. The ground was too swampy for magnolia's and will be replaced with a different variety of trees suggested by the Manager of Parks, Forestry and Cemetery.

Motion by Barb Hacking

Seconded by Carys Wyn Hughes

THAT the Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$750.00 to purchase trees to replace the previous magnolia trees that have died in the Ted Blowes Memorial Garden.
Carried

4.2 2023 CIB National Update/CIB Initiatives – Councillor Beatty

Councillor Beatty reported that Stratford is a finalist this year in the category for their winter lights submission. The winner will be announced at the CIB National Symposium at the end of September. Councillor Beatty noted that the 2024 CIB National Symposium is being held back in Charlottetown for the 30th Anniversary of CIB.

4.3 Landscape Design Plan Update – Councillor Beatty

Members were advised there is no new update and that Barb Hacking will contact Scott Wentworth for an update on his plans.

4.4 City Gateways Project – Councillor Beatty/Kimberly Richardson

Councillor Beatty provided a report from Kimberly Richardson regarding her background research on the City gateways. Ms. Richardson reviewed all the information that Councillor Henderson had previously provided regarding meetings and discussions about gateways, specifically funds raised for the signs on Ontario Street and Erie Street, which was approximately between 1998 and

2000. There was no information showing funds remaining in the reserve, beyond what was earmarked for these two signs. Members suggested getting industry and service clubs involved in a fundraising campaign in conjunction with the City and Destination Stratford to move this project forward. Members noted that Stratford is one of the only local towns or cities that does not have gateway signs.

Councillor Beatty reported that the gateway signs are part of the City's wayfinding project. Staff will contact the Clerk to inquire if there is an update on the status or timeline of gateway signs being installed.

4.5 Update on SDSS Student Garden/Youth Involvement

Councillor Beatty reported that Bernie VanHerk will not be continuing with the annual canna lily project that he does with the City and students each year. He has suggested that perhaps the students at SDSS could take over this initiative to keep the program going. Barb Hacking suggested the greenhouse at the school or alternatively the one at the Local could be used. Members will wait for a further update from Cindy Carlson. Getting students involved in projects and assisting with documentation of the projects will be a key component to work on for next year.

5. New Business

5.1 2024 CIB Budget Request – Councillor Beatty

Motion by Carys Wyn Hughes

Seconded by Barb Hacking

THAT the Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee requests a 2024 budgetary figure of \$15,000.00 from the City of Stratford as follows:

- **Events – Market Day, Pumpkin Parade, CIB 30th Anniversary: \$1,500.00**
- **Student/Youth Engagement: \$1,000.00**
- **Ted Blowes Memorial Garden/Pollinator Pathway Project/CIB**
- **Garden – Maintenance/Improvement Expenses: \$1,500.00**
- **CIB Judging & Symposium Expenses: \$4,500.00**
- **CIB Registration: \$1,500.00**
- **Special Projects – CIB 30th Anniversary Celebration Project: \$5,000.00**

Carried

6. Upcoming Events

- Pumpkin Parade – Wednesday, November 1, 2023

7. Date of Next Meeting

The next meeting of the CIB Advisory Committee will be held on Thursday, October 5, 2023, at 12:00 p.m., in the Mansbridge Room at the Stratford Rotary Complex, 353 McCarthy Road W., Stratford.

8. Adjournment

Motion by Mary-Anne Krutila

Seconded by Barb Hacking

THAT the September 14, 2023 Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee meeting adjourn. Carried

Meeting Start Time: 12:06 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 1:09 P.M.