



## **Clean, Green and Beautiful Committee Meeting Minutes**

**Wednesday, January 22, 2025, 10:04 a.m.**

**McNaughton Room - 3rd Floor, City Hall**

### **1. Clean, Green and Beautiful Committee Meeting 01-2025**

Chair: Stephen Margarit

### **2. Members**

Councillor Rajni Agarwal, City Council  
Kyle Jessiman, Medium Business Representative  
Stephen Margarit, Large Business Representative  
Peter Mersch, Landscape Design  
Andy Puiatti, Architectural  
Andrei Rosario, Youth Representative  
Kennedy Bucci, Eco Superior  
Heidi Strobl, Heritage Advisory Committee  
Jason Veltri, Citizen Representative  
Albert Viljoen, Citizen Representative

### **3. Officials**

Louisa Costanzo, Manager - Community Safety & Well-Being  
Laurie Abthorpe, Cultural Development & Public Art Coordinator  
Lori Wiitala, Committee Clerk/Legislative Specialist

### **4. Guests**

Werner Schwar, Supervisor - Parks & Open Spaces  
Guy Walter, Landscape Architect - Parks & Open Spaces

**5. Welcome and Disclosures of Interest**

Councillor Rajni Agarwal declared a conflict of interest relative to the Fort William BIA Street Lighting Project - Request for Reallocation of Funds as she is a member of the Fort William BIA.

**6. Election of Chair and Vice-Chair**

Nominations for the positions of Chair and Vice-Chair of the Clean, Green & Beautiful Committee for 2025.

Committee Clerk/Legislative Specialist Lori Wiitala administered nominations for Chair of the Clean, Green & Beautiful Committee for 2025.

Councillor Rajni Agarwal nominated Stephen Margarit for the role of Chair, there were no other nominations for the role of Chair and Stephen Margarit was acclaimed for the 2025 calendar year, or until such time a replacement has been appointed.

Councillor Rajni Agarwal nominated herself for the role of Vice-Chair, there were no other nominations for the role of Vice-Chair and Councillor Rajni Agarwal was acclaimed for the 2025 calendar year, or until such time a replacement has been appointed.

The newly appointed Chair, Stephen Margarit, assumed the position for the remainder of the meeting.

**7. Agenda Approval**

MOVED BY: Heidi Strobl  
SECONDED BY: Kyle Jessiman

WITH RESPECT to the January 22, 2025, meeting of the Clean, Green and Beautiful Committee, we recommend that the agenda as printed, including any additional information and new business, be confirmed.

CARRIED

**8. Minutes of Previous Meeting**

The Minutes of Meeting 07-2024 of the Clean, Green and Beautiful Committee, held on December 11, 2024, to be confirmed.

MOVED BY: Andrei Rosario

SECONDED BY: Jason Veltri

THAT the Minutes of Meeting 07-2024 of the Clean, Green and Beautiful Committee, held on December 11, 2024, be confirmed.

CARRIED

## 9. Review of City Projects Presentation

Supervisor - Parks & Open Spaces Werner Schwar and Landscape Architect Guy Walter provided a presentation on the City of Thunder Bay completed and ongoing projects.

Vickers Park Playground - the inclusive play hub project was deferred from 2023 and was completed July 2024. New features include accessibility for all users, a poured rubber surface, sensory play areas, adult fitness equipment, and roll-up access to many play elements.

In partnership with Lakehead Region Conservation Authority (LRCA), Fort William First Nation (FWFN) and North Shore Remedial Action Plan (RAP), planting initiatives took place at Fisherman's Park West, Mountdale Boat Launch and Boulevard Wetland.

Indigenous Engagement - put on hold due to staff transitions.

North Water Street Lookout - Phase 1 is complete.

