

**Beautification Committee Meeting  
January 14, 2020  
Town Council Chambers**

**Present**

Councillor A. Murray, Chair  
Deputy Mayor M. Farrell  
Councillor D. Roberts  
L. Jewkes  
D. Kyle  
O. Landry

**Absent with Regrets**

D. Geldart  
A. Arnold

**Also Present**

S. Scannell, Director of Community Development  
D. Wilson, Deputy Clerk  
T. Cameron, Director of Recreation

**Call to Order**

The Chair called the meeting to order at 5:02 PM.

**Approval of Agenda**

“It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Agenda as presented.” Motion carried.

**Approval of Minutes**

“It was Moved and Seconded to approve the Beautification Committee Minutes of November 12, 2019 with corrections.” Motion carried.

- **Administrative Changes**

At the request of the Chair S. Scannell brought the Committee up to date on recent administrative changes. He introduced T. Cameron and noted that, moving forward, matters related to Beautification would be led by T. Cameron.

It was noted that the gardener position was rolled into the parks maintenance crew. A seasonal supervisor has been hired and noted he is interested in returning and that he has a background in horticulture. T. Cameron noted that they are moving away from identifying one particular position (i.e. gardener), but rather will have a crew of four (4) staff.

S. Scannell noted that the current plan will move from two (2) separate crews (town gardener and parks maintenance), with the new composition being a supervisor, three (3) staff for a 28-week period, plus two (2) students.

T. Cameron noted the goal is to make beautification sustainable, and perhaps exceed current expectations.

Deputy Mayor M. Farrell welcomed T. Cameron.

It was noted that any issues or ideas should be directed to S. Scannell, who will in turn discuss them with T. Cameron.

T. Cameron provided an overview of parks and recreation staff. The role of the supervisor position last year was discussed. Discussion took place. It was noted that the D. MacKee will attend a meeting of the Beautification Committee at the beginning of his new term.

D. Kyle raised concern with not having one (1) person in charge of 'beautification' matters. Discussion ensued.

- Communities in Bloom

The Chair noted that he would like to discuss involvement/role with Communities-in-Bloom. He then reviewed past successes of the Town with Communities-in-Bloom program.

It was noted new capital projects, including the new intersection, skatepark, accessible ballfield and so on are items that the judges would likely see as major improvements to the town.

The Chair noted that if entering the Communities-in-Bloom contest there will have to be an ask for monies for maintenance, for examples from Council for budget deliberations.

T. Cameron questioned whether it might be appropriate to have a conversation with someone at Communities-in-Bloom to get an overview of what it entails.

T. Cameron further noted all departments should be involved in Communities-in-Bloom.

The Chair noted he would not be available for the February meeting.

Councillor D. Roberts agreed to work with T. Cameron to gather additional details on the Communities-in-Bloom efforts.

Deputy Mayor M. Farrell agreed to carry out any directions given her.

It was generally agreed that Councillor D. Roberts, A. Arnold and T. Cameron would get together and bring some information back on the Communities-in-Bloom program.

It was noted D. McKee is aware of the Communities-in-Bloom program.

- Christmas Décor Overview

The Chair brought forth the matter of the Christmas décor and noted he was very happy with the holiday lights placed on the light poles, and stated he had received many compliments.

The Chair noted the wreaths were not great this year. Discussion took place.

Deputy Mayor M. Farrell provided comment on the manner in which the wreaths were posted. Discussion ensued.

The Chair presented photos taken in Halifax of some banners and suggested this might be a suitable replacement for the wreaths.

The Chair suggested six (6) more Christmas décor lights be purchased for next year, with L. Jewkes suggested perhaps eight (8) be purchased.

- Budget Proposals

The Chair noted that along with requesting funding for additional lights, that perhaps the Town consider replacing the Welcome signs.

S. Scannell noted that in attempting to address priorities his expectation is to once again have the committee put down their priorities. S. Scannell stated he would put together a list of items for the Committee to prioritize.

The following were identified as important to the Committee: additional Christmas lighting, trees, tree rebate program, entrance signage, flower planter boxes, the urban forestry conference (PEI next year), and Communities-in-Bloom.

It was generally agreed to have the Committee prioritize a budget items at the next meeting.

Brief discussion took place on the Beautification budget. Discussion ensued.

T. Cameron questioned as to whether the Christmas décor should be categorized as a Capital item.

The Chair indicated he would like additional lights, but in a choice of financial matters, he would prefer to have the downtown welcome sign replaced, particularly if the Town enrolls in Communities-in-Bloom contest.

S. Scannell noted that grants are available through Municipal Affairs.

- Tree Sub-Committee
  - Inventory

D. Kyle noted downtown has been inventoried and that the information is ready to be loaded into a program

It was noted that the Tree sub-committee would recommend a tree rebate program, based on a \$50 maximum rebate (maximum 40 trees) as a pilot program.

T. Cameron noted that tomorrow she and K. Gorman will take part in a G. Brooks destination assessment, and invited anyone interested to attend tomorrow at 11:30 AM.

With there being for further business the meeting was adjourned at 6:13 PM.