



Town of Laurel Park Bee Committee

Date of Meeting: December 17, 2024

Time of Meeting: 4:30 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. Approved November 2024 LPBCC minutes.
 - b. World Bee Day, Leave the Leaves, Plant Native Plants and Turn Off the Lights 4'x4' banners being considered. There is money in the budget for additional banners. The cost is \$100. Pat LaSalle will order.
 - c. In hope of increasing LPBCC membership, Denise Layfield and Anne Hartig have volunteered to contact area HOAs.
 - d. Approval of LPBCC 2025 Calendar
 - e. LPBC official Bee City renewal for 2025. We've spearheaded >3 public events thus far in 2024 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. Karen Monroe is amassing relevant data for the LPBCC 2025 renewal application.
 - f. LPBCC would like to participate in (and eventually sponsor) Pollinator-centric Field Trips for LP residents. To this end, the committee will identify, then reach out to, potential destinations for these trips.
 - g. Comprehensive pollinator-friendly **Integrated Pest Management (IPM)** plan for Laurel Park's pollinator parks as developed by Susan Brooks. Susan to reach out again for additional information. *(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.)*
 - h. Collaboration with Extension Office – Leigh is the newest person added to our area Extension Office? Joe and Pat have worked with her on the Pollinator Garden project.

- i. LPBCC will Not undertake additional plantings in Canal Park pollinator garden this fall.
- j. The stream in Laurel Green Park has been invaded by Marsh Dew Flower. Volunteers are needed to help remove it in any way that they can, possibly using a blow torch. Is this still relevant since Hurricane Helene? Or is it, now, more urgent than ever? Canal Park pollinator garden can be expanded, but the Laurel Green Park stream will take priority. Parks and Greenway Committee knows about this – and our Pat LaSalle has joined that Committee.
- k. The LPBCC is considering participating in Earth Day in Hendersonville in April 2025. And possibly with Knox in Laurel Park’s Founders Day, Centennial Celebration.
- l. Movie nights? in Town Hall e.g. documentary movie night for 2025 (Disney Nature Wings of Life, others?) – Not as successful as hoped, so likely will not host movie night(s) in 2025.

7. New Business

- a. Approval of November 19, 2024 LPBCC Regular meeting minutes.
- b. Having met with Phyllis Stiles of the Bee City Asheville, Pat LaSalle has learned a lot of history of the entire Bee City organization, and of the Asheville chapter. Pat will share what she has learned in today’s meeting. Phyllis has agreed to speak to any/all of the LP Bee Committee members who would be interested and talk about the success that Bee City Asheville has had and if/how we could complement each other. She does NOT recommend our attending a Bee City Asheville meeting as she said the agenda is always packed and they wouldn’t be able to accommodate the type of conversation in which we’d be interested. Instead, she recommended that she host our group at her house. The reason behind this is that she has a lot of material stored at her house that Bee City Asheville has used in their different activities - the “Great Buzz”, their Habitat Certification Program, the Asheville Butterfly Trail, Garden Tours, etc.. Rather than have her pack everything up and bring it to a different location, she feels it would be easier for her to host us at her home. She lives in the Montford area of Asheville (somewhere I’ve always liked to visit) and she had no damage from Helene, so she’s OK to have guests. *To that end, she’s asked us to propose a couple of dates for her consideration.* She’s retired, so her calendar is relatively free and she’s confident she can fit us in.

8. Adjourn