

**Beautification and Land Rehabilitation Committee Minutes
March 9, 2010
Council Chambers**

Present

Deputy Mayor L. Chisholm, Chair
Councillor D. MacInnis
Councillor D. Roberts
A. Arnold
D. Miller
A. Murray
O. Landry
B. Wainwright

D. Kampen, MPA, Chief Administrative Officer
D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk

J. Gillis, Antigonish Heritage Museum, Observer

Absent

M. Amit
L. Jewkes
J. Hamilton

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by Councillor D. MacInnis

Seconded by A. Murray

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

Approval of Minutes

Moved by Councillor D. MacInnis

Seconded by A. Murray

“That the Minutes of the meeting held on February 9, 2010, be approved as circulated.” Motion carried.

Business from Minutes

- Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) Grant
CAO D. Kampen advised that she had met with Antigonish Regional Development Authority (ARDA) representatives A. Bouchie, and G. Grant, who will start putting together the information package for the grant application, although at this time it is unknown under what specific form the application will be made.

In response to acquiring community letters of support, CAO D. Kampen advised the Chair that they are not required at this time.

A. Murray provided comment on the small Gaelic lettering on downtown street signage and drew a suggested street blade sign which would provide better visibility. He questioned whether this type of signage could form part of the ACOA application. D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk, agreed

to contact Public Works for additional information on street signage; CAO D. Kampen will forward the information to the ARDA.

- Comments of Judges re Communities in Bloom
Discussion postponed by Chair.

- Duties of Gardener (A. Arnold)
CAO D. Kampen reported on a recent meeting with C. Griffiths, Gardener, which went well. They expect to meet each Monday morning once he has started work. C. Griffiths advised CAO D. Kampen that he is unable to take a week off during the Summer and return in October due to a prior commitment. The Committee was advised that if they identify something that should be taken care of by C. Griffiths to e-mail CAO D. Kampen.

Brief discussion took place on broken trees along Main Street. A. Arnold agreed to forward a list for CAO D. Kampen.

- Important Dates for Public Works
CAO D. Kampen advised that she has provided the list to K. Proctor, P.Eng., Town Engineer, and noted most of the items were maintenance matters.

A. Arnold noted that they try to have the planters and baskets ready in early Spring but were late last year. She noted that she has been in contact with Pleasant Valley Nurseries for this years' order and composition (mostly white with off-pink). She further noted that C. Griffiths will have to speak with Pleasant Valley Nurseries regarding plantings for the alley-way planters.

The Chair advised that all of the money from outstanding flowers placed at businesses has still not been collected. A.M. MacKenzie of the Chamber of Commerce has been trying but it was felt her time is limited. D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk, agreed to follow-up on this matter. CAO D. Kampen suggested that the Town send out the requests for outstanding balances. The Chair provided CAO D. Kampen with the information she had with respect to this matter.

The Committee was advised by A. Arnold that the bookstore and Down To Earth on Main Street did not want a basket in the past; however, it was noted the bookstore is now under new ownership and perhaps should be approached again.

At 7:35, PM Councillor D. Roberts joined the meeting.

- Cultural Capital of Canada
The Chair advised that Council had approved, in principle, an application to be submitted seeking to have Antigonish as the Cultural Capital of Canada.

Other Business

- Fountain at New Library
CAO D. Kampen noted that she was advised the fountain at the new library is cemented to the floor and that only the cement pillar could be salvaged. It was generally agreed that it be salvaged and stored at Public Works.

- Certificates of Appreciation

CAO D. Kampen distributed a copy of the Certificate of Appreciation to be sent to various individuals and businesses as per previous meetings. Councillor D. Roberts noted an error in the cresting on the Certificate. CAO D. Kampen agreed to have the error corrected.

- 3-Slot Recycling Stations

CAO D. Kampen advised that an application for funding had been submitted to the Resource Recovery Fund Board (RRFB) on behalf of Communities in Bloom, seeking \$500.00 in funding to be put toward the purchase of a 3-slot recycling station. She hopes to have a response by the end of the week.

D. Miller reported that he had been in contact with four (4) banking institutions regarding plaque recognition for the 3-slot recycling stations. Most have to go through a budget process but have agreed to get back to him. He noted some may partner together.

- Age-Friendly Application

The Chair reported that a response has not yet been received on the application for funding for additional benches.

- New Committee Member

The Chair advised that Council had accepted the resignation of M. Gabrieau. Further to the last meeting, L. Jewkes has advised her that Mr. B. Chisholm of Antigonish Farmer's Mutual Insurance has agreed to sit on the Land Rehabilitation and Beautification Committee.

Moved by B. Wainwright

Seconded by Councillor D. Roberts

"To recommend Council appoint Mr. B. Chisholm to the Land Rehabilitation and Beautification Committee." Motion carried.

- Graffiti Policy

CAO D. Kampen advised she has not yet had the opportunity to draft a Graffiti Policy; however, she did note that she does have the presentation and material from Halifax Regional Municipality.

At 7:57 PM, D. Miller left the meeting.

- Inventory of Green Spaces

B. Wainwright presented at map he had obtained through Service Nova Scotia which features the green spaces within the Town. He noted that he and O. Landry will start an inventory and take pictures as they go along.

O. Landry reported on an area off of Arbor Drive that might be an excellent location for an outdoor rink in the Winter months. J. Gillis noted that she used to skate in this area when she was younger and that it used to flood naturally before the river was dredged.

- Budget Items

The Chair advised she had nothing to report on the Budget as it is still under deliberation. A. Arnold noted she would like to see additional funds for planting areas such as the area at intersection of Main and St. Ninian Streets and Main Street in front of the former Petro Canada site. In response to including plantings in the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency application,

CAO D. Kampen noted that it could be added, but the Antigonish Regional Development Authority may not include it if they feel it would not be funded.

- Cairn Park

O. Landry noted that a small rock fence would provide a finished backdrop to the Cairn Park, with A. Arnold noting that there is already a plan in place for additions to the Cairn Park. CAO D. Kampen agreed to add this to the Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency application.

The Chair noted she would like to approach those responsible for the various cairns to also carry out some planting but not until such time as the status of the grant is known.

- Lighting at Federal Building

Councillor D. Roberts advised that she has been speaking with staff responsible for maintenance at the Federal Building on Main Street and is confident lights will be lit on the tree in this area before Christmas and that she intends to continue to pursue this matter.

A. Murray noted that he wants to paint 'shrubs' along a concrete wall at the Federal Building and will pursue this in concert with Councillor D. Roberts.

- J. Gillis – Antigonish Heritage Museum

J. Gillis advised that she had seen some items in the Minutes that she might be interested in assisting with and used the proposed walking tour as an example.

- Next Meeting

The Chair advised that she would not be available for the next meeting. Councillor D. MacInnis agreed to Chair the meeting in her absence. The next meeting to be held April 13, 2010, at 7:00 PM.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor D. Roberts

Seconded by B. Wainwright

"That the meeting be adjourned." Motion carried.