

**VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS
Communities in Bloom Committee
Minutes**

DATE: Wednesday, February 25, 2026
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers, Village Office
495 Hot Springs Road, Harrison Hot Springs, BC

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Allan Jackson, Chair
Susan Caley (at 9:05 a.m.)
Janice Moffat
Teresa Omelus
Margaret Shier

MEMBERS ABSENT: Susan Galvao

STAFF PRESENT: Corporate Officer, Amanda Graham
Jace Hodgson, Director of Operations (until 9:48 a.m.)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Councillor Jackson called the meeting to order at 9:02 a.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Councillor Jackson acknowledged the traditional territory of Sts'ailes.

3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

Teresa Omelus requested to add "CIB Anniversary Tree" as item for discussion 6(f).

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Teresa Omelus
Seconded by Margaret Shier

THAT the agenda be approved as amended with the addition of the late item.

CARRIED
CIB-2026-02-01

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Margaret Shier
Seconded by Janice Moffat

THAT the Communities in Bloom Committee Meeting Minutes of January 22, 2026 be adopted.

CARRIED
CIB-2026-02-02

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(a) Fundraiser: West Coast Seeds, March 1-22, 2026

Staff advised that the Village recently started advertising the fundraiser on the website, social media and notice boards and sent it directly to the Harrison Community Gardens. The school also included it in their newsletter to parents earlier this week. The Committee was given pamphlets and papers to hand out to potential sponsors and people who might like to purchase seeds. Staff will create a list of businesses organized by location for the Committee to take as teams for door-to-door canvassing. After the seed fundraiser, the Village will also promote the sponsorship packages. The Committee noted that it would be nice to provide "Proud Supporter of Communities in Bloom" window stickers to sponsors and post their pictures on the website or social media pages.

(b) Earth Day in May: May 2, 2026 9:00 a.m. to 12:00 p.m., Memorial Hall

The Committee plans to have a table at the event and discussed the following:

- Selling succulents and other plants that Margaret Shier is growing
- Ordering extra seeds to sell at the event
- Having a raffle draw and obtaining a Gaming License
- Checking with the Environmental Committee to see whether CIB can run a concession by donation
- Having a workshop on the therapeutic benefits of gardening and incorporating mental health
- Providing recipe cards on how to use edible flowers
- Having a water fountain at the table

(c) Garden of the Week Update

Staff advised that they have applied for the Garden of the Week program with Scott's Miracle Gro and are awaiting a response. The Committee discussed varying the criteria to consider rock gardens, drought tolerant plants, or environmentally friendly plants, having the community submit photos to draw out people who might not otherwise participate, advertising it to target people who live in stratas and have patio gardens, and having special categories for kids or repurposed gardens.

(d) 2026 Gardening Projects:

- Lagoon Garden Bed Planting: Staff presented an idea for a red and white soccer ball to incorporate the FIFA World Cup. The Committee expressed support for this and for organizing another community planting day.
- Weed and Feed Events: The Committee expressed support for this idea and discussed union considerations and the summer student role.

(e) 2026 To-Do List

Staff will continue to update the to-do list and incorporate it into future agenda packages to keep the Committee informed on both the status of tasks and which ones require further support from the Committee.

(f) CIB Anniversary Tree

The Committee discussed the CIB anniversary Rose of Sharon/Hibiscus tree and where to plant it. Peace Park was originally selected to beautify the southern area of the Village, as the beachfront is usually the main focus. The Committee agreed to plant it in Peace Park. This will take place early in the spring and will be promoted as a community event.

(g) Next Meeting Date: March 25, 2026 9:00 a.m.

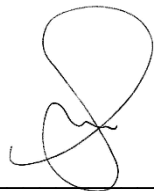
7. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Margaret Shier

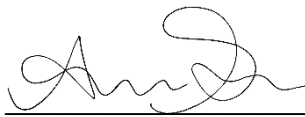
Seconded by Teresa Omelus

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:59 a.m.

CARRIED
CIB-2026-02-03



Councillor Allan Jackson, Chair
Communities in Bloom Committee



Amanda Graham
Corporate Officer