



# COMMITTEE MINUTES

## COMMUNITIES IN BLOOM COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 7, 2023 @ 6:00 P.M.

Kingsville, Arena

**PRESENT:** Carol Dunn, Chair  
Thomas Neufeld, Council Liaison  
Janet Willoughby  
Heather Crewe  
  
Kristen Jeffs, Staff Liaison (Acting)  
  
Jesse Towle, Volunteer

**ABSENT:** Alan Batke, Vice Chair  
Carolyn Smith  
Karen Loney, Staff Liaison

### A. CALL TO ORDER

Carol Dunn called the Meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

### B. DISCLOSURE OF PECUNIARY INTEREST

- C. Dunn reminded the Committee that any declaration is to be made prior to items being discussed and to identify the nature of the conflict, if any, as the agenda items come forward.

### C. ADDITIONS TO THE AGENDA

- Thomas requested that Adopt A Greenway be added to the New and Unfinished Business portion of the agenda.

### D. STAFF REPORTS - Kristen Jeffs

- Committee of the Whole** – will meet on February 21, 2023, 6 PM, at the Kingsville Arena. Discussions will occur to determine Council Grants and the best governance structure for CIB.
- Bee City Update** – nothing new to report at this time.

- c. Scott's Gro for Good Grant Application – Jack Miner Migratory Bird Sanctuary** has applied to receive a *Gro For Good* Grant from Scott's Canada through the national level of Communities in Bloom for their project to construct five raised beds to be planted and maintained by local elementary schools, in addition to construction of a watering source and compost collection site.

Kingsville Communities in Bloom will support Jack Miner Migratory Bird Sanctuary in their application for a Scott's Canada *Gro For Good Grant* for their raised beds garden project.

Moved by Janet Willoughby  
Seconded by Thomas Neufeld

CARRIED

The staff report was received as presented.

Moved by Janet Willoughby  
Seconded by Thomas Neufeld

CARRIED

## E. MINUTES OF THE PREVIOUS MEETING

1. Communities in Bloom Committee Meeting Minutes — January 25, 2023  
Carol Dunn noted that under Section H, "to review the last two years of judging comments", it should read Gord, Janet, and Heather, not Gord, Janet, and Carol.

The minutes of the CIB meeting on January 25, 2023 were accepted as amended.

Moved by Heather Crewe  
Seconded by Thomas Neufeld

CARRIED

## F. NEW AND UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. **Closed Cemeteries Plantings** – Carol

The Committee discussed whether to proceed with planting native wildflowers in closed cemeteries. Benefits noted include consistency with CIB's support for creating pollinator habitat, as well as labour saving costs for the Town if the cemeteries no longer require mowing. It was decided to start with one closed cemetery as a pilot project this year, and the Pearl St. cemetery was selected. CIB will sow selected native plant seeds this spring. Species

selected for this project will be low maintenance, self-propagating and of limited height so as not to interfere with the view of the headstones.

Moved by Janet Willoughby  
Seconded by Heather Crewe

CARRIED

## 2. Review of Judges Recommendations – Heather / Janet

Heather Crewe reported on those portions of the 2022 Judge's Suggestions that are within the influence of the CIB Committee. The majority of the judge's suggestions are more closely aligned with Parks and Facilities and Public Works, with a few of the suggestions flagged for consideration by Special Events and Programs.

- ACTION – Karen Loney to circulate the spreadsheets of Judge's Suggestions that were distributed to the CIB Committee by Heather and Janet prior to the February 7 meeting, to her colleagues in Public Works and Parks and Facilities, for their implementation consideration contingent upon available staff and budget resources and previously set departmental priorities.

## 3. Work Plan Review

### a. Prioritization

CIB will work on the following projects in 2023:

- **Invasive Species Community Education Event**

In lieu of a repeat of the May 1, 2022 Year of the Garden event, CIB will hold a one-day Invasive Species Community Education Event on Saturday, May 27, 2023. The location to be confirmed, but Lakeside Pavilion would be the committee's first choice. The focus of the one-day event will be identification and local efforts to control invasive species. Potential topics, speakers and exhibitors to be discussed at the next CIB meeting.

- ACTION – Thomas will coordinate the event
- ACTION – Thomas will ask ERCA for topic and speaker recommendations
- ACTION – Heather will invite Ken Vegh to speak on Phragmites

- **Plant Sale**

CIB will help to promote the annual Horticultural Society Plant Sale, which takes place on Saturday May 14, 2023 at the Unico Centre. CIB will ask them for a table at the plant sale.

- **Adopt a Trail**

Thomas reported that there were three sections of the Greenway in town that are available for interested groups to adopt for a two year period, i.e. to gather trash several times per year. The committee chose Section CCG-17 which runs from Lansdowne to Park St.

- ACTION – Thomas will apply to ERCA for Section CCG-17 on behalf of CIB

Moved by Janet Willoughby  
Seconded by Heather Crewe

CARRIED

- **Sacred Healing Garden**

As an alternative to the *Walkways of Sacred Teachings* joint project between the Town and Caldwell First Nation that was originally proposed for the area in front of the Carnegie Building last year, the Committee will investigate the potential for establishing a Sacred Healing Garden at Lakeside Park. The garden project would be undertaken in partnership with Caldwell First Nation, and would feature local plants used in traditional medicine practices. The plants would be labelled with identification signage and QR codes to scan for further information about their traditional uses.

- ACTION – Heather will investigate whether there is interest on the part of Caldwell First Nation to undertake a project of this nature.

Moved by Thomas Neufeld  
Seconded by Janet Willoughby

CARRIED

- **Pumpkin Parade**

CIB will organize a Pumpkin Parade on November 1, 2023.

- **Canada Day**

CIB will participate in Kingsville's Canada Day celebrations and give out the native plants we planted from seed in January 2023.

- **Seedy Saturday**

CIB will participate as an exhibitor in the Seedy Saturday event being hosted by the Horticultural Society on Saturday, March 11, 2023 at the Unico Centre. The Committee's table will include the 50 remaining No Mow signs to distribute, as well as related CIB pamphlets and other literature.

- ACTION – Heather will request an exhibitor table on behalf of CIB at the next Horticultural Society Board meeting.

Moved by Thomas Neufeld  
Seconded by Janet Willoughby

CARRIED

- **Self-Watering Planters**

Following up on the CIB Judge's Suggestion that the Town install self-watering planters, the Committee will investigate the cost and feasibility of one or two self-watering hanging baskets as a pilot project. One potential online supplier is Equinox Environmental Products, based in Winnipeg [www.desertplanters.com](http://www.desertplanters.com)

- ACTION – Alan Batke will look into the cost of two self-watering hanging baskets for potential purchase by CIB.

Moved by Thomas Neufeld  
Seconded by Heather Crewe

CARRIED

- b. Development of work groups**

The Committee will form work groups on an *ad hoc* basis to undertake the projects we have identified to work on this year.

## G. NEXT MEETING DATE

1. The next meeting of the Communities in Bloom Committee will take place on March 7, 2022 at Kingsville Arena – Room C @ 6:00 P.M.



## COMMITTEE MINUTES

### H. ADJOURNMENT

The meeting was adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Moved by Janet Willoughby

Seconded by Thomas Neufeld

CARRIED

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**CHAIR, Carol Dunn**

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**RECORDING SECRETARY,  
Heather Crewe**