

ELM GROVE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

June 7th, 2023

Present: Deb Baesemann, Katie Forecki, Becky Rintelmann, Anne Spalholz, Nicci Sternitzky

1. Call meeting to order: Meeting brought to order at 6:32 pm.
2. Minutes: Last meeting minutes with no changes.
3. Treasurer report: totals reported to group. So far in 2023~\$4155.95 in expenses and \$8831.30 in revenue. Discussed future purchases—additional tent and HDMI cord for lectures approved, possible microphone for lecture, possible signage for ISTF.
4. Bird City WI: next meeting for Birders of the Grove is July 10th at 0900 in the Park View Room. Shared Bird City renewal application with everyone.
5. Bee City USA: Nearly every event we sponsor and hold is in support of this designation. Discussed Hoppe Tree Service mosquito program.
6. Book Sale: sold another 2 books at E&A Day event—only 3 books left to sell. One Nature's Best Hope and 2 Bringing Nature Home.
7. Book Club: Will do just 4 book clubs next season—Sept = Dan Egan's The Devil's Element, Nov=Michael Pollan's The Botany of Desire, Jan = Josh Tickell's Kiss the Ground, and March =Richard Louv's Last Child in the Woods.
8. Invasive Species Task Force: Have 42 people signed up to receive emails. Beautification Committee has official membership in SWISC (SE WI Invasive Species Consortium). Discussed where within the village to work, what to focus on, and whether or not we needed more equipment.
9. Early/Woodland plant sale: Will do again in 2024—will have fewer choices and will offer a mixed flat for people to purchase.
10. June 3rd plant sale: sold 1006 native plants in total (566 in 2022). Total sales of \$5069.29 after taxes taken out (\$3351.90 in 2022). Discussed having sale next year the Saturday before Memorial Day. Will ask about getting the option to have a Square for people to pay with.
11. Lecture series: 2023-24 lecture series complete and ready. Need to consider a back-up for possible cancellation. Discussed purchase of HDMI cord and will also look into a possible microphone for speaker use.
12. National Wildlife Federation Community Habitat Certification: currently have 29/30 points for our 2023 recertification. Working to mentor Brookfield, Wauwatosa, Pewaukee, and hopefully New Berlin. Becky had idea that perhaps Mary Fischman would be able to connect communities through the project.
13. Mayors' Monarch Pledge: our village president took the pledge on 3/8/23 committing to 24 of the 29 actions. Have completed 17 of them (many of them things the committee has already done), but the remaining 7 will take a lot more time and energy. May take an additional year of work to complete.
14. Fall tree sale: discussed staying with potted trees for tree sale. Have list of trees from Johnson Nursery that come in #5 pot and are native. Jamis has document of pre-settlement trees. Will cross reference to come up with list of trees to offer. Anne will get article written for newspaper to promote.
15. No Mow May: distributed signs to 69 homes. Discussed alternatives for 2024. Will share ILCA infographic.
16. Adopt-A-Spot: discussed idea to encourage families, groups, and businesses to adopt and care for a public space. Guidelines and Application shared with the group.
17. Group Goals: discussed looking at our 1, 3, and 5 year goals list for revision at next meeting.
18. Publicity: Anne wrote article for June newspaper and had great idea for July. Committee will be featured in August Elm Leaves
19. Next meeting: scheduled for July 5th at 6:30pm in the Park View Room
20. Adjournment: 7:38 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Nicci Sternitzky
chairperson