

Bee City Minutes
July 28, 2021

Members Present:

Bill Link, Mary Tinder, Marsha Meredith, Sarah Oswald, Randy Tinder, Cindy Tipps, Paul Mihalek, and others, along with many guests.

Co-chairman Mary Tinder called the meeting to order.

Yea, We're Doing It!

Mary supplied some background material about Bee City and its connection with other groups such as Tree City and Make Carlinville Beautiful. She then introduced our speaker, Lexi Hoffman, a sophomore Marketing and Communications major at Blackburn. Lexi's parents were also in attendance.

Ms. Hoffman then gave a very interesting and informative accounting of the varieties of bats (from very tiny to the "hoary bat" with a 16" wingspan), their varied habitats, and their potential service as pollinators and mosquito-catchers (a single bat eats 1000 insects in 1 hour). Students at Blackburn have been working on bat studies with the USGS (United States Geological Survey) to determine the locations of bat colonies in the area, using bat sensors such as the one in Hettick and bat counts by volunteers.

In response to many questions from the audience, Lexi gave us information about bat mothers and babies ("pups"), threats to bat populations from diseases such as "white nose" and predators, and also about how to paint and install a bat house.

Mary Tinder and Bill Link then showed us a pair of bat houses. Thirteen attendees entered their names in a contest to win a house. The winners were Nancy Schein and John Yowell.

For more information about the Blackburn program, visit: www.blackburnbatprogram.wordpress.com

Bit O' Honey

We have added some wonderful photos taken by Andrea Duncan at the Ogden Garden Tour, as well as a few of the Bat Program, to our website. Please point your browser to: www.carlinvillebees.org/photo-album

The meeting adjourned at 8:15.

Respectfully submitted, Marsha Meredith.

Next Meeting: Wednesday, August 25, 2021, at 7:00 PM at City Hall