

ELM GROVE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
July 5th, 2023

Present: Deb Baesemann, Jamis Bruening, Amy Forecki, Katie Forecki, James, Lange, 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~\$8152.62 in expenses and \$9313.58 in revenue. Discussed future purchases—additional tent and HDMI cord for lectures approved, possible microphone for lectures.
4. Bird City WI: next meeting for Birders of the Grove is July 10th at 0900 in the Park View Room. Discussed Lights Out migration timing.
5. Bee City USA: Nearly every event we sponsor and hold is in support of this designation. Pulled up Bee City webpage to show the 6 commitments for the designation. Discussed how to work on decreased pesticide use.
6. Book Club: Will do just 4 book clubs next season—Sept 20th - Dan Egan's The Devil's Element, Nov 15th - Michael Pollan's The Botany of Desire, Jan 24th - Josh Tickell's Kiss the Ground, and March 13th - Richard Louv's Last Child in the Woods.
7. Invasive Species Task Force: Have 43 people signed up to receive emails. Beautification Committee has official membership in SWISC (SE WI Invasive Species Consortium). Discussed doing more work at Veteran's Park in the upcoming weeks upcoming. Discussed our Pullerbear for buckthorn removal.
8. 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 microphone for speaker use.
9. National Wildlife Federation Community Habitat Certification: Have completed 30/30 points for our 2023 recertification. Working to mentor Brookfield, Wauwatosa, Pewaukee, and hopefully New Berlin. Discussed using "Turtle Island" as newspaper article example of our designation.
10. 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. Decided to reach out to village administrators and trustees in assistance with the quest. Will make "packets" for each of them.
11. Monarch Milkweed Map: goal is 200 dots by the end of the year, we are currently at 169 dots. Brainstormed lots of way to increase with milkweed giveaways and sales. Consider High Interest Day monarch program in 2024, with milkweed giveaway.
12. Fall tree sale: reviewed selections and order form—ready to go live with 12 pre-settlement choices. Will ask library about donation to reading program. Discussed email reminder for those that order to care for trees and water appropriately.
13. No Mow May: distributed signs to 69 homes (78 last year). Discussed alternatives for 2024 to keep promoting the concept.
14. Library Window ideas: Tree sale—end of August/early September, Leave the Leaves in fall, Light Pollution, Firefly Window, ISTF window, NMM next April
15. Next meeting: scheduled for August 2nd at 6:30pm in the Park View Room
16. Adjournment: 7:37 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Nicci Sternitzky
chairperson