

MINUTES OF THE HEARTLAND BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE MEETING
November 1, 2012

Present: Mayor Dick Richards, CEO Rob Stoutenberg, Councillor Peter Simons, Councillor Steven Wildeboer, Councillor Malcolm Fischer, Chairperson Rob Spencer, Director of Parks & Leisure Lee Penner, Secretary Danielle Kennedy, Will Brown, Grace Fix and Sue Anne Hennessey.

Call to Order: Chairperson Rob Spencer called the meeting to order at 12:06pm. Mayor Dick Richards congratulated and thanked the Beautification Committee for a job well done on the Communities in Bloom competition.

1. **Additions/Agenda Approval**

Moved by Chairperson Rob Spencer to approve the agenda as presented with the following addition:

- a. Look over the letter of concern-West Stettler Park.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

2. **Confirmation of the Oct. 4, 2012 HBC Meeting Minutes**

Moved by Chairperson Rob Spencer that the Minutes of the Oct.4, 2012 Heartland Beautification Committee Meeting be approved as presented with the following amendments:

- Correct spelling of Councillor Peter Simons name
- Environmental sub-committee is applying for a grant for walking signs not idling signs.
- Chairperson Rob Spencer wants to build a community orchard as well as another community gardens.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

3. **Business Arising**

None.

4. **Statement of Revenues & Expenses**

The Statement of Revenues and Expenses was presented. Moved by Chairperson Rob Spencer that the Statement of Revenue and Expenses be approved as presented.

MOTION CARRIED
Unanimous

5. **2012 Projects**

a. Banners

Tabled for next meeting.

b. Community Gardens

The Community Gardens are now closed for the year. Chairperson Rob Spencer is going to be looking at new sites for another Community Gardens in the near future. Chairperson Rob Spencer spoke of putting restrictions on the Community Gardens in 2013 such as 1 plot per household and will be making the plots a little smaller so that there will be more opportunities for those who haven't had a chance to use the Community Gardens. Chairperson Rob Spencer stated that the Community Gardens were very successful this year.

c. Communities in Bloom

The Beautification Committee has decided to compete in the Communities in Bloom competition again in 2013 as they feel it's a good tool to show the Committee how the Town of Stettler is improving. Chairperson Rob Spencer put together a chart on the Town of Stettler marks that have been received from Communities in Bloom and the Town of Stettler has improved every year since starting the competition.

d. Environmental Action Sub-committee

Grace Fix stated that the committee put an ad in the Stettler Independent thanking TD Canada Trust for the grant money for the bike racks that are placed in different places around Town. Grace Fix showed the committee what her idea for the walking signs will look like and Director of Parks and Leisure Lee Penner said there have been a few requests for signs that tell a person how long it takes to get somewhere on the walking paths. Grace Fix wants to aware people of idling their vehicles especially outside of the schools so she has contacted the schools to see what they thought and they think it's a good idea to post signs to make people aware. Grace Fix visited Christ King Catholic

School to let them know about the projects the Environmental Sub-committee is working on. Grace Fix told the committee she would like to put up six signs this year and each sign will cost \$100.00 plus the cost of installation. Will Brown asked at what point will we have too many signs that it will make the Town of Stettler ugly? A few of the committee members stated that they were concerned that there are already enough signs around the school area. Director of Parks & Leisure Lee Penner suggested that we get people aware of idling on the Town of Stettler website. Grace Fix said she will be doing a follow up on the Bring Your Own Bag Campaign just before Christmas and she will also be making new signs up for the campaign.

e. Heritage Conservation Sub-committee

Will Brown stated that the committee is working with Museum Curator to get more information for the virtual tour they are working on.

f. Increase Awareness of Committee/Projects & Encouraging Youth Participation

Tabled for next meeting

g. Website Town Pages HBC & Sub-Committees

Tabled for next meeting

h. Off Season Projects

Tabled for next meeting

i. Letter of Concern- West Stettler Park

The Beautification Committee looked over a letter of concern regarding a few different concerns that a Stettler resident has about the lighting, long grass and the possibility of using a wind turbine to aerate the pond. Director of Parks and Leisure stated that he has looked in to solar lights for West Stettler Park and the Parks and Leisure Office also purchased one light but it does not give off a lot of light so Parks and Leisure is waiting for technology in solar lighting to advance. Director of Parks and Leisure Lee Penner also said that he has a video about West Stettler Park and it's history that he would be more than willing to share with the resident and suggested we have the resident come to a Beautification meeting. Will Brown agreed that we should invite the concerned resident to a Beautification meeting.

Councillor Simons stated that there are going to be people that like the long grass and others that do not.

CEO Rob Stoutenberg spoke of the long grass being a natural filter for water bodies.

Grace Fix mentioned that the Beautification Committee is trying to get away from perfectionism so the community understands that natural is beauty.

Director of Parks and Leisure Lee Penner stated that the area where the long grass is had very poor soil, the roots from the long grass has given us much better soil there for our trees to grow. Director of Parks and Leisure Lee Penner also mentioned he will research the idea of a turbine windmill.

8. **Next Meeting:** December 6, 2012

9. **Adjournment:** The meeting was adjourned on a motion by Chairperson Rob Spencer at 1:06p.m.