



# Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee

## MINUTES

A meeting of the Stratford Communities in Bloom (CIB) Advisory Committee was held on August 5, 2021 at 12:00 p.m., electronically.

**Committee Members Present:** Councillor Brad Beatty – Chair Presiding, Linda Hawken, Councillor Bonnie Henderson, Barb Hacking, Cindy Carlson, Carys Wyn Hughes

**Staff Present:** Casey Riehl – Recording Secretary

**Absent:** Kimberly Richardson, Quin Malott – Manager of Parks, Forestry & Cemetery

### 1.0 Call to Order

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

### 2.0 Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest

None declared.

### 3.0 Adoption of Previous Minutes

Motion by Cindy Carlson, seconded by Linda Hawken

**THAT the minutes from the Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee meeting dated July 8, 2021 be adopted as printed. Carried**

### 4.0 Business Arising from Previous Minutes

#### a) Update from CIB National – Councillor Beatty

Councillor Beatty updated the CIB Committee that Linda Hawken, Barb Hacking and himself completed the virtual consultation with the two CIB National judges. As part of the consultation, Barb Hacking shared with the judges a slide show presentation. She will send the link to the committee for them to watch. The judges had glowing comments for what the City of Stratford has done during the pandemic. CIB National has requested if they can share the presentation from Stratford to showcase the work done to the rest of CIB. The judges indicated that the hope is to resume all in-person community judging activities in 2022.

Councillor Beatty inquired with the judges if there could be new challenges for veteran communities such as Stratford, who have participated so successfully in the past. They stated they would take this suggestion back to CIB National.

**b) Garden of Hope Update – Barb Hacking**

Barb Hacking reported that there is a brown coloured bench at the Ted Blowes Garden that was peeling. She has recently sanded and primed it and each time she has returned to paint it, someone has always been sitting on it. One of the CIB National judges suggested making a “chatter” bench. Which indicates on the bench that if you are sitting on it, you would welcome someone to join you to chat. The Ted Blowes Garden has transformed very quickly over the last week and a half with the painted butterfly wall and the Bridge to Nowhere. There is a \$25,000.00 landscaping award available this year that could go a long way to enhance the area around the garden if Stratford is successful. Barb Hacking will put together the application and forward it to CIB members to review and assist with editing it down to 700 words.

Councillor Beatty shared some initial drone footage of the wall and bridge. Members will help film additional footage, including releasing butterflies from the Bridge to Nowhere.

**c) 2021 Miracle Grow Garden Contest – Barb Hacking**

Barb Hacking reported that nominations must be in by tomorrow. The entries will be judged, and prizes will be awarded.

**d) CIB Website Update – Councillor Beatty/Kimberly Richardson**

No new updates.

**5.0 New Business**

**a) Sign for Bridge to Nowhere – Barb Hacking**

Barb Hacking inquired if the CIB Committee would support purchasing a slate sign to place under the Bridge to Nowhere to explain the history of the bridge. Many people visiting do not know the background that it was a pedestrian bridge over the railroad tracks. Ms. Hacking has spoken to Community Services and they are in support of placing a sign there.

Motion by Barb Hacking, seconded by Carys Wyn Hughes

**THAT the Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$150.00 to purchase an educational sign to place under the Bridge to Nowhere in Confederation Park. Carried**

**b) Appreciation Award – Barb Hacking**

Barb Hacking proposed an appreciation award for citizens who volunteer their time and put so much work into helping the CIB Committee.

Motion by Barb Hacking, seconded by Linda Hawken

**THAT the Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee spends up to a maximum of \$200.00 to purchase and award to a volunteer a tree of appreciation to be planted by the Community Services Department.**  
**Carried**

**6.0 Upcoming Events**

No new events.

**7.0 NEXT MEETING DATE –** Thursday, September 2, 2021 at 12:00 p.m., electronically.

**8.0 ADJOURNMENT**

Motion by Carys Wyn Hughes, seconded by Linda Hawken

**THAT the August 5, 2021 Communities in Bloom Advisory Committee meeting adjourn. Carried**

Meeting Start Time: 12:12 P.M.

Meeting End Time: 12:47 P.M.