

**Beautification Committee Meeting
June 12, 2018
Town Council Chambers**

Present

Mayor L. Boucher
Deputy Mayor D. Roberts
Councillor M. Farrell
A. Arnold
D. Geldart
L. Jewkes
D. Kyle
O. Landry
David Miller

Absent with Regrets

Chair, Councillor A. Murray

Also Present

Special Projects Coordinator, S. Scannell
D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk

Call to Order

Councillor A. Murray, Chair, called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM and welcomed everyone.

Approval of Agenda

"It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Agenda as presented."

Approval of Minutes

"It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Minutes of the April 10, 2018 meeting with amendments." Motion carried.

Business from Minutes

- Tree Committee Report

D. Geldart reported that A. Williams came from Truro and shared discussion on various aspects of trees. The Committee was updated on tree pruning and data being gathered, and it was noted that they hope to have an inventory of trees in the downtown by the end of the summer. It was noted that as future trees are planted the Town should avoid planting trees on the corners of intersections as they tend to be hit by vehicles.

Other members of the tree sub-committee spoke on tree inventory and status of the trees.

Councillor M. Farrell noted that at a recent FCM conference some Councillors did visit the Trees Canada booth and noted that some funding may be available through that organization.

It was noted that the Emerald Ash Bore which is attracted to the ash tree has now made its way to New Brunswick and that the Town may be able to monitor trees (via Mr. R. Neville) perhaps at Columbus Field and the golf course.

D. Geldart provided further details on monitoring noting that there would be no cost related to the monitoring.

L. Jewkes provided positive comment on work done to the trees by the Town's gardener.

Further discussion took place on GIS mapping and the possibility of adding a layer for the tree inventory.

D. Miller provided comment on when trees were planted on St. Andrews Street, and brought up the possibility of educating people on trees. D. Geldart noted that this type of event is held in other areas. Discussion took place. It was generally agreed that next spring or early summer might be an appropriate time to begin such a program. It was further noted that the Town could initiate a 'walk about' tree discussion some time this summer.

Discussion took place on a suggested walk along the trail adjacent the Brierly Brook to identify trees along the trail.

Mayor L. Boucher suggested perhaps asking Mr. C. MacInnis or a delegate of the Rivers Association to attend a meeting of the Beautification Committee in order to provide education.

- 2018/19 Budget Preparations – Ranking Results and Initial Estimates

S. Scannell advised that there will be a special meeting in June to finalize the budget. He noted that some work has already had to begin, including litter collection (CACL) 4 days/week, and having W. Reddick clean up town-owned parking lots, etc. It was noted that the flowers will be arriving next week, and also that 10 planter boxes had to be replaced.

Discussion took place on the new planters.

S. Scannell noted that there is still funding for soil sampling included in the upcoming budget.

- New Town Flower (Discussion)

Mayor L. Boucher noted discussion on a town flower was brought up by the Chair and the matter was deferred.

It was noted that the bridge baskets need to be attached at both the top and bottom in an effort to prevent vandalism, as well as using rabbit wire on the inside of the planters.

New Business

- Beautification and Streetscaping Program (Pilot) – Report

S. Scannell advised that the province now has a pilot project aimed toward downtowns, beautification and tourism/economic development, and noted what types of projects might be eligible for funding. He noted the importance of beautification in the downtown has come up in conversations during the Engage session, consultation through the business community, and the R. Brooks tourism report.

S. Scannell noted that Adam Street has been identified as an area to carry out an assessment (location of museum, entrance to the Landing, etc.). D. Kyle questioned whether the committee would put together suggestions rather than a consultant. S. Scannell responded noting he is looking beyond trees, including signage, placement of trees, flower beds, and lighting. Councillor M. Farrell questioned whether carrying out a study might lead to additional funds for future projects.

Discussion took place on options for a funding application to the province.

D. Miller suggested that perhaps instead of utilizing a consultant that the \$5,000 be used toward planting trees strategically. Discussion took place on funding for a study.

D. Miller noted that before this committee was formed, a study was conducted that outlined 20 or so projects for the downtown, of which 13 or 14 already have been completed and suggested he would endeavor to provide S. Scannell with a copy of the report.

“It was Moved and Seconded to recommend that staff apply for a grant to have a beautification strategy carried out, with the funding being over and above the Beautification Committee’s regular budget.” Motion carried.

- Tree Replacement (4 locations)

S. Scannell noted that the Town Gardener has identified areas where trees could be replaced or planted, and questioned whether this should be considered now, or after the tree sub-committee has had an opportunity to carry out additional considerations. Discussion took place. It was generally agreed to place planter boxes in areas where trees need to be planted in the interim.

D. Geldart noted that they would be having a field day coming up in the near future with Mr. A. Williams at which time they could discuss the types of trees that should be planted.

The tree sub-committee generally agreed to try to identify what infrastructure may be underground in the areas where trees are planted.

With there being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:18 PM.