



Corporation of the Municipality of South Huron
Communities in Bloom
Agenda

Wednesday, March 4, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
Olde Town Hall - Verity Room

Accessibility of Documents:

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Pages

1. Call to Order
2. Amendments to Agenda, as Distributed and Approved by the Committee
Recommendation:
That the Communities in Bloom Committee approve the Agenda as presented.
3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General nature Thereof
4. Minutes 1
Recommendation:
That the Communities in Bloom Committee adopts the minutes of February 5, 2020 as presented.
5. Chair's Comments
6. Presentation by Eco Exeter
7. Discussion
 - 7.1 Municipality of South Huron - Deferred & Referred Resolutions from February 5, 2020 CIB Meeting 10
 - 7.2 Heather MacKechnie - Community Garden Project 12
8. Budget Update
 - 8.1 2020 Budget Update - Year to date 14

9. Communications

- 9.1 Municipality of South Huron - Community Safety Well-being Plan - Survey 16

10. New Business

11. Adjournment

Recommendation:

That the Communities in Bloom Committee hereby adjourns at 6:30 pm, to meet again on April 1, 2020 or at the call of the Chair.



Corporation of the Municipality of South Huron
Communities in Bloom
Minutes

Wednesday, February 5, 2020, 6:30 p.m.
Olde Town Hall - Verity Room

Members Present: Debbie Mountenay, Chair
 Dorothy Henderson, Vice Chair
 Aaron Neeb, Council Representative
 Beth Cooper
 Glen Nicholson

Member regrets:
Cathy Seip

Staff Present:
Rebekah Msuya-Collison, Director of Legislative Services/Clerk
Alex Wolfe, Administrative Assistant/Recording Secretary

1. Call to Order

Chair Mountenay called the meeting to order at 6:29 pm.

2. Amendments to Agenda, as Distributed and Approved by the Committee

The Agenda was amended to add an update from Member Henderson regarding a report from Martin Quinn and add an update from Member Neeb regarding an upcoming Heritage Foundation Event, both under item 6.

Motion: 01-2020

Moved: Dorothy Henderson

Seconded: Glen Nicholson

That the Communities in Bloom Committee approve the Agenda, as amended.

Disposition: Carried

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General nature Thereof

None.

4. Minutes

Motion: 02-2020

Moved: Dorothy Henderson

Seconded: Aaron Neeb

That the Communities in Bloom Committee adopts the minutes of September 4, 2019 as presented.

Disposition: Carried

6:32 p.m. Member Cooper arrived.

5. Chair's Comments

Chair Mountenay spoke of the need for recruiting new members. Discussion was had regarding the process for recruitment. The motion made at this meeting to proceed with the recruitment of new members will be pulled at the next Regular Council Meeting on February 18th, and Council will provide staff with direction.

Motion: 03-2020

Moved: Beth Cooper

Seconded: Glen Nicholson

That the Communities in Bloom Committee proceed with recruiting new members.

Disposition: Carried

6. Discussion

6.1 Updates from Member Henderson

6.1.1 Pumpkin Community Project Update

Member Henderson advised that there was a good turnout for the Pumpkin Community Event. It was noted that there were approximately 55 pumpkins, plenty of photo opportunities, and hot chocolate available. Further, the pumpkins were provided to a community farmer to feed his pigs following the event. It was

suggested that it would be a great idea to do again next year and have some lights put up. Member Henderson advised that Chad from the Cultural Collective said he would help out getting volunteers for next year.

6.1.2 Meeting with Martin Quinn

Members Henderson and Cooper provided a handout (attached to the Minutes as Schedule A) and an overview of their meeting with Martin Quinn.

Discussion was had regarding starting a floral working group that would assist with Communities in Bloom Committee projects. Chair Mountenay and Member Henderson are going to contact the Public Works Manager regarding possible locations for gardens the floral working group could be responsible for.

Motion: 04-2020

Moved: Aaron Neeb

Seconded: Glen Nicholson

That the Communities in Bloom Committee recruit for a floral working group; and

That the Communities in Bloom Committee investigate areas/ideas for 4 gardens throughout South Huron as a project for the floral working group.

