

**VILLAGE OF HARRISON HOT SPRINGS
Environmental Advisory Committee
Minutes**

DATE: Wednesday, March 11, 2026
TIME: 9:00 a.m.
PLACE: Council Chambers, Village Office
495 Hot Springs Road, Harrison Hot Springs, BC

MEMBERS PRESENT: Councillor Mark Schweinbenz (Chair)
Mayor Fred Talen (ex-officio)
Susan Galvao
Paul Kandt (via Zoom)

MEMBERS ABSENT: John DeMartin

STAFF PRESENT: Corporate Officer, Amanda Graham
Director of Operations, Jace Hodgson (until 9:25 a.m.)

1. CALL TO ORDER

Chair Schweinbenz called the meeting to order at 9:00 a.m.

2. LAND ACKNOWLEDGEMENT

Chair Schweinbenz acknowledged the traditional territory of Sts'ailes.

3. INTRODUCTION OF LATE ITEMS

4. APPROVAL OF THE AGENDA

Moved by Susan Galvao
Seconded by Paul Kandt

THAT the agenda be approved.

CARRIED
EAC-2026-03-01

5. ADOPTION OF MINUTES

Moved by Susan Galvo
Seconded by Paul Kandt

THAT the Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes of February 11, 2026 be adopted.

CARRIED
EAC-2026-03-02

6. ITEMS FOR DISCUSSION

(a) Report from February 17, 2026 Regular Council Meeting

The Corporate Officer advised that the Committee's request to be consulted on any proposals for recreational use of the East Sector was approved by Council.

(b) Lillooet Avenue West Landscape Plan

The Director of Operations provided information on the plan, noting the following:

- The goal is to create a pedestrian friendly area to draw foot traffic from Esplanade Avenue while also formalizing parking stalls
- The Village is still currently finalizing the design as there are budgetary and drainage considerations that require the plans to be altered
- Due to drainage issues, the bumpouts will no longer be possible, however, the Village is exploring other options at the crosswalks such as flexible bollards, painting the ground to highlight the crosswalk or concrete planters
- Traffic will be slowed as the road will become narrower when vehicles are parked parallel along it
- The tree species are Crab Apple and Japanese Zelkova and have been reviewed by the Village's horticulturist
- Due to cost and maintenance from vehicle traffic, the river painting will not extend over the road
- Wood from the oak trees that were removed from the area will be repurposed and reused as part of this project
- There are challenges with putting in raised sidewalks and crosswalks due to existing grades, cost and impacts to other areas of the design as a result
- There will be six fewer parking stalls in this area, however, data from pay parking shows the area is underutilized for parking due to confusion over whether you can park in gravel areas
- The Village is engaging and working closely with businesses in the area to address their concerns and provide the opportunity for them to work in improvements to their own pavers at the same time

(c) Earth Day in My Update

The Corporate Officer advised that the following groups have confirmed their attendance:

- FireSmart Representative
- Wild Bluebell
- Wild Safe
- Fraser Valley Invasive Species Society
- Miami River Streamkeepers
- Communities in Bloom

Call 2 Recycle and Agassiz Bottle Depot, which supports battery recycling, cannot attend. The Committee confirmed their willingness to accept batteries and take them to the Agassiz Bottle Depot.

The Committee indicated its support for Wild Bluebell to put on a sourdough bread making workshop, and for Communities in Bloom to operate a concession with coffee and snacks. The Committee requested that GFL and BC Timber Sales also be contacted. It was noted that Earthwise Society has a speaker putting on several series at their facility and Susan will connect with them. The Committee approved the participation of two vendors, one who sells driftwood products and the other faux leather gifts. The theme this year for Communities in Bloom is therapeutic gardening and the CIB Committee will be exploring a few workshop options at their March 25, 2026 meeting.

(d) Adopt a Road Policy

The Committee requested to defer this to a future meeting and refer this to the Communities in Bloom Committee for comment.

(e) Civic Campus

The Corporate Officer advised that as part of the engagement plan for the Civic Campus proposal, the Village is currently working the School District to find a date and time in May for a public engagement event. The idea is to have an open space concept event that is focused on community dialogue and conversation take place at the school. The Village's Accessibility and Age-Friendly Committees have indicated interest in attending to discuss their perspectives on the project. Staff will let the Committee know once a date has been finalized so that any interested members can attend as representatives of the Environmental Advisory Committee.

7. ADJOURNMENT

Moved by Susan Galvao
Seconded by Paul Kandt

THAT the meeting be adjourned at 9:57 a.m.

CARRIED
EAC-2026-03-03



Councillor Mark Schweinbenz, Chair
Environmental Advisory Committee



Amanda Graham
Corporate Officer