

**Beautification and Land Rehabilitation Committee Minutes
September 14, 2010
Town Council Chambers**

Present

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

D. Kampen, MPA, Chief Administrative Officer

Absent

Mayor C. Chisholm
B. Chisholm
J. Hamilton
D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk
A. Paon, Antigonish Regional Development Authority

Call to Order

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:05 PM.

Approval of Agenda

Moved by D. Miller
Seconded by Councillor D. MacInnis
"That the Agenda be approved with additions." Motion carried.

Approval of Minutes

Moved by D. Miller
Seconded by A. Murray
"That the Minutes of the meetings held on June 8, 2010, and July 6, 2010, be approved as circulated." Motion carried.

D. Miller wanted to formally thank D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk, for her work on the Minutes.

Correspondence

- Mr. T. Blowes, National Chairman, Communities in Bloom re 2010 National Edition of Communities in Bloom
Deputy Mayor L. Chisholm, Chair, read correspondence that she received from Mr. T. Blowes, National Chairman, Communities in Bloom, thanking the Town for participating in the 2010 National Edition of Communities in Bloom. The letter will be scanned and forwarded to Committee members.

Moved by Councillor D. Roberts

Seconded by B. Wainwright

"That this correspondence be received for information." Motion carried.

- Mr. G. Teahen and Ms. M. Bateman-Ellison re 2010 Communities in Bloom Judges Visit Deputy Mayor L. Chisholm, Chair, read correspondence received from both judges with respect to the Communities in Bloom judging in July 2010. The letter will be scanned and forwarded to Committee members.

Moved by Councillor D. Roberts

Seconded by B. Wainwright

"That this correspondence be received for information." Motion carried.

M. Amit joined the meeting at 5:20 PM.

Business from Minutes

- Atlantic Canada Opportunities Agency (ACOA) Grant
CAO D. Kampen advised the Committee that there are no funding opportunities from ACOA at this time and that she has been applying for smaller grants when opportunities present themselves.

- Gardener

There was general discussion regarding the Gardener position and the work term of the position.

Moved by Councillor D. MacInnis

Seconded by M. Amit

"To recommend to Council to extend the work term for the Gardener position from mid-April to mid-October beginning in 2011." Motion carried.

Due to time constraints, Mr. A. Murray was moved up on the Agenda.

- Fountain

Mr. A. Murray advised the Committee that Mr. S. Gray could design a base for the fountain for approximately \$3,800-4,200.00. The base would be double-lined, concrete on top, and include a pump for the fountain to function. It was agreed to see if there was any available funding for this project.

- Main Street – Proposed Flower Boxes Between Church and College Streets

Mr. A. Murray advised the Committee that there were 18 trees (nine (9) on each side) along Church and College that would look aesthetically pleasing with flower boxes planted with hostas. There would be blue hostas on one side of the street and yellow on the other. It was agreed that Mr. A. Murray would source the flower boxes and obtain quotes.

- Additional British Phone Booths

Mr. A. Murray requested that the Committee allow him to paint British phone booths (similar to the one at College and Main Streets) at Church and Main Streets and Hawthorne and Main Streets. He advised that he would charge \$400 for each booth and \$200 each for preparatory work. It was agreed that these would be completed if the budget allowed.

- Town of Antigonish "Welcome" Signs

Mr. A. Murray advised the Committee that he would finish the Welcome sign at Chisholm Park and an additional sign. He requested that the Committee provide approval for him to complete the last two (2) signs in the Fall of 2010.

Moved by M. Amit

Seconded by D. Miller

"To recommend to Council that Mr. Andrew Murray be retained to paint the remaining two (2) Town of Antigonish "welcome" signs for the fee of \$350.00 each; all re-painting to be completed by the Fall of 2010." Motion carried.

- Original St. FX University "X" Sign

Mr. A. Murray requested whether or not the Committee would be interested in attempting to obtain the original St. Francis Xavier University "X" sign to erect beside the gazebo.

Moved by M. Amit

Seconded by O. Landry

"CAO D. Kampen to write a letter to St. Francis Xavier University requesting the Town's use of the original "X" sign." Motion carried.

- Benches at Chisholm Park

Mr. A. Murray asked the Committee if they were satisfied with the new configuration of the benches. He also indicated that he would paint rosebushes on the back of each bench. There was general agreement for both items.

- Bike Racks - Update

CAO D. Kampen advised that she had submitted a grant request to the Age Friendly Communities but has yet to receive any notification.

