

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Communities in Bloom Committee held Via Electronic Communications, in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Thursday, April 22, 2021, commencing at 6:00 PM.**

**Present:**

Helen Meyer, Chair  
Destiny Jefferies, Public-at-Large  
Johnny Dulku, Public-at-Large  
Victoria Ganace, Public-at-Large  
Nicole McMillan, Public-at-Large  
Sheila Lalonde, Councillor

**Absent:**

Qasim Malik, Vice Chair  
Ayesha Malik, Public-at-Large

**Administration:**

Sonia Soutter, Manager, Legislative Services  
Terra Brenneis, Program Manager, Public Works  
Seville Kwan, Department Administrator, Public Works  
Destiny Hilliard, Clerk, Legislative Services

**1. Call to Order**

Helen Meyer, Chair, called the Meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**MOTION**

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Victoria Ganace
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Destiny Jefferies
<b>FOR:</b>	Jefferies, Meyer, Dulku, Ganace, McMillan
<b>ABSENT:</b>	A. Malik, Q. Malik

### **3. Minutes of Previous Meetings**

#### **3.1. Communities in Bloom Committee Meeting - March 25, 2021**

THAT the minutes of the Communities in Bloom Committee Meeting held on March 25, 2021 be accepted as presented.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Nicole McMillan
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Victoria Ganace
<b>FOR:</b>	Jefferies, Meyer, Dulku, Ganace, McMillan
<b>ABSENT:</b>	A. Malik, Q. Malik

### **4. New and Unfinished Business**

#### **4.1. Downtown Revitalization Incentives Program - DRIP (Planning and Development)**

Isela Contreras-Dogbe, Supervisor, Susan Frampton, Planner III, and Jennifer Wardle, Planer III, Planning and Development, provided an update on Phase 2 of the Downtown Revitalization Incentives Program (DRIP) which was approved by Council at their April 13, 2021 meeting. It was noted that grant applications opened on April 19, 2021 and can be submitted online through the Municipal website. Further discussion was held regarding opportunities to collaborate with the Communities in Bloom Committee.

#### **4.2. Timberlea Public School Garden**

Helen Meyer, Chair, provided feedback about the meeting held with Timberlea Public School Council as there was interest in seeds for the school's community gardening boxes. It was noted that the school was provided with leftover seed packets from 2019 and will be provided with the 2021 Flower of The Year seeds when available. She also presented a drafted letter that will be sent to other schools in the community promoting the 2021 Flower of The Year.

The Committee discussed ways of distributing seeds to all interested schools in accordance with the current COVID-19 restrictions.

#### **4.3. igNIGHT Presentation Updates**

Helen Meyer, Chair, provided feedback on "The Flower of The Year" presentation at the April 8th igNIGHT artist information session, noting that the presentation included Communities in Bloom 2021 initiatives, Flower of the Year information, gardening tips, Communities in Bloom background information, and community gardening information.

#### 4.4. Community Clean Up Campaign

Victoria Ganace, Committee Member, spoke to her interest in the Communities in Bloom Committee becoming involved in the Municipal community clean-up program that runs from April to October and indicated that it would raise awareness for the Committee and contribute to the community's beautification. It was noted that registration for community cleanup, school cleanup and rural cleanup is available on the Municipal website.

#### 4.5. Nominate Your Neighbour

Nominate Your Neighbour commences on June 15. The Committee discussed ways to encourage participation from rural and urban residents, as well as local businesses.

Seville Kwan, Department Administrator, noted that the Communities in Bloom Committee is a recipient for the Miracle Gro Best Garden Selection program, and will be receiving twelve gardening packages to be given out to the community. Through discussion and consensus of the Committee, the prizes will be given away by random bi-weekly/weekly draws for homes and businesses that were recognized in the Nominate your Neighbour summer program.

Helen Meyer, Chair, noted that as Chair, she has been invited to an interview on "Fort McMurray Matters", airing on Mix 103.7 on Friday, April 30, to discuss Communities in Bloom and the Nominate Your Neighbor program to help promote the Committees initiatives.

#### 4.6. MOTION

THAT Communities in Bloom participate in an interview on Friday, April 30<sup>th</sup> with "Fort McMurray Matters" to promote the Nominate Your Neighbour program.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Helen Meyer
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Victoria Ganace
<b>FOR:</b>	Jefferies, Meyer, Dulku, Ganace, McMillan
<b>ABSENT:</b>	A. Malik, Q. Malik

#### 4.7. Flower of The Year Seed Distribution Updates

Seville Kwan, Department Administrator, provided an update on the Flower of The Year seeds noting that the seeds have arrived and once the packets arrive, the Committee will begin packaging and distribution.

It was noted that due to the increased COVID-19 cases in the Region, the seed distribution booth planned to take place at the Urban Market on April 25 has been

cancelled by Administration and Committee members. It was noted that further discussions will occur with respect to replacing the seed distribution event with others, and developing baskets of seeds for interested organizations and businesses.

With consensus, the Communities in Bloom Committee supports Administration moving forward with distributing seeds to school's within in the Region.

With consensus the Communities in Bloom Committee supports Administration to inquire including Flower of The Year seed packets with community clean-up packages during the month of May.

### **Adjournment**

The Meeting was adjourned at 7:32 p.m.

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Chair