

**Beautification and Land Rehabilitation Committee Meeting
January 10, 2012
Council Chambers**

Present

Councillor L. Chisholm, Chair
Councillor S. Cameron
Councillor D. MacInnis
M. Amit
B. Chisholm
L. Jewkes
O. Landry
A. Murray
A. Paon

Mayor C. Chisholm
S. Feist, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk

Absent with Regrets

A. Arnold
J. Hamilton
D. Miller
B. Wainwright

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:13 PM.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor D. MacInnis
Seconded by M. Amit

“That the Agenda be approved with additions.” Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by M. Amit

Seconded by Councillor D. MacInnis

“That the Minutes of the Beautification and Land Rehabilitation Committee meeting held on November 8, 2011, be approved as circulated.” Motion carried.

Business from Minutes

- Up-lighting Town Hall

The Chair advised that in conversation with the Town’s Comptroller, it was suggested that consideration be given to up-lighting the Town Hall during upcoming budget deliberations. A Murray suggested that a flood light placed on the power pole adjacent Antigonish Insurance would light up the side and front of Town Hall nicely.

It was further noted that there are four (4) different colours of green paint on the exterior of the Town Hall and that the Town should lead by example and use one (1) consistent colour.

- Grate for Tree (B. Wainwright)

The Chair advised that the purchase of a tree grate would be given consideration during the upcoming budget deliberations. M. Amit noted that the use of tree grates is common in urban planning and, as they are flat, should not interfere with snowplowing.

- Fall/Winter Program

The Chair advised that although Public Works staff had taken down the flower baskets, they had not been emptied. Following brief discussion it was generally agreed to see if Public Works could empty the flower baskets. Concern was raised over the possibility of having to replace the baskets.

A. Murray provided details on the location of four (4) baskets and advised he would drop them off at Public Works.

Following brief discussion on a colour scheme for the Spring, M. Amit and A. Murray agreed to speak with staff at Pleasant Valley Nurseries. A. Murray suggested using red, white, and blue in celebration of the Queen's Jubilee.

Councillor S. Cameron suggested looking at purchasing larger baskets, similar to what is used in New Glasgow.

On behalf of A. Arnold, the Chair suggested that funds to purchase 6,000 more lights be included in upcoming budget considerations.

Following discussion on two (2) trees recently lit, A. Murray advised that the businesses had stopped plugging in the lights after Christmas. The Chair agreed to speak with the business owners on this matter.

Following a query by M. Amit, L. Jewkes agreed to get the cost of purchasing commercial grade lights. Councillor S. Cameron responded to a query on the cost of purchasing large led décor to span the street.

It was generally agreed to have the Gardener remove materials from the flower baskets and ready flower beds for winter prior to finishing his term in 2012.

On behalf of A. Arnold, the Chair advised of the following:

- Better communication between the Town and watering team (CACL did not include fertilizer while watering). It was noted by that B. Chisholm of Celtic Community Homes should have relayed information regarding the use of fertilizer to the CACL.
- Two (2) additional wheels purchased for watering cart (currently being stored in her shed).
- Wreaths could have had the bows removed and stayed up longer.
- Looking for suggestions on how to better up-light the tree at Chisholm Park.

New Business

- 2012 Communities-in-Bloom

Discussion took place on which category of Communities-in-Bloom the Town should enter in 2012. The Chair noted the Town was in the non-evaluated category last year and that participants can enter that category for a two (2)-year term.

Moved by O. Landry

Seconded by Councillor S. Cameron

“That the Town enter the Circle-of-Excellence, non-evaluated category for 2012.” Motion carried.

M. Amit suggested showcasing the new library as a community effort. The Chair advised that the application deadline is January 19, 2012. Brief discussion took place on the Winter Lights Program.

Councillor S. Cameron provided comment on the attachment to a lamp post in the Communities-in-Bloom magazine, noting the Town could attach something similar to their lamp posts and use them for wayfinding or identifying historical houses.

The Chair brought forth the possibility of the Maureen Fraser School of Dance, the Town, and the Antigonish 5-\$1.00 Store partnering on the purchase of some Town Tartan.

A. Murray commented on the need for the fence at Columbus Field to be painted, and further, that a portion of the fence (near Admiral Auto Glass) missing. Councillor S. Cameron advised that the fence would need to be sand-blasted prior to painting.

- Letters of Acknowledgement

Moved by O. Landry

Seconded by L. Jewkes

“That Letters of Acknowledgement be sent to Mr. Kevin DeCoste (re re-development of West Point building) and Nova Scotia Infrastructure and Renewal (re Canal Bridge) in recognition of their developments.” Motion carried.

- Christmas Tree Mulching

The Chair advised that 80 cubic meters of Christmas tree mulch was delivered to Public Works.

- Smoke-Free Area By-law

The Chair advised that a Community Health Impact Assessment was being done with respect to the proposed Smoke-Free Area By-law, with a Report expected to be presented to Council at their next meeting. Brief discussion took place.

- Strategic Plan

The Chair noted that the Beautification Committee’s Strategic Plan would likely be ready for approval at the next meeting.

M. Amit suggested that the next meeting be scheduled to run 2-3 hours in duration and that the Committee work on the Strategic Plan, lights, and budget. She expressed her hope that the Comptroller would be able to provide a spreadsheet outlining the budget.

- Alleyway Improvements

A. Murray provided details regarding improvements that could be made to an alleyway located next to the Moonlight Restaurant, and suggested that due to the location, it be used to erect a ‘welcome to Antigonish’ sign. CAO S. Feist suggested S. Day be contacted for a new type-set branding of ‘Antigonish.’

Adjournment

Moved by M. Amit

Seconded by B. Chisholm