

October 24, 2019, Bee City USA – Carlinville Meeting Minutes
9:00am at City Hall in Carlinville

Seventeen Attendees: Cindy McGuire, Bill Link, Marsha Meredith, Mary Beasley, Mag Tetzlaff, Paula Robinson, Loretta Tawfall, Mary Tinder, Randy Tinder, Jan Pfeiffer, Julie Boente, Arvin Pierce, Jim Bray, Paul Mihalek, Kathy Ruiter, Mark Wade, Austin Hubbard. Each person signed the attendance sheet and marked which areas of work they were interested in.

The areas of interest volunteers are currently working on include; planting, weeding, mulching, watering, communications, educational outreach, activities, grant writing, media, computer/website, pesticide and recycling.

The main focus of the “Bee Team” is to do the work to meet the requirements of the resolution, as agreed upon when the City of Carlinville was certified. (September, 2019)

A draft website, “Carlinvillebees.org” was built by Marsha Meredith and Kathy Ruiter. Kathy demonstrated the site which is very professional and inclusive of the resolution requirements for the Bee City USA-Carlinville . It also includes the broad scope of “Make Carlinville Beautiful, its connection through Winning Communities, Tree City USA-Carlinville, Master Gardeners and Blackburn College. The site has a photo gallery that shows some of the pollinator work from April -October, 2019.

The site provides access to variety of helpful resources, and a historical perspective of the work done by Dr. Charles Robinson and Dr. John Marlin and an overview of the “Make Carlinville Beautiful” scope of work.

The resolution for the Bee City Certification (the specific work we committed to do) is clearly stated and present on the web site as required. The website will become a link from the City of Carlinville webpage.

Discussion: The group was pleased by the work of Kathy and Marsha and thanked them for their time, interest and expertise. Kathy mentioned that the site is in progress and can easily be updated and changed if someone has ideas or would like to offer more input.

Other Discussion: For those who plan to work on drafting a pesticide management plan, it was agreed that they should obtain a copy of the CUSD#1 plan, Blackburn College’s plan and any others so that we all are in agreement and supportive as the community deals with pesticide management.

Discussion: Kathy R. also demonstrated a facebook link for anyone to send photos, articles or comments. Kathy would set it up and monitor each comment so that no inappropriate language or negativity would be present. The site would allow people to take photos of their gardens, insects, bees, etc. and submit for the public to see. It could also be a point of reference to list activities, news, updates, etc. The page would be called “Carlinville Bees” and is actually a post from Kathy Ruiter’s personal face book page.

The Leadership Team for the Bee City USA Certification group is listed on the web site : Mayor Demuzio and Co-Chairs, Bill Link and Mary Tinder. Other links listed explain how to get involved in Make

Carlinville Beautiful (as a whole) by volunteering in one of the current work areas identified on the October 24th sign-up sheet.

Connections, another section of the website, lists partners such as Bee City (Xerces Society, which is our certifying organization) Blackburn College Bee Campus, Make Carlinville Beautiful Document, Carlinville Winning Communities, Tree City, Trees Forever, Master Gardeners. It was noted by Bill Link that no advertising is listed.

A list of web links for pollinators, trees, shrubs, bees, etc. that includes good resources is also a part of the site.

Other comments:

Bat Resources need to be added, commented Bill Link. Marsha Meredith also suggested we broaden the resources to include birds and possibly soil. Paula Robinson provided a new handout from the University of Illinois Extension Service on Rain Gardens, Pollinator Gardens and Native Plants. They will also become a resource on the web site. Jan Pfeiffer and Bill Link agreed to work together if an online donor set up becomes necessary. Mary Beasley mentioned that some donors prefer that method over writing a check to Winning Communities and designating the Make Carlinville Beautiful line item.

Marsha Meredith commended the work of the group and indicated she believes we are very unique with the scope of our work and the way we've organized on behalf of improving the city and community through environmental stewardship.

The Next work day is October 31st, 9:00a.m. at the Recycling Center. Bring a shovel and a rake and please share the word.

The next meeting is at 7:00pm, November 20th, City Hall. This meeting follows the Tree City USA meeting which is held in the same location at 5:45pm.

Mary Beasley offered to take minutes at meeting Mary Tinder is not available for.

If there are additions or corrections to these minutes please let me know and I will correct them

Mary Tinder