

**Minutes of a Meeting of the Communities in Bloom Committee held at the South Operations Centre in Fort McMurray, Alberta, on Thursday, October 26, 2023, commencing at 6:00 PM.**

**Present:**

Nicole McMillan, Vice-Chair, Public-At-Large (Via MS Teams)  
Destiny Jefferies, Public-At-Large  
Romana Kashif, Public-At-Large  
Lindsey King, Public-At-Large  
Diane Zundel, Public-At-Large

**Absent:**

Helen Meyer, Chair  
Tammy Riel, Public-At-Large  
Loretta Waquan, Councillor

**Administration:**

Seville Kwan, Department Administrator, Public Works  
Sonia Soutter, Manager, Senior Legislative Officer, Legislative Services  
Destiny Gale, Clerk, Legislative Services

**1. Call to Order**

Nicole McMillan Vice-Chair called the meeting to order at 6:06 p.m.

**2. Adoption of Agenda**

**MOTION:**

THAT the Agenda be adopted as presented.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Diane Zundel
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Destiny Jefferies
<b>FOR:</b>	Jefferies, Kashif, King, McMillan, Zundel
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Meyer, Riel, Waquan

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

#### **3.1. Communities in Bloom Committee Meeting - August 24, 2023**

##### **MOTION:**

THAT the Minutes of the Communities in Bloom Meeting held on August 24, 2023 be approved as presented.

<b>RESULT:</b>	<b>CARRIED [UNANIMOUS]</b>
<b>MOVER:</b>	Romana Kashif
<b>SECONDER:</b>	Lindsey King
<b>FOR:</b>	Jefferies, Kashif, King, McMillan, Zundel
<b>ABSENT:</b>	Meyer, Riel, Waquan

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

#### **4.1. Communities in Bloom Symposium and Awards Debrief**

Seville Kwan, Department Administrator, gave a brief overview of the Communities in Bloom Symposium and Awards, noting that 82 registered delegates from countries including Hungary, Ireland, Italy, Republic of Korea, Slovenia, United Kingdom and throughout Canada were in attendance. It was further noted that the sponsors of the Communities in Bloom Program sent promotional material for the delegates, which included items from Custom Agricultural Intelligence Inc, Scotts, Ball Horticultural Company, Equinox and the Canadian Nursery Landscape Association.

Committee Members discussed the highlights and successes of the Symposium noting that delegates provided positive feedback on the events and the efforts of the Committee members that participated with welcoming delegates and hosting workshops.

It was further noted that Charlottetown, Prince Edward Island, will be hosting the 2024 Communities in Bloom Symposium and Awards.

#### **4.2. Nominate your Neighbour Winter Program**

Nicole McMillan, Vice-Chair, gave a brief overview of the 2023 Nominate your Neighbour Winter Program noting the program will run from November 15 - December 15, 2023. Seville Kwan, Department Administrator, further noted that the program packages will be created and available for Committee Members to collect at the next Committee Meeting.

Committee Members discussed various options for promoting this year's program, and noted that Lindsey King, Committee Member, will lead the 2023 program.

#### **4.3. 2024 Flower of the Year**

Seville Kwan, Department Administrator, noted that during the Communities in Bloom Symposium and Awards, Mayor Bowman announced orange as the 2024 flower colour of the year. The announcement was made in alignment with the National Day for Truth and Reconciliation. Additionally, Committee Members discussed options for orange flower of the year seeds for further review at a future committee meeting.

#### **4.4. Tulip Donation and Planting**

Seville Kwan, Department Administrator, noted that the National Capital Commission, a primary sponsor of National Communities in Bloom, donated 2800 orange tulips to the Regional Municipality of Wood Buffalo as a token of appreciation for hosting the 2023 Symposium. It was noted that these tulips will be shared with urban and rural service areas.

#### **4.5. 2024 Committee Goals and Objectives**

Committee Members discussed the Committees 2024 goals and objectives noting that Doug Barnes Cabin is currently booked for May 25, 2024 to host the Community Gardening Day event.

Committee members discussed plans and events for 2024. Participation in the Santa Clause Parade and Canada Day Parade was put forward for consideration and it was also suggested that a calendar of events for the Program be compiled. It was requested that Committee members put thought into the plans for 2024 and bring forward any ideas to the Committee for discussion at a future Committee meeting.

#### **4.6. November and December Committee Meeting Schedule**

Committee Members discussed the Committee's meeting schedule for November and December, noting that due to the scheduled recess period, the Committee will not have their December 28, 2023 meeting.

#### **4.7. Roundtable**

Seville Kwan, Department Administrator, noted the 2023 Christmas Parade will be on December 2, 2023. It was further noted, that the deadline for registering parade floats is November 20, 2023, should the Committee wish to join the parade. Committee members with appointment terms ending December 2023 were reminded to submit their applications should they be seeking reappointment.

## **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 7:55 p.m.

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Chair