Disposition: Carried

6.2 Communities in Bloom - Circle of Excellence

Discussion was had, it was decided not to participate in Communities in Bloom competition for the 2020 year. This year is to be used to complete some of the judges' recommendations from the 2018 competition.

6.3 Heritage Foundation Event

Member Neeb advised that he had been contacted by Bob Heywood regarding a Heritage Foundation Event that is being held in April 2020 regarding the Exeter Public Cemetery fence. Mr. Heywood was inquiring whether the Communities in Bloom Committee would be interested in attending. The Committee discussed same. It was requested that staff get further details on the event and circulate same to the Committee.

7. Work Plan Review

7.1 Update on Work Plan High Priorities

Discussion regarding the status of the High Priorities Work Plan (attached to the Minutes as Schedule B).

Chair Moutenay will contact the Public Works Manager regarding quantities, types of trees and the location for the tree sale.

7.2 Review of Work Plan Medium Priorities

Deferred to next meeting.

7.3 Mission Statement

8. Budget Update - 2019 Final Draft

Chair Moutenay to get the 2020 budget.

9. Communications

9.1 Resolution from September 16th Council Meeting re 75th tulips FYI

9.2 Rebekah Msuya-Collison - Clerk for South Huron re information on subcommittees and insurance coverage

9.3 Eco Exeter - pledge to eliminate single-use plastic water bottles, straws and styrofoam from meetings and events

There was discussion regarding the pledge that Eco Exeter has put forward. Chair Moutenay will write to Eco Exeter.

Motion: 05-2020

Moved: Dorothy Henderson

Seconded: Aaron Neeb

That the Communities in Bloom Committee pledge to eliminate single-use plastic water bottles, straws and styrofoam from Communities in Bloom meetings and to the extent possible from Communities in Bloom events.

Disposition: Carried

9.4 Communities in Bloom - invitation to participate in 2020 National Edition

10. New Business

10.1 Request from Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority re Conservation Dinner

Member Henderson and Chair Mountenay advised that the ABCA had contacted them to see if Communities in Bloom would be interested in decorating part of the Hall for the Ausable Bayfield Conservation Authority Conservation Dinner on April 16, 2020.

Member Henderson will speak with third parties to see whether they would be interested in doing instead of Communities in Bloom.

Discussion turned to Kirkton Fair and whether Committee would be interested in participating next year. Further discussion to take place closer to the date.

11. Adjournment

Motion: 06-2020

Moved: Aaron Neeb

Seconded: Glen Nicholson

That the Communities in Bloom Committee hereby adjourns at 7:39 pm, to meet again on March 4, 2020 or at the call of the Chair.

Disposition: Carried

Report on Meeting with Martin Quinn, Goderich, October 17, 2019

Present: Dorothy Henderson & Beth Cooper

Our Question: How did Goderich go about setting up a Floral Committee? What advice would Martin give to help us do something similar to supplement the work of the Municipality? We were especially interested to learn about their recruitment, support and training of volunteers.

Process that Goderich took to set up a Floral Committee (this may or may not be what we would try)

1. Martin (paid staff) put an ad in the paper asking people to submit application to be a member of the Floral Committee. He also sent a letter of request to Goderich Communities in Bloom and the Horticultural Society.
2. From the 150 applications, he selected 10 to become the Floral Committee. (It is advisable to have a Councillor and municipal staff person as part of this committee. This municipal staff person should be the one responsible for ordering/purchasing/selecting/paying for flowers.)
3. Martin kept track of those who applied but didn't get selected to be on the committee. They were invited to help in other ways: e.g. choosing colours, adopting a flower bed, etc.
4. The Floral Committee, under Martin's direction
 - surveyed every bed, hanging basket, container and numbered them on a municipal map
 - tested the soil in each bed (many were nutrient-deficient and full of salt)
 - given some training in how to choose plants for a municipal bed, how to prepare and/or amend the soil, how to plant, how to read a soil test.
 - brainstormed, bed by bed, for plant selection, colour. What effect do we want? Big and dramatic? See-through? Small and compact?
 - participated with the municipal staff in selecting plans for the fall order. These decisions are made by November 15.
 - arranged to have plates added to beds naming flower varieties (this became an educational process); also added plates saying "This bed maintained by . . ." Here's where the extra volunteers who were not chosen for the committee were invited to participate.
 - the municipal staff prepared beds ready for planting by a certain date. The Floral Committee and other volunteers met to receive the flats of flowers. Each group was assigned specific beds and the volunteers matched the flowers to their respective beds. E.g. Bed 1=25 marigolds, 20 petunias, 3 grasses in centre. These plants, along with a picture of how they were to be planted, were given to volunteers.
 - each year, in July, the committee visited Sawaya Garden Trials near Simcoe. This was to get people thinking of new and different ideas for the November planning. Because there is an overwhelming display of flowers, Martin urged people to select one variety they loved and focus on that, adding one or two supplementary plants.