- Hanging Baskets - Update

There was general agreement that the hanging flower baskets would be removed beginning the week of October 4, 2010.

- Benches

The bench locations have been determined; CAO D. Kampen and K. Proctor, P.Eng., Engineer, will co-ordinate the installation.

- 3-Slot Recycling Stations

CAO D. Kampen and K. Proctor, P.Eng., Engineer, will co-ordinate the installation of the recycling stations.

- Lights at Chisholm Park (Councillor D. Roberts)

Councillor D. Roberts advised the Committee that the Town may be able to partner with Home Hardware for 1,500-2,000 additional lights under a Communities in Bloom partnership. The installation of the lights will take place once the leaves have dropped from the tree. There was general discussion regarding the placement of the lights and the possibility of having spotlights in the crook(s) of branches.

Mr. A. Murray left the meeting at 6:30 PM.

- Discount on Flowers – Pleasant Valley Nurseries (Mayor C. Chisholm)

As the Mayor was not present at the meeting, there was no update on this item. However, Ms. A. Arnold indicated that she spoke with P. Steeghs and she advised that the Town does receive a discount on the flower baskets.

- Strategic Plan

Chair, Deputy Mayor L. Chisholm, advised the Committee that the Town's Strategic Plan has been prepared in draft to be brought back to a working Committee and eventually to Council for approval. Once this Plan is approved, the Beautification and Land Rehabilitation Committee's Strategic Plan will be reviewed to determine if it is aligned. This will probably be completed in the new year (2011).

New/Other Business

- Lighting Program on Main Street (L. Jewkes)

Mr. L. Jewkes enquired as to whether or not the Town would be co-ordinating a lighting of Main Street for the Christmas season. There was general discussion on affixing lights onto the lamp posts and whether or not snowflakes could be purchased. CAO D. Kampen to research further.

- New Garden – West End

General discussion ensued regarding the property at the end of Main Street which is owned by Petro-Canada. The Committee wants to place planters in the area between the sidewalk and the property line. CAO D. Kampen will apprise Petro-Canada of the Committee's intentions and obtain an estimate for the work.

- Garden – Corner of St. Ninian and Main Streets

The Committee was apprised of the proposed garden at the corner of St. Ninian and Main Streets. CAO D. Kampen to co-ordinate with A. Arnold and/or D. Meyer and Public Works for this work.

- Watering Contract

There was general discussion on the Town's watering contract with Celtic Homes.

Councillor D. Roberts left the meeting at 7:00 PM.

Mr. L. Jewkes left the meeting at 7:00 PM.

- Certificates of Recognition

The Committee determined which businesses should be recipients of the Certificate of Recognition.

Moved by M. Amit

Seconded by Councillor D. MacInnis

"To recommend that Council recognize the following businesses with a Certificate of Recognition to be presented at a special luncheon: CJFX Radio; Celtic Homes; Canadian Association of Community Living; McDonalds Restaurant; and the Antigonish Mall." Motion carried.

- Communities in Bloom

Chair, Deputy Mayor L. Chisholm, advised the annual Communities in Bloom Conference will be held in Halifax on October 27-30, 2010.

- Arts and Culture Policy

A sample Arts and Culture Policy was distributed to members. It was requested that each member review the Policy as it will be discussed at the October meeting.

- Planting at the Landing

Mr. B. Wainwright showed the Committee pictures of plantings at the Landing. He advised there is a natural canopy of phlox and that the Town should investigate partnering with the adjacent landowners to open the area for the general public. It was agreed that this item will be placed on the next Agenda to allow Committee members time to view the area.

- Walkway from Whidden Bridge to the People's Place Library

CAO D. Kampen advised the Committee that she would be submitting a grant to extend a walkway from the new People's Place Library to Whidden Bridge. She also advised that ACALA received funding to construct a walkway from the new library to Shoppers Drug Mart.

- Anti-Idling By-law

Mr. D. Miller enquired as to the status of the Town having an Anti-Idling By-law. CAO D. Kampen noted that a draft is being prepared for Council. Mr. Miller enquired if stickers could be placed on the Town-owned vehicles indicating that they are turned off and not idling due to a Town policy and/or by-law.

- Gateway Strategy (Antigonish Regional Development Agency)

Ms. A. Arnold encouraged members of the Committee to fill out the online survey at the Antigonish Regional Development Agency website regarding the Gateway Strategy.

Adjournment

Moved by Councillor D. MacInnis

Seconded by B. Wainwright

"That the meeting be adjourned." Motion carried.