



Corporation of the Municipality of South Huron
South Huron Communities in Bloom Committee
Minutes

Wednesday, September 6, 2017 – 6:30 p.m.
Verity Room, Olde Town Hall

Members Present:

Cathy Seip, Chair
Dorothy Henderson, Vice Chair
Glen Nicholson
Bev Prout
Craig Hebert

Guest:

Joan Cleave

Staff:

Dave Atthill

1. Meeting Called to Order

Cathy Seip, Chair called the meeting to order at 6:31 pm in the Verity Room at the Olde Town Hall.

2. Agenda Update

2.1 Detailed 2017 Budget to Council

3. Disclosure of Pecuniary Interest and the General Nature Thereof
None.

4. Approval of Minutes

4.1 Minutes of the South Huron Community in Bloom Committee Meeting of July 5, 2017.

Motion: 11-2017

Moved: C. Hebert

Seconded: G. Nicholson

That the minutes of the July 5, 2017 meeting are hereby approved as presented.

Disposition: Carried

5. Discussion

5.1 Barn Quilt Trail

Megan Goss has been awesome in helping with the pamphlet. Each 8" x 14" pamphlet will have a summary about the individual barn quilt stories. A full story description is online. To date, 34 quilts have signed up with write-ups.

The Barn Quilts will be put in the editorial section of the Times-Advocate newspaper. The quilt located at the Kirkton Community Centre, was the first one in the paper to promote the Kirkton Fair. The byline will show as South Huron Communities in Bloom and Municipality of South Huron.

Cathy suggested that a walking trail be created to showcase the Barn Quilts in Exeter.

A "Soft Launch" for the Barn Quilt Trail Pamphlet was suggested for September 24 or 29, 2017. Pamphlets are being printed at Town Hall, and we will figure out if they will be paid through Economic Development or Communities in Bloom budget. We are hoping to get help from the Cultural Collective Group for the "Soft Launch."

Motion: 12-2017
Moved: D. Henderson
Seconded: B. Prout

That the date recommendation for the "Soft Launch" be left, to be determined.

Disposition: Carried

5.2 Communities in Bloom Pamphlet

It was discussed that we should come up with a pamphlet that explains what Communities in Bloom is, what we do, the impact we have on the communities, and the 6 areas that are judged.

Dorothy will work on this and report back to the committee.

5.3 Zinnia Seeds

There was a discussion on the continuation of the Zinnia Seed Program.

We will continue to distribute the Zinnia Seeds, but the main concern is the management of the seeds being monitored better. The Home Show was a popular spot to receive the seeds, so we will continue to hand them out there.

5.4 Budget Review

We will continue to fund the flower barrels. There are 24 in total.

We need to review who is paying for the hanging baskets, and who is in charge of them.

We are going to add the Canada 150 Flag Garden, at Town Hall, to our budget. We believe that the design is patriotic and will keep this design.

The funding and costs for the Barn Quilt and Communities in Bloom Pamphlets need to be broken out. The printing costs need to be added to the budget. There was a \$1,500 donation from the Grand Bend Foundation towards the Barn Quilt Trail.

We have requested a detailed breakdown of the 2017 budget forecast and expenses.

5.5 Garden of the Week

Garden of the Week went over well this year. Bev has collected the pages from the back of each sign, and has sent some pictures to the Times-Advocate to put in the paper. Cathy is trying to put the pictures on our Facebook page.

There was some concern expressed about if the property owner be asked before the sign is put up or if we continue to surprise them with the award.

We discussed and decided that the Garden of the Week should continue for another year, but a suggestion to add a program for business involvement was recommended.

Motion: 13-2017
Moved: B. Prout
Seconded: C. Hebert

That we add the Best Business Blooming Box contest and continue to have the Garden of the Week (residential contest).

Disposition: Carried

5.6 Activities in Budget for 2018

5.6.1 Home Show Partnership

Having the presenters at the Home Show was a good idea, and we should continue on with this. We need a sound system for the presenters in the lobby. Dorothy will make a recommendation for some presenters to come.

5.6.2 Earth Day

Earth Day is April 20, 2018. This will be the Official Launch of the Barn Quilt Pamphlets at the Downtown Parkette.

We will continue the partnerships with the schools, downtown businesses, and other groups to pick-up garbage across town.

5.6.3 Community Garden

Craig is working on finding a spot for the garden. We should also look for partners for this project.

5.6.4 Back Yard Oasis

We would like to get involved in the back yard tours.

5.6.5 Dashwood Signs

Glen is going to work on the Dashwood signs on Bronson Line. He is going to clean it up and add flowers. He will approach the Bluewater rep for funding to enhance the signs.

5.7 Main Street Weeds

A number of businesses looked bad all year and during the judging. We are trying to figure out how to deal with this issue.

George Wilson's group did a clean-up, but we want to elevate businesses to a higher level.

Dorothy will draft a positive letter to be sent to the BIA to thank the businesses for cleaning up, and help encourage businesses to keep their store fronts looking amazing.

5.8 How to Involve the Youth?

We are trying to come up with suggestions of how to get the youth in our communities more involved.

We discussed hosting a youth night that is has a theme for appropriate ages. We need help from the schools and ABCA to get kids outside. We can seek out partnerships, but we will need the teachers and principal's cooperation.

We could also hold a garden planting segment for kids at the Home and Leisure Show. We could go to the schools before to promote and get the word out.

6. Communications

6.1 Soup for "Empty Bowls"

South Huron Communities in Bloom has been asked to make a soup for "Empty Bowls" for the Christian Reformed Church. Dorothy will make up the soup.

New Business

A. **Starting a Growing Contest**

There was a discussion on starting a growing contest involving zucchini or pumpkin in 2018.

7. Adjournment

Motion: 14-2017
Moved: D. Henderson
Seconded: C. Hebert

That the South Huron Communities in Bloom Committee hereby adjourns at 8:00 p.m., to meet again on October 4, 2017 at 5:00 p.m. in the Verity Room, Olde Town Hall or at the Call of the Chair.

Disposition: Carried

X 

Cathy Seip, Chair



David Atthill, Recording Secretary