

ELM GROVE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
Meeting Minutes  
October 6th, 2021

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

1. Call meeting to order: Meeting brought to order at 6:33 pm
2. Minutes: Last meeting minutes with no changes
3. Treasurer report: Shared report with committee. Sale of bulbs, milkweed, and books outlined and profits from each discussed. Reviewed compost bin at recycle center and cost of blocks to have built. First lecture series speaker a preferred tree from our tree sale to payment.
4. Bird City WI: Review of designation shows attainment of High Flyer status likely. Discussed ideas for bird programs in addition to our March speaker. Discussed education regarding bird ID apps and how to use them. Support of Mr. Schimpf at Tonawanda who obtained EEF grant for bird feeders. Participation in February Great Backyard Bird Count discussed.
5. Bee City USA: planning for March 2022 photo—anniversary and recap of what has been done and what is planned for can accompany the photo. Discussed the DATCP Pesticide registry and how to promote. Will definitely want to add a “Natural Lawn Care” to next year’s lecture series. Article about “The More You Know, the Less You Mow” article in spring. Considering a library window to educate about IPM (Integrative Pest Management). Will look into participation in the Parks for Pollinators Bioblitz next September.
6. Tree Sale: Sold a total of 45 trees, but had to order 55 in order to round each species up to 5. Still have 3 elm, 3 maple, and 4 KCT left to sell.
7. Invasive Species Task Force: meeting every Sunday at 11 am at Veteran’s Park. Discussed Junior Guild grant application through the village to get goats to help eliminate buckthorn at the village park for May 2022. Forester has applied for Junior Guild grant.
8. Publicity: Anne came up with a template for publicity and what needs to be done and everyone helped outline ideas for articles for each month.
9. Book Sale: selling Lynn Steiner’s *Landscaping with Native Plants of Wisconsin* (\$20) and two of Doug Tallamy’s books, *Bringing Home Nature* (\$20) and *Nature’s Best Hope* (\$25-hardcover).
10. Community Partnerships: spent lots of time discussing how we could partner with other organizations within the village—Woman’s Club, Rotary Club, Community Foundation, Business Association, Boy Scouts, Girl Scouts. Will continue to seek out opportunities for collaboration.
11. Book Club: have decided on books for through the end of 2022.
12. Public Space maintenance: Discussed all current projects—Monarch beds at the park, Indian Hills corners, and Veteran’s park revitalization. Met with Keir Peckham (owner of Natural Landscapes, Inc.) on Sept 9th to discuss long-term plan for removal of invasive species at Veteran’s Park.

13. Lecture series: Discussed methods by which to promote our lecture series. Will try to come up with a mailing list for the committee for events. Consider using each of our events as a means by which to educate about our favorite apps related to nature (SEEK, Merlin Bird ID, etc.)
14. ATC Pollinator Habitat Grant: decided to apply after all. Reached out to Danielle Bell for quote after getting initial quote. May consider other quotes if grant approved.
15. Compost bins at the recycle center: have plans drawn up that will require the purchase of approximately 143 cement blocks. Hoping to install yet this fall to be able to fill with materials for composting.
16. Next meeting: scheduled for November 3rd at 6:30pm in the Park View Room
17. Adjournment: 7:37 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Nicci Sternitzky  
chair