

Bee City Minutes

March 17, 2021

Members Present:

Bill Link, Mary Tinder, Marsha Meredith, Mary Beasley, Cindy Maguire, Kathy Ruiter, Cindy Tipps, Sarah Oswald, Julie Boente, Paul Mihalek, Christine Sanderson

Bill Link called the meeting to order.

Yea, We Did It!

- The Bee City certification was submitted and approved in February. We are recertified until February 2023.
- Mayor Sarah Oswald nominated Make Carlinville Beautiful for a Governor's Hometown Award. Mary and Randy Tinder presented a slide show to the Award panel highlighting the volunteers and projects that have gone into Make(ing) Carlinville Beautiful. The group hopes to hear an outcome regarding the award within the next few weeks.
- Mary Tinder sent notes to all Bee City Site Stewards thanking them for their invaluable participation last year and asking if they would like to continue their involvement this year. She noted that there were over 48 Stewards who had participated last year.

Swarming

Municipal Garden

Bill Link reported on the progress of developing a garden in front of City Hall in memory of Mayor Demuzio. The first step is to obtain an artist rendition of a design; next steps are to figure out the challenges of removing the concrete islands and relocating the flagpole. He will have more information for the April meeting.

Public Works Grant

Bill said that the Public Works grant received by the City (to refurbish/restore/renew abandoned or neglected lots and houses) is moving slowly. The City will have to negotiate with property owners to do any work, but will be able to cover volunteer workers for liability when projects begin. This is in reference to the Community Garden (vegetable) being planned and supported by the Wal Mart grant.

MJM Garden.

M Tinder reported that MJM will unveil their new pollinator garden as part of the Earth Day activities that have been planned for the community. They plan to start the project in phases, beginning on April 17. B Link will meet with MJM and invite them to pay for power to illuminate the garden's Welcome to Carlinville sign.

The Bat House Grant

M Tinder ordered four bat houses as part of the Walmart grant. B Link offered to find posts and locations to place them.

Arbor Day/Earth Week Celebration

Tree and Bee City and Campus will work together to offer educational events for the public to celebrate Earth Week and Arbor Day. The schedule of events is still being developed, but will include:

4/5	Earth Day Proclamation at City Hall Council Meeting. (Bee and Tree members invited to attend) Covid guidelines apply. Please call to register planning to attend.
4/17	Unveiling of MJM new pollinator garden
4/18	CHS Interact Club/students presentations and installation of Pollinator Garden sign. 1:00pm.
4/19	Arbor Day Proclamation at City Hall Council Meeting
4/20	Tree planting at Blackburn College and Lewis and Clark. Time TBA, Ruitter/Mihalek
4/22	Earth Day activities at the Primary school. Intermediate school students will also attend. Four centers (hopefully outside) will feature: <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Lori Hopping on trees and where Tree City planted them at Loveless Park. C Tipps is arranging a gift of the book "A Grand Old Tree" for each classroom• Arvin Pierce on Honey Bees• Tim Gwillm, DNR from Beaver Dam, on bats and bat houses• General presentation summarizing Earth Day. Connie Niehaus, U of I Educator, will provide on-site or take-home projects. Times and details TBA by April 5th. Promotional materials will follow.
4/23	Possible unveiling of art work done by Middle School and Intermediate students at the Russell building on East Main. Julie Boente will coordinate activity with Melissa Suits.
4/24	PLOGGING (Picking Up Trash While Jogging). 4-H led activity, led by Angela Pauline. May or may not be more than one club. Details by April 5 th .

Other discussion regarding activities:

- C Tipps described the idea of developing a pollinator garden at the Methodist Church featuring the Lincoln Stone. The garden would celebrate Elaine Link and her love of pollinators and music.
- M Tinder reported on Randy Tinder's idea of planting a tree per classroom. Each class would be responsible for learning about and maintaining "their" tree. Time/Date details by April 5th.

The Buzz from Bee City

Speakers Bureau

The Bee City Speaker's Bureau includes the following volunteers: Mary Tinder, Bill Link, Bobbi Bates, Arvin Pierce, Cindy Tipps and Julie Boente. They will be listed with their contact information on the Bee City website.

LCCC Garden

Bill Link and Paul Mihalek will meet with LCCC on March 22 to discuss a possible pollinator garden in addition to the new tree.

**The Buzz from Bee Campus
Blackburn Activities**

Kathy Ruitter reported that Covid restrictions have continued to limit activities on campus. She contacted clubs for interest in activities and polled the campus regarding volunteer projects for Earth Day and Arbor Day. Possible activities will include a tree planting, plant-based menu offerings from Food Services and a Solar contest. She explained that BU intern, Christina Sanderson, would not be able to work on the Pollinator Survey, but is using her time to write a series of articles regarding trees and bees in Carlinville. B Link offered to see if he could make a connection to Illinois Times for publication.

K Ruitter reported on learning two software programs that offer information on tree classification, analysis and tips for best planting and maintenance. She will be able to pass on the training to anyone interested. She also mentioned being contacted by an alum who was interested in sharing information on the Warbler Society. As a result, the BU Sustainability Club has built 40 warbler houses.

The meeting adjourned at 8:15.
Respectfully submitted,
Mary Beasley

**Next Meeting: Wednesday, April 28, 2021 at 6:00 PM at the City Hall
Parking Lot**