Things that Martin suggested that would be helpful in our CIB work

- Do a mass blitz 5 days before the judges comes, inviting the entire municipality to mow together. (They called it "Hummer Day" 'cause there were lots of mowers humming.

- Find out who is responsible for planning flowers, planting flowers, budget, and ask how we can be helpful in the process. (Debbie, maybe you know this, but I don't.) Let the CAO know what we would like to do.
- Visit the University of Guelph research station on Airport line. They might have helpful resources and leads on good soil testing sites.
- Focus on farm innovations when judges come around. Many judges have no rural background and will not understand how farming has changed in the past few decades (e.g. use of GPS, reducing rates of chemicals, no till planting, etc.)
- Use every opportunity to involve more youth.
- Be proactive about the tree coverage situation and upfront about explaining the ash borer situation to judges. (Many come from areas where this is not a problem and they will not understand the partly dead wood lots.)
- Invite Huron County Forester, Dave Pullen, to be part of the guests who the judges meet.
- Be VERY specific about planning the route for the judges. (Martin is willing to be a consultant on whether the route is appropriate as he has done this for other areas.)
- Involve 4-H groups. Invite them to our meetings. How can we intersect?
- How can we better interact with the Kirkton Horticultural Society and Kirkton Fall Fair?
- Repeat...repeat...repeat...the message to the entire municipality. "YOU are part of Communities in Bloom. Help to keep our region healthy in the six CIB areas of concern (tidiness, landscaping, floral displays, heritage preservation, tree coverage, environmental issues)

Schedule “B” – February 5, 2020 CIB Minutes

Draft High Priorities Workplan Communities in Bloom for 2019-2020

| What | How? (Strategy) | Who? | Timeline (?) | Status – updated February 5, 2020 |
|---|---|--|-----------------------|---|
| High Priority | | | | |
| Create a volunteer gardening club | The Committee discussed bringing in a Master Gardener to help identify some potential ideas and areas for the Committee to focus on. The group noted that if there was a member from Stephen, then the Committee would have a floral group that represents the whole municipality. The Committee discussed enhancing the work of municipal staff. The Committee will plan first and then look for volunteers. Next steps include contacting groups such as the Horticultural Society to see how they started their volunteer gardening clubs, do a press release and start promoting and invite Martin Quinn to do a presentation to the Committee. | Members Cooper and Henderson will take lead on contacting Mr. Quinn. | Fall/Winter 2019/2020 | Committee Members are recruiting a floral working group for a gardening project |
| Recognition of 75 th anniversary of liberation of Netherlands | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Resolution made at September 4 CIB meeting to recommend support (orange/white tulips) b. Resolution to be submitted to Council for decision | Megan Goss | September 2019 | Confirmation that bulbs were purchased in the fall and have been planted by Municipal Staff |
| Work on “Welcome” signs at entrances to all communities but especially Exeter | <ul style="list-style-type: none"> a. Hear report from Carla Goodfellow b. Make a workplan for spring 2020 <p>CIB noted they already have a garden work plan for the entrances and next steps are for the Volunteer Gardening Club to be set up</p> | Volunteer Gardening Club | Spring 2020 | Chair Mountenay has upcoming meeting with CAO Best to discuss |
| Annual Tree Sale | <p>Change of location and monitor to see if sales increase</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> - CIB noted they have a different target market for trees than ABCA | Cathy Seip | Spring 2020 | Committee Members to contact Manager of Public Works regarding ordering |

