

ELM GROVE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
November 3rd, 2021

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

1. Call meeting to order: Meeting brought to order at 6:39 pm
2. Minutes: Last meeting minutes with no changes
3. Treasurer report: Shared report with committee. Discussed cost of advertisement in newspaper. Hope to advertise plant sale, shrub sale, and tree sale.
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. Deb and Nicci did quick presentation for 5th grade classes at Tonawanda 2 weeks ago. Discussed ideas to help promote within the village—organization of a birding club within the village? Consider reboot of the flocking fundraiser that the Women’s Club did a few years ago?
5. Bee City USA: Discussed the DATCP Pesticide registry and how to promote. Will definitely want to add a “Natural Lawn Care” to next year’s lecture series. Considering a library window to educate about IPM (Integrative Pest Management) and next October “Leave the Leaves”. Excited about village president Palmer’s mention of Xerces Society’s recommendation in his monthly newspaper column. Briefly discussed ideas for Pollinator Week June 20-26, 2022.
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. There are still 4 individuals who haven’t paid for ordered trees. Will plan to place ad in newspaper next year.
7. Invasive Species Task Force: heard unofficially that the grant for goats won 1st place voting for the Junior Guild grant! Will get to work on publicity for promotion of invasive species control measures.
8. Publicity: Anne shared this month’s published articles and her ideas for next month Christmas tree recycling. Melinda Myers contract received for April 2022 lecture.
9. Book Sale: ongoing 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. Book Club: discussed dates that work best for everyone. Will send list of tentative dates to everyone so that we can publicize them. Next book is *Second Nature* by Michael Pollan scheduled on November 17th at 6:30pm, Brookfield Public Library Rotary Room. Will keep that as a meeting place for all of 2022 since we cannot reserve Elm Grove room more than a month in advance and we’d like to pick our dates for the whole year in advance.
11. Public Space maintenance: Discussed all current projects—Monarch beds at the park, Indian Hills corners, and Veteran’s park revitalization.
12. Lecture series: Discussed methods by which to promote our lecture series. Upcoming speaker is Ryan Laswell on November 16th at 6:30pm in the O’Neill Room at village hall. Spent lots of time discussing ideas for next year’s lectures—

Underwood Creekway in conjunction with Dan Egan's book, birding lecture (Deb's uncle or Mr. Stenho), Natural Lawn Care, IPM, Monarchs (Barb Agnew?), Melissa Jablonski in conjunction with our November Book Club book on Zero Waste, foraging, astronomy, Jason Riemer for trees, Master Naturalist, prairie restoration, Deanna Nickey

13. ATC Pollinator Habitat Grant: decided to apply and submitted before deadline. Reached out to Danielle Bell for quote after getting initial quote well above grant amount. May consider other quotes if grant approved.
14. Compost bins at the recycle center: installed on Saturday, October 16th and article in latest Elm Grove Independent newspaper. Discussed how best to fill the bins and ideas for signage. Will plant cinder block holes in spring with natives.
15. Earth/Arbor Day celebration: discussed prepping and ordering of bare root shrubs to sell. Will work nicely in conjunction with birding lecture on March 15th.
16. Next meeting: scheduled for December 1st at 6:30pm in the Park View Room
17. Adjournment: 7:38 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Nicci Sternitzky
chair