Marina Park - festival grounds renewal is underway, a push for nature-based solutions drove the design, and will include the following;

- turn around for busses
- playground renewal
- move the stage to where the current playground is located
- secondary or stand-alone stage
- Camelot parking lot renewal
- increase spectator capacity to 15,000
- Gateway building will be a heated facility
- vendor row will have electricity and water hook-ups
- water filling stations
- Pond Pavillion buildings will receive sanitary and water upgrades
- storm and rainwater management component
- full waterfront trail, multi-use and accessible

- all-year access to heated washrooms during park hours, and seasonal restroom facilities
- raised roof viewing access
- sliding hill in winter months

The goal is to achieve the above-noted by end of 2027.

#### Pool 6

- Planting and Stormwater Plan Project in partnership with the City of Thunder Bay, LRCA and RAP is underway.
- Shoreline Stabilization and Indigenous Planting
- Habitat Restoration Project: Phase 2 Wetland Park - the funding application for Environment and Climate Change Canada's Great Lakes Freshwater Ecosystem Initiative was successful
- Wetland Park: Phase 1 & 2

Centennial Conservatory Project - currently in Phase 2 - renewal of Conservatory under re-construction; the outdoor event and venue space project has a proposed 2025 start date.

#### Projects scheduled for 2025-2026

- Education, engagement and signage initiative with LRCA, FWFN, and RAP.
- Mountdale Pavilion Building - Stormwater/Rainwater Management - potential for CGB sponsorship on this project.
  - the existing overlook and dock structure are not funded

#### Projects not funded by CGB

- Mission Park, Wasco Park and North Neebing Park all received LED lighting upgrades.
- In partnership with EcoSuperior, Cherry Park was de-paved.
- Working with Henderson Signs on a WWI interpretive display project.
- Wayfinding Centennial Park
- Chippewa Carousel Enclosure
  - 2 accessible washrooms
  - connected to pavillion
  - engagement for the interpretive display; working with Friends of Chippewa Park and Save the Chippewa Carousel, the tender to go out in late February, with late fall as a tentative construction start date.

James Whalen Tug - tender closes the 1<sup>st</sup> week of February; looking to salvage the upper and lower decks for display at Pool 6 and Fisherman's Park.

Vickers Park - the Public Art Committee put out a call to artists to design integrated art frames; the project will move ahead in the spring. An application for funding for an accessible washroom is still being considered. It was recommended to provide benches in the winter to accommodate skaters changing to use the skating loop.

Waverley Park and Patterson Park Fountain upgrades - Parks & Open Spaces Planning and the Engineering Department will work in collaboration with other projects to offset cost of repairs to both fountains. The committee expressed interest to contribute to the Waverley Park Fountain project and will discuss at the February meeting.

**10. EcoSuperior 30th Anniversary - Painted Rain Barrel Silent Auction Sponsorship**

A discussion was held relative to EcoSuperior's 30th Anniversary, and the potential for Clean, Green & Beautiful to sponsor the Painted Rain Barrel Silent Auction. The following recommendation was provided.

MOVED BY: Kyle Jessiman  
SECONDED BY: Peter Mersch

WITH RESPECT to the request from EcoSuperior dated December 16, 2024, requesting sponsorship funding towards the 30th Anniversary Painted Rain Barrel Silent Auction event, we recommend contributing \$1000 from the Awards & Public Awareness budget for the event.

CARRIED

**11. Review of Committees Terms of Reference and Policy**

The committee discussed the Terms of Reference and the following changes were recommended.

MOVED BY: Heidi Strobl  
SECONDED BY: Jason Veltri

WITH RESPECT to the Clean, Green & Beautiful Committee Terms of Reference (TOR), we recommend that the Ministry of Tourism, Culture & Sport Representative and Labour Representative positions be changed to Citizen Representatives.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: Andrei Rosario

SECONDED BY: Jason Veltri

WITH RESPECT to the Clean, Green & Beautiful Committee TOR, we recommend that the following paragraphs be added under Roles and Responsibilities:

‘Members are expected to participate in Advisory Committee meetings and be actively engaged in the planning and execution of program activities and initiatives.

Members are expected to attend all regularly scheduled meetings of the Committee as is reasonably possible, advising the Committee Clerk or Chair, in advance of any absence. Should a member fail to attend three consecutive meetings, the appointment to the Committee will be subject to review. Members who miss four meetings in a year without cause will be removed from the Committee.’

