



Town of Laurel Park Bee Committee

Date of Meeting: August 20, 2024

Time of Meeting: 3:00 pm

Location: Town Hall, 441 White Pine Drive, Laurel Park NC 28739

1. Call to Order
2. Record those in attendance.
3. Agenda:
4. Approval of the Agenda
5. Approval of the Minutes
6. **Old Business**
 - a. Two Official (24"x24") Bee City USA Affiliate signs have been received. As of August 12, 2024 signs has been installed in their designated places.
 - b. Additional 4'x4' Pollinator Week banner secured and hung during the appropriate week. Numerous positive comments by LP residents have been received. Several new banners (World Bee Day, Leave the Leaves, Plant Native Plants and Turn Off the Lights) are being considered. Susan Brooks shared articles regarding Light Pollution (by Xerces Society). There is money in the budget for additional banners.
 - c. Pat LaSalle has reached out to Caitlyn Gendusa (Asheville Sustainability representative) in multiple attempts to coordinate LPBCC efforts with those of the Asheville's. To date no response has been received.
 - d. Denise Layfield has undertaken efforts to contact area HOAs in hope of increasing LPBCC membership.
 - e. Pat LaSalle has worked to get Laurel Park listed in the Henderson County Pollinator Trail.
 - f. Changes have been made to town website making it easier to reach the Bee City information. *Committees to be listed in alphabetical order for better organization.* Additional navigational changes will be proposed by Tamara to the relevant Web Site committee in hope of approval and subsequent implementation.
 - g. LPBCC would like to participate in (and eventually sponsor) Pollinator-centric Field Trips for LP residents. Places to consider: Bullington Garden, Dahlias in Bloom in mid-September and Milkweed Meadows. There was a Pollinator Garden Tour at Flat Rock Playhouse on July 26. This occurs on the last Friday of every month.

Karen Monroe to reach out to Kim Bailey at Milkweed Farms for additional tour information.

- h. Comprehensive pollinator-friendly **I**ntegrated **P**est Management (**IPM**) plan for Laurel Park's pollinator parks is being developed by Susan Brooks. (*Attendant to the IPM plan would be an outreach & educational effort to secure relevant speakers. Area HOAs would be contacted so to extend the effort's reach.*)
- i. Bee/Pollinator DVDs have been placed in Town Hall for LP residents to check out at no cost. These DVDs are offered as, yet another, means of increasing public awareness of the importance of pollinators in our community. Thank you Knox Crowell for your efforts in bringing this together.
- j. Development of our own LPBCC website was determined to be cost prohibitive. Idea dropped.
- k. Great Pollinator Census seminar 1 p.m. August 15 at Town Hall.

7. New Business

- a. Approval of July 16, 2024 LPBCC Regular meeting minutes.
- b. Preview, at today's meeting of movie: Disney Nature Wings of Life – narrated by Meryl Streep.
- c. The Great Southeast Pollinator Census – (GSEPC.org) is a citizen science project created by the University of Georgia. This project is designed so everyone may participate and make a difference in pollinator conservation! Watch the video to learn more about how to join the count. Count days August 23rd and 24th. Seminar on this topic will be held at 1 p.m. August 15 in Town Hall.
- d. Collaboration with Extension Office – new person to be added to our area Extension Office. It was suggested that the LPBCC reach out to this new person (once identified) to coordinate increased Pollinator/habitat collaboration with the Extension Office's efforts.
- e. LPBCC would like to have representative brochures placed at the Extension Office's table at the upcoming Apple Festival. John Monroe will do this prior to the festival.
- f. LPBC official Bee City renewal for 2025. We've spearheaded >3 public events thus far and continue to amass data supporting our renewal application. Additional discussion with Tamara about aggregating required documentation for our renewal application in a central location to streamline the application process is needed. This subject was broached with Tamara some time ago and warrants revisiting.
- g. Local habitat renewal education and field trips to be spearheaded by LPBCC.
- h. LPBCC to undertake additional plantings in Canal Park pollinator garden this fall.
- i. Movie night in Town Hall scheduled for 6:30 p.m. September 17, 2024. Email sent to Tamara for inclusion on calendar.
- j. Documentary movie night for 2025 (Disney Nature Wings of Life, others?)

8. Adjourn