

ELM GROVE BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE
Meeting Minutes
February 3rd, 2021

Present: Nicci Sternitzky, Katie Forecki, Amy Forecki, Lorinda Patzner, Becky Rintelmann, Deb Baesemann

1. Call meeting to order: Meeting brought to order at 6:30 pm.
2. Minutes: Last meeting minutes with no changes
3. Treasurer report: No changes except SEED Club payment for Monarch Waystation plants.
4. Bee City USA: still planning for a “one year photo” as never had an opportunity to get group photo with members and village hall representatives due to pandemic. Pollinator Week is June 21-27, 2021. Discussed No Mow May idea again—conservation biologist Julia Robson has offered to help design studies for interested students along with Carroll Professor Levine offering advice and equipment for insect counting (pitfalls and black lights). Waukesha County Green Team interested in doing upcoming podcast of No Mow May concept. Signs/Flags for yards discussed if able to allow residents to participate (\$120 for 1000 printed—that we would hand out and collect for use in subsequent years). Discussion with village administrators regarding what would be allowable. Ongoing work on bee ordinance. New Bee City USA website asking for 3 things - IPM plan, native plant list, and native plant resources. Will get those compiled before next meeting to have added to websites.
5. Tree Sale: Will be using SignUpGenius for tree pick up—verified with Paul from Johnson nursery for April 8, 10, and 13 distribution. Will assure planting instructions attached to e-mail along with what to do if tree can't be immediately planted. Reminders automatically sent from SignUpGenius.
6. Invasive Species Task Force: working to organize what we have accomplished this far. Started “I'm In” app to help organize planned events for spring. Spoke with Ron Hill about the garlic mustard along the South Facility path.
7. Shrub Sale & Earth/Arbor Day celebration: ordered for 150 shrubs. Will plan for Earth Day (4/22/21)/Arbor Day(4/30/21) event collaboration at the village park on April 24th. Discussed pricing at \$7.50 each. Planting instructions completed to include with purchase. Will additionally have sales on-line and have already reached out to Michelle at village hall to set-up online ordering. Discussed other ideas for the Arbor Day/Earth Day celebration—geocaching, story time and activity (with FOEGL?), tree climbing event, garlic mustard pull, chalk writings along path, geocaching. Informational booths for Beautification Committee, SEED Club, ISTF, Shrub sale, Elm Grove Green Team, and Waste Not, LLC. Still need to figure out what time (looking at a 3 hour window).
8. Prescribed burn: Meg planning to make movie of the burn! Will coordinate with Elm Grove Green Team and Girl Scout troop to clean up around the pond before and after the burn.
9. Book Sale: selling Lynn Steiner's Landscaping with Native Plants of Wisconsin for \$20 each. Have sold 11 books so far.

10. Plant Sale: scheduled for Saturday, June 5th, 2021. Will plan for pre-order for members, EGBA, Indian Hills and any other village related needs. Both pre-order (20 flats plus 6 plants) and plant sale order (70 flats) have been placed. Comprehensive list of plant selection requirements has been completed.
11. Community Partnerships: Offered to help with purchasing, design, and planting of the Indian Hills entry corners. Will partner with Garden Club and forester for Arbor Day event at Tonawanda. Assisting Tonawanda in spring with rejuvenation of the Monarch Waystation bed planted there. Girl Scout troop (Katie Williams) spoke with Deb regarding coordination of upcoming events.
12. Book Club: Decided on next books and dates: February 10—*Braiding Sweetgrass*, March 10- *Animal, Vegetable, Miracle*, April 14—*The Hidden Life of Trees*. Will take summer hiatus with all other planned events, but keep sending ideas for books to read. Will resume in September-November 2021.
13. Bird City USA: Events planned for each day of the Great Backyard Bird Count, Feb 12-15th, 2021. Friday - Ron Hill discussing the village history of Elm Grove's Bird City designation, past accomplishments, and future goals. Saturday-coordinating children's program with FOEGL (pinecone bird feeder make and take), Sunday - bird photography, Monday - president of Ben Goss bird Club speaking. Each of the four day events would be followed by participation in the bird count with a short explanation of how to use the apps/website to participate.
14. Public Space maintenance: Veteran's park, village entrance signs, space at the intersection of WTP and Sunnyslope discussed, along with ongoing work at the village park. Will coordinate with the Elm Grove Green Team to pick up around the ponds before and after the prescribed burn.
15. History of the Elm Grove Park - discussed compilation of history of the park going back to at least the 1940's. Will be reaching out to resources within the community.
16. New idea: discussed social media such as Instagram page that could be posted with pictures of native plants in bloom along with information about those plants for residents to use as a resource.
17. Next meeting: scheduled for March 3rd at 6:30pm
18. Adjournment: 7:48 pm