CARRIED

MOVED BY: Jason Veltri

SECONDED BY: Councillor Rajni Agarwal

WITH RESPECT to the Clean, Green & Beautiful TOR, we recommend that quorum for meetings be 50% plus 1 voting members to be in attendance.

CARRIED

MOVED BY: Peter Mersch

SECONDED BY: Jason Veltri

WITH RESPECT to the Clean, Green & Beautiful TOR, under Resources & Finances, we recommend amending paragraph 2 as follows:

‘The Office of the City Clerk will act as Clerk to the Committee and provide support including co-ordinating the distribution of agendas and minutes, correspondence to and on behalf of members, and booking of meeting rooms etc. Administrative support will be provided by the Manager - Community Safety & Well-Being and the Director - Strategy & Engagement.’

CARRIED

MOVED BY: Councillor Rajni Agarwal

SECONDED BY: Peter Mersch

WITH RESPECT to the Clean, Green & Beautiful TOR, under Deliverables we recommend that the following paragraph be added:

The Clean, Green & Beautiful logo and the City of Thunder Bay logo will be included on all outgoing correspondence.

CARRIED

The Committee recommended including that 'All correspondence will be addressed by the Chair of the Committee'; after discussion with Administration, it was advised that most of the correspondence will come from the Chair of the committee, and when appropriate, correspondence will come from Administration.

The committee discussed adding 'Thunder Bay' to the Clean, Green & Beautiful logo; Supervisor - Corporate Communications & Community Engagement will attend an upcoming meeting to discuss changes to the logo.

**12. Review of High School and Emerging Projects Application Forms and Final Report Documents**

The Committee reviewed the Emerging Projects and High School application forms and final report document.

The committee recommended including both the City of Thunder Bay and the Clean, Green & Beautiful logos to the Emerging Projects and High School Projects application form for consistency.

The committee will discuss the documents further at the February meeting, due to time constraints.

**13. Fort William BIA Street Lighting Project - Request for Reallocation of Funds**

Email correspondence received from Fort William BIA (FWBIA) Executive Director Raechel Reed, dated December 10, 2024, requesting that the committee consider approving the request to reallocate the street lighting funds to an alternate street light initiative.

The committee discussed the correspondence received from the FWBIA and the following recommendation was presented.

MOVED BY: Peter Mersch

SECONDED BY: Jason Veltri

WITH RESPECT to the email correspondence received from FWBIA Executive Director Raechel Reed, dated December 10, 2024, we recommend that the funds be redirected to the new Street Lighting proposal, adding secondary lighting posts to the existing poles, and directing the light poles towards the sidewalk.

CARRIED

#### **14. Public Art Committee Update**

Daniel Hansen to provide an update relative to Public Art Committee.

Laurie Abthorpe, Cultural Development & Public Art Coordinator provided an update on the Public Art Committee.

Snow Day event is scheduled for Monday, February 17, 2025 and will include snow sculpture creations. There is 'No Snow, No Problem' programming available if there is a lack of snow.

The Arts & Heritage Awards will be held on Thursday, October 23, 2025 at Magnus Theatre.

#### **15. Heritage Advisory Committee Update**

No update was available.

#### **16. Round Table and Announcements**

The committee discussed the Chamber of Commerce Business Excellence Awards for 2025, it was identified that nominations are open and the Clean, Green & Beautiful did not receive any correspondence about the event to date; further discussion will be held at the February meeting.

#### **17. Next Meeting**

The Clean, Green & Beautiful Committee Meetings will be held the 4th Wednesday of each month, with the exception of July and August, in the McNaughton Room, at 10:00 a.m., unless otherwise noted, as follows:



- Wednesday, February 26, 2025
- Wednesday, March 26, 2025
- Wednesday, April 23, 2025
- Wednesday, May 28, 2025
- Wednesday, June 25, 2025
- Wednesday, September 24, 2025
- Wednesday, October 22, 2025
- Wednesday, November 26, 2025
- Wednesday, December TBD

**18. Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 11:59 p.m.