

ELM GROVE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
February 2nd, 2022

Present: Deb Baesemann, Katie 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: Not available.
4. Bird City WI: reviewed High Flyer status and what designation entails. Next meeting of birding group is March 5th. Lecture planned on March 15th. Possible projects for upcoming year discussed. No one able to participate in high Interest Day at Tonawanda.
5. Bee City USA: Will ask Melinda (April 12th) to speak about pollinators and native plants—title Pollinator Friendly Plants. Bee City renewal due by 2/28/22. Explained the mosquito dunk technique that Doug Tallamy spoke about—will consider selling at plant sale with instructions. Eagle Scout interested in Bee Hotel as possible project.
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 2 elm, 3 KCT left to sell. Will publicize again and remind residents that trees can be purchased for donation to the village.
7. Invasive Species Task Force: discussed promotion of goats to increase awareness about invasive species. Ideas presented include: library window, newspaper article(s), children's programs and reading lists. Linda (from Grazing goats) has agreed to do a children's program, podcast, and be a part of the Earth/Arbor Day celebration.
8. 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 10, 7, and 10 books, respectively remaining to sell.
9. Compost: will work on signage for compost bins at village recycle center, including banner.
10. Book Club: all planned books for 2022 decided upon and village website updated. Next meeting 2/9/22 at Brookfield Public Library Rotary Room at 6:30pm, reading *A Walk In the Woods* by Bill Bryson. Discussed ideas for promotion of books and meetings.
11. Lecture series: next lecture scheduled for Feb 17th—Danielle Bell from Native Roots, LLC on "Companion Plantings". Already have 4/6 lecturers booked for next year—Paul Schwabe, Marissa Jablonski, John Schindler, Adam Schinker—with four other options available.

12. ATC Pollinator Habitat Grant: grant approved for \$2500 and plan from Danielle Bell received. Committee and other volunteers to do prep work and planting. Eagle Scout interested in making it a project. Press release for project completed.
13. Earth/Arbor Day celebration: Shrub order for 150 bare root shrubs placed and website up and running. Will work nicely in conjunction with birding lecture on March 15th. Discussed how to coordinate timing with possible park events to increase foot traffic. Will purchase banner for corner to help publicize. Planning for either April 23rd. Brainstormed lots of ideas to help make successful—will get village approval of ideas prior to proceeding. Ideas included a book store to sell books related to Earth/Arbor Day, an event “passport” with prize offered, a farmers market of local items, a food truck.
14. Plant Sale: scheduled for June 4th. Discussed mosquito dunk sale with instructions, offering herbs including dill/fennel given their support of swallowtail caterpillars. Will purchase 2 new banners for event that can be reused yearly.
15. Beautification Committee closet clean out completed and inventory done.
16. Next meeting: scheduled for March 2nd at 6:30pm in the Park View Room
17. Adjournment: 7:45 pm

Respectfully submitted,

Nicci Sternitzky
chair