



Meeting Minutes DRAFT
Commercial Beautification Committee

May 27, 2021 | 7 p.m.
ZOOM meeting

Present: Scott Foerster, Courtney Hunter, Susan Papineau, Mary Lou Pfeffer, Becky Weltz

Staff: Vance Czerwinski, Kodey Hewlett, Laura Johnston

Regrets: Elizabeth MacKenzie

1. Call to Order by K. Hewlett at 7:09 p.m.
2. Declaration of Pecuniary Interest - none
3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes – Jan. 21, 2021
 - a. MOTION moved by Sue; Seconded by Becky. CARRIED.
4. Business arising from the minutes: None.
5. New Business:
 - a. Flower program 2021:
 - i. Hanging baskets: Kodey advised that delivery is about a week later than expected, and anticipated for either the week of June 7 or 14.
 - ii. Bridge baskets: At this point, flowers will be ready from Grannies for June 7. Due in part to the stay-at-home order and COVID protocols, Public Works summer students (under appropriate supervision) will plant the baskets instead of volunteers.

Vance advised that the Garafraxa Street Bridge in Durham will be under rehab construction through a provincial grant so there won't be an opportunity to hang baskets this summer. However, there are enough flowers on order to do planters and other beds. All other bridges will have the same amount of baskets as 2019.

Vance also advised that the Garafraxa Street Bridge will need new railings and the engineers are looking at something similar to the new bridge in Fergus. Construction will run into late fall (November likely).
 - iii. Garden Program: Public Works will take the lead on the garden

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program and Vance thanked the committee for the inventory list of gardens.

CBC committee members discussed some of the priority areas, including the tennis court “garden” in Durham.

Becky added that the BIA is concerned about being “garden ready” for the Durham 2022 Homecoming over the Canada Day long weekend. Staff advised that community groups can also advise council, in writing would be best, with their recommendations to be “homecoming ready”. Any correspondence should be sent to the municipal clerk.

The CBC enquired about a potential motion to make a recommendation to council, however, later learned that a staff report regarding the garden program can be prepared for the June 15th council meeting. The committee will be meeting on June 16th to review the results of the council meeting.

Further garden plans included a request to have more mulch, stones, annuals and extra planters for the gardens at the Ayton arena and in the core areas of Ayton. Marylou advised that the Busy Bees are prepared to maintain the gardens once it is safe to do so.

Regarding Neustadt, Scott shared some areas that should be taken care of and will follow up with an email of others.

Finally, the committee members discussed the potential to update their mandate and focus since they are interested in an advisory role regarding parks. Laura advised that the municipal clerk is visiting all West Grey committees to provide a training and information update and she would be happy to guide a discussion regarding the process to present a new mandate and structure.

- b. Bridge maintenance / inquiry
 - i. Becky had requested that this be added to the agenda to discuss the condition of the bridge railings in Durham. However, with the update of new railings, this matter is now resolved.
- c. Benches / downtown infrastructure
 - i. Kodey provided an update that a grant under the rural economic development (RED) program through the provincial ministry of rural affairs (OMAFRA) has been submitted for downtown furniture – including benches and new waste receptacles. It was also noted that the Durham BIA is interested in participating in this program and we will connect with the West Grey Durham Lions’ who are purchasing new benches for the Heritage Bridge park to ensure consistency in design.

- d. Banner program
 - i. The program is ready to launch sometime during the first week of June. A 'contest' – Build a Banner – will invite creative citizens to submit designs that represent "their West Grey" for a chance to be chosen for a banner design. There will be a fall theme and a spring theme and two designs for each season – one unique design from the community winner and the other with a standard design that will hang throughout West Grey to provide some continuity.
- 6. Correspondence

Kodey advised that, following on the update during the "Garden Program" agenda item, the clerk advised in writing that she would like to attend a future meeting. Kodey will confirm her attendance for the June 16 meeting.
- 7. Next meeting – June 16, 2021, 7 p.m. via zoom
- 8. Adjournment – at 8:23 p.m. Moved by Sue, seconded by Marylou. CARRIED.