| | | | | |
|---|---|---|--|---|
| | | | | trees for tree sale, and possible locations. |
| Initiate an annual “let’s clean-up-South Huron” day | <p>a. Engage 2 or 3 classes to canvas Exeter/Dashwood/Crediton/Huron Park to distribute bio-degradable plastic bags</p> <p>Discussion on hosting an event on Earth day that would meet school curriculum and encourage youth participation by inviting local students and including providing speakers, transportation and meal</p> | <p>Kids (grade 7/8); partner with Eco-Club at high school</p> <p>Corporate sponsor to buy bags; special sticker and/or environmental info (eg. Where discounted composters and rain barrels are available)</p> <p>Who will take lead?</p> | <p>Earth Day – Wednesday April 21st</p> | <p>Eco Exeter is attending the CIB meeting in March, see if they are interested in partnering in a “lets clean up South Huron” day, discussion had regarding students taking part in different towns within South Huron, possible opportunity for community service hours</p> |



**CORPORATION OF THE MUNICIPALITY OF SOUTH HURON
OFFICE OF THE MAYOR**

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February 21, 2020

Via email to: debbiemountenay122@gmail.com

South Huron Communities in Bloom Committee

Attention: Debbie Mountenay, Chair

Re: Recommendations from February 5, 2020 CIB Meeting

Council received the draft Minutes and recommendations of the February 5, 2020 Communities in Bloom Committee Meeting at the February 18, 2020 Regular Council meeting.

Council deferred the following Recommendations to a later date following the consideration of a Community Development Committee:

1. Proceed with recruiting new members for the Communities in Bloom; and
2. Proceed with recruitment for a floral working group for specific projects; and
3. That the Communities in Bloom Committee investigate areas/ideas for 4 gardens throughout South Huron as a project for the floral working group; and

Council referred the following recommendation to the Climate Change Adaptation Advisory Committee for recommendation:

4. That the Communities in Bloom Committee pledge to eliminate single-use plastic water bottles, straws and styrofoam from Communities in Bloom meetings and to the extent possible from Communities in Bloom events.



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South Huron Council wants to extend their sincere appreciation for your work with the Municipality of South Huron for the betterment of our community.

Respectfully,

A handwritten signature in blue ink, appearing to read "Alex Wolfe".

Alex Wolfe, Administrative Assistance to
R. Msuya-Collison, Clerk
Municipality of South Huron
clerk@southhuron.ca
519-235-0310

Hello,

I am writing today in regards to the community garden project.

Unfortunately I have had some issues come up and I will be moving in April and stepping back from most of my volunteer roles. As such I will be unable to continue with the community garden project at this time.

We still have the grant money of almost \$4,000 available if anyone would like to organize this project. If not I will be reaching out to Embracing the Spirit to return the funds.

Please consider whether or not this is something that interests you or potentially someone that you know. I think that we need to make a decision by the end of March at the latest.

Thank you all for your support!
Heather

On Wed, May 15, 2019 at 4:05 PM <tgahrt@hay.net> wrote:

It's feeling more like gardening weather now...just need some drying out
Looked at the planters at the church and talked to Heather about where they
can be set

Last year they were up by the fence...not sure if that is going to work with
the neighbour

If they are in a spot (up against the east wall of the church) and only get
morning sun there are some crops...mainly leaf that tolerate 1/2 sun/shade
Planting time....lets aim for the 25/26 weekend or the week following and by
then the planters should be in place and we can decide what will work

I would be able to get a large black tree pot (not fancy) for an extra
planter for herbs

Linda T

Good Morning Linda and Linda:

Things are moving very slowly with the Community Garden. I have chatted with Heather and she will follow up with Linda Marsden (co-chair of the Lioness) to see if she might know how things are going with Council re: installing the sidewalk. Unfortunately, we won't be able to put in our beds until this is done. A letter has been sent to Rona to help with the lumber that we need and the high school has been contacted about making the beds. They also have other projects to finish first. Heather and I can't see that our planting time at the park will line up with these two issues. An option would be to go ahead and plant the two standing planters at Exeter United Church and maybe add a tub with herbs to the existing area. Linda T could you help with the timing of this and things that we could plant. There would be other people to help with the planting. This is not exactly what we had in mind but until we can get moved over to the park this might be the best route to go. If you have any other ideas or suggestions, please let me know. Hopefully, we can get together in the next couple of weeks to get something going.

