



Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee

MINUTES

A meeting of the Stratford Communities in Bloom (CiB) Advisory Committee was held on Wednesday, February 11, 2026 at 9:00 a.m., City Hall, Clerk's Office – Romeo Room, 1 Wellington Street, Stratford ON

Committee Members: Councillor Brad Beatty – Chair Presiding, Councillor Henderson, Carys Wyn Hughes, Barb Hacking, Jennifer Mitchell, Cindy Carlson

Staff: Vicky Trotter – Council Committee Coordinator

1. Call to Order

Councillor Beatty, Chair presiding, called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

Reading of the Land Acknowledgement and a Moment of Silent Reflection

Reading of the Respectful Workplace Conduct Statement

2. Declarations of Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

3. New Business

3.1 CiB National Event

Councillor Beatty stated CiB Stratford was chosen to participate in the 2026 "Cervia Città Giardino special edition dedicated to the 80th anniversary of the Republic. Flowers of freedom, roots of hope". The following details were provided regarding the invitation:

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- The garden is in recognition of the 80th anniversary of Canadians liberating Italy;
- A minimum of three (3) members of CiB Stratford are required to participate in the program;
- Accommodations and provisions will be provided by the Cervia, Italy;
- Gardens are to be designed by the Canadian Community;
- The Manager of Parks & Forestry has been requested to assist with the design of the garden;
- The garden will be planted by CiB Stratford members over a 2-4 day period;
- Scheduled from May 23 to 27, 2026;
- Airfare is required to be paid by members wishing to participate.

Members discussed the potential requesting of additional funds from City Council for travel costs and obtaining sponsorship from the local Army Navy and Legion Branches;

Motion by Carys Wyn Hughes

Seconded by Cindy Carlson

THAT the Stratford Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee proceed as an Ambassador City in the 2026 "*Cervia Città Giardino – Special Edition dedicated to the 80th Anniversary of the Republic: Flowers of Freedom, Roots of Hope*";

AND THAT a delegation of up to six (6) members of the Stratford Communities in Bloom Committee attend and participate in the official garden planting and related ceremony taking place from May 22 to May 27, 2026 in Cervia, Italy;

AND THAT the Committee seek financial support from City Council to help offset up to 50% of the cost for Committee members participating.
Carried

4. Adjournment

Motion by Carys Wyn Hughes

Seconded by Barb Hacking

THAT the February 11, 2026 Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee meeting adjourn. Carried

Meeting Start Time: 9:00 A.M.

Meeting End Time: 9:38 A.M.