

ELM GROVE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE

Meeting Minutes

September 7th, 2022

Present: Deb Baesemann, Amy Forecki, James Lange, Becky Rintelmann, Anne Spalholz, Nicci Sternitzky

1. Call meeting to order: Meeting brought to order at 6:36 pm
2. Minutes: Last meeting minutes with no changes
3. Treasurer report: not yet available this month
4. Bird City WI: Next meeting of “Birders of the Grove” is Sept 19th at 9 am in the Park View Room. Bird City Wisconsin High Flyer achieved. Discussed the Birders of the Grove Instagram along with the brainstorming session at Lisa Becker’s house for a Birding Festival in conjunction with Earth and Arbor Day.
5. Bee City USA: Will continue to sell Mosquito Dunks next year. Reviewed WIBee app training session on Aug 27th. Briefly discussed idea of citizen science camp. Showed photos of Eagle Scout Bee Hotel. Library window display from 10/24-11/5 to promote the Xerces Society Leave the Leaves campaign-partner with the Girl Scouts and Boy Scouts.
6. Oktoberfest: 6 foot table and table spandex purchased. Working on banner to hang on tent. Will sell books, discuss tree sale and all other events and projects.
7. Monarch Map: Goal for 2024 is reach 200 dots via continued efforts throughout the next year. Currently have 112 dots. Reviewed “Reasons” document that was created.
8. Tree Sale: Map for last year’s tree donations completed. Shared details for this fall’s sale—currently at 51 trees sold. Sold out of bur oak, paper birch, and basswood, so added mountain maple and pin cherry. Venmo increasing timely payments. Brainstormed ideas on how to increase plantings along proposed paths.
9. Invasive Species Task Force: Will publicize the Sunday meet ups at 11am via an email group. Started spreadsheet to document what is in bloom and what species we are working on at Veteran’s Park each week. Discussed possible signage with A-frame tent sign(s) and feather banner.
10. Book Sale: ongoing sale of three books—Lynn Steiner’s *Landscaping with Native Plants of Wisconsin* (\$20), Doug Tallamy’s books, *Bringing Home Nature* (\$20) and *Nature’s Best Hope* (\$25-hardcover). Have total of 9 books left to sell and will not purchase more once sold out. Discussed donation of books or use as door prize.
11. Book Club: Next meeting is 9/22/22 for *The Biophilia Effect* by Clemens Arvey. Having a “wine and cheese event”. James will help with glassware and has purchased two bottles of Biodynamic wine. Nicci will also get wine. Becky will help create cheese and charcuterie board, Amy will bring some of her honey.
12. Lecture series: Reserved O’Neill Room for all lectures. Each lecturer has submitted synopsis. Library has agreed to help co-sponsor and publicize the talks. April lecturer cancelled—discussed ideas to replace. Luke Cashin has agreed to record all lectures for us for placement on village website.
13. ATC Pollinator Habitat Grant: Have started some replanting in center of garden.
14. Adopt-A-Spot program: Tabled again this month, but involves (as part of the Bee City USA designation) an idea by which village residents can maintain and plant an adopted space within the village.
15. Calendar of events: compiled and will distribute with next committee email. Consideration for posting (and keeping updated) on village website was discussed. Will reach out to EGBA to see if they’d like the idea of doing a phenology calendar this year.
16. Membership: brainstormed ideas to help increase involvement with families and high school students.
17. Next meeting: scheduled for October 5th at 6:30pm in the Park View Room
18. Adjournment: 7:52 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Nicci Sternitzky
chairperson