Please keep in touch.

Lynda MW

2/26/2020 9:28am

Municipality Of South Huron
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures

Page 1

Revised Budget
For Operating/General (10)
For the Fiscal Period 2020-2 Ending February 29, 2020

| Account Number | | Current Budget | | Current Actual | | Annual Budget | | YTD Actual | | Remaining Budget % |
|--|---------------------------------|--------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|-------------------|-----------|---------------|--|-----------------------|
| Revenues | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10-519-5100-5515 | Communitis in Bloom - Tree Sal | \$ 308.33 | \$ | 0.00 | \$ | 3,700.00 | \$ | 0.00 | | 100.00% |
| 10-519-5100-5520 | Communities in Bloom - Brick Sa | 25.00 | | 0.00 | | 300.00 | | 0.00 | | 100.00% |
| Total Operating/General Revenues | | \$ 333.33 | \$ | 0.00 | \$ | 4,000.00 | \$ | 0.00 | | 100.00% |
| Expenditures | | | | | | | | | | |
| 10-519-5100-6602 | Communities in Bloom - General | \$ 791.67 | \$ | 0.00 | \$ | 9,500.00 | \$ | 0.00 | | 100.00% |
| Total Operating/General Expenditures | | \$ 791.67 | \$ | 0.00 | \$ | 9,500.00 | \$ | 0.00 | | 100.00% |
| Operating/General Excess of Revenues Over Expenditu | | \$ (458.34) | \$ | 0.00 | \$ | (5,500.00) | \$ | 0.00 | | 100.00% |

2/26/2020 9:28am

Municipality Of South Huron
Statement of Revenue and Expenditures
Revised Budget

Page 2

For the Fiscal Period 2020-2 Ending February 29, 2020

| Account Number | Current Budget | Current Actual | Annual Budget | YTD Actual | Remaining Budget % |
|--|-------------------|-------------------|------------------|---------------|-----------------------|
| Total Revenues | \$ 333.33 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 4,000.00 | \$ 0.00 | 100.00% |
| Total Expenditures | \$ 791.67 | \$ 0.00 | \$ 9,500.00 | \$ 0.00 | 100.00% |
| Total Excess of Revenues Over Expenditures | \$ (458.34) | \$ 0.00 | \$ (5,500.00) | \$ 0.00 | 100.00% |



HAVE YOUR SAY!!!!

South Huron is creating a **Community Safety and Well-Being Plan**. The Plan will set out how we work with the community and other agencies to improve the safety, health and well-being of the residents of South Huron. The Plan will be created with the other municipalities throughout Huron County and adapted to fit the needs of the residents of South Huron.



Community Safety and Well-Being issues such as education, health, housing, mental health, and addiction know no municipal borders, and it is important for us to work with others to address these issues, as well as any which may be specific to South Huron. This is why South Huron has partnered with the other lower-tier municipalities in Huron County to create and implement a collaborative, all-encompassing Plan.

The goal, in collaboration with community partners and residents, is to identify and prioritize current issues, enhance our collective ability to respond to issues and build on the many successful efforts that contribute to a strong sense of safety and well-being in our community.

Residents and business owners in South Huron are invited to complete the following survey:

<https://www.mysouthhuron.southhuron.ca/community-safety-and-well-being>

The survey results will form an important basis for our Plan. We encourage you to complete the survey and forward it to others in South Huron.

If you have any questions with respect to the Plan or the survey (which is completely anonymous), please do not hesitate to contact me.

Justin Finkbeiner

Administrative Assistant
Legislative Services / Clerk Department
Municipality of South Huron
322 Main Street South, Exeter
jfinkbeiner@southhuron.ca