



## Harriston Rising Committee Minutes

Monday, May 6, 2024

8:00 a.m.

LaunchIt Minto

Members Present: Kathie Butcher, John Mock, Chair Lisa Leslie, Councillor Ed Podniewicz, and Caitlin Loughran

Staff Present: Erin Raftis, Marketing & Community Development Coordinator

1. **Call to Order at 8:02 a.m.**
2. **Minutes of Previous Meeting**
  - a. Minutes of February 1, 2024 Steering Committee Meeting

### **MOTION**

**Moved by: Kathie Butcher Seconded by: Lisa Leslie**

**THAT the Harriston Rising committee approve the minutes of the February 1<sup>st</sup>, 2024 meeting.**

**CARRIED.**

3. **Roundtable Discussion**
  - a. 2024 Budget Update

Raftis provided an update on the budget as of April 30<sup>th</sup>, 2024. The committee received \$250 from Bean Growers Ontario and \$250 from the Mushroom Growers Association to support the Chili Cook-Off. The event received \$514 in donations. The new sponsorship program has received \$707.96 in Teal Packages and \$265.49 in Pink Packages. Kathie Butcher added that 5 sponsorships were sold in total, and several businesses also purchased individual summer and winter planters. In 2024, the committee has spent \$1,024.52 on Chili Cook-Off, Easter event, and the DJ for Halloween Haunt, leaving \$5,664.77 remaining in the operating budget. There is \$4000 in capital expenses yet to be allocated.

b. Beautification Update

Kathie Butcher updated summer planter sales, noting 35 were purchased, which aligns with the typical number purchased each summer.

Raftis updated that the metal entrance sign enhancements and sidewalk stencils need repainted. Raftis will coordinate with Mock for paint and stencils. The committee asked to consider bringing the sign décor in during the winter to help with the longevity of the project.

The group noted previous ideas for capital projects including metal poppies in Cenotaph Park and a light up Harriston sign, both of which were decided against due to cost and length of time/prominence of location displayed.

Butcher shared, on behalf of the Beautification committee, an idea to decorate the alleyway between the Grey Wellington Theatre Guild and Homestyle Bites as “Umbrella Alley”. The committee expressed concerns about the umbrellas fading and therefore the ongoing expenses to upkeep this project. Instead, the committee recommended hanging strings of Edison light bulbs through the alley to add lighting. This project would also include seating (potentially large spool standing tables with umbrellas), decorating the fence with greenery, adding a small mural, and potentially games like hopscotch on the ground. Raftis will investigate the ownership of the alleyway, the possibility of hanging hooks on the Town Hall building, and get a quote for power on the outside of the building if permitted (which the group agreed was preferable to solar lighting). Mock will get quotes for greenery and light bulbs, and the committee agreed to reconvene via email.

Butcher also mentioned potentially refurbishing the wooden benches in the Cenotaph Park and Tannery Park. Councillor Podniewicz suggested reaching out to the Harriston Kinsmen for assistance. The committee also recommended asking Timber Mart.

c. Events Committee Update

Butcher reported that the Egg Scramble was successful. She shared that in 2025, the event will remain at the Arena but the time will be adjusted to be 10am - 12pm, and there will be no lunch, and instead light snacks.

The Chili Cook-Off was also well-received and made profit thanks to the sponsorship by Bean Growers Ontario & the Mushroom Growers Association.

Raftis shared the outline for the Harriston Rising Street Party. The committee agreed to donate our Makers’ Market fees to the MRI Campaign. Lisa Leslie asked about hiring a second face painter to reduce lines at the event and recommended reaching out to Tegwyn Kelly. Raftis shared that Top Shop Interactive from Guelph reached out with sports related activities to bring to events. The committee agreed to look into this instead of a magician and inflatable for this year. Raftis will connect for additional quotes and guidelines. Raftis will also connect with food trucks for the event. Leslie updated that Homestyle Bites will

cater the street dinner. They will create a few menu options for our price point and Leslie will send to the group to make the final call.

Butcher added that Hometown Christmas will be slightly altered to include no Makers' Market. They will have kid's activities from 11am-3pm and adult activities from 3pm-7pm.

Butcher also shared that the Agricultural Society asked if we could donate merch for the Ambassador Competition, but the committee agreed that it was not in our capacity this year.

**5. Adjournment at 9:04 p.m.**