

**Bee City Committee**  
**Special Meeting Minutes**  
**July 9, 2024 – 12:00 p.m.**

The special meeting was held at Denise Layfield's home with the following in attendance: Joe Robustelli, Knox Crowell, Pat LaSalle, Susan Brooks, John and Karen Monroe, Denise Layfield, Ann Hartig and Tamara Amin.

The focus of this Special Meeting was to establish the Laurel Park Bee City Committee goals for the upcoming year, 2024-2025. They are listed as follows:

1. LPBCC official renewal for 2025. We have spearheaded three public events and continue to amass data supporting our renewal application.
2. The bee city committee will focus on habitat renewal and the education thereof to the public. There is a mulch strip in Canal Park which could be planted with feeder plants, such as Spicebush, Milkweed and Pipe vine to promote pollinators, specifically butterflies.
3. The committee would like to develop an Integrated Pest Management (IPM) plan. Susan Brooks volunteered to create an IPM draft that would be presented to the Parks and Greenways Committee, then to Bryan and finally the Town Council for approval. Beneficial insects could be implemented to replace herbicides. There would be an outreach and educational effort to secure relevant speakers from the NC Extension Service, Duke Power and the NC Wildlife Federation.
4. The Hendersonville Beekeepers are acquiring hives from the Veteran's Healing Center. Laurel Park could become a host for apiaries.
5. The LPBCC would like to participate in and sponsor pollinator-centric field trips such as Bullington Gardens, Milkweed Meadows, Flat Rock Gardens and Killer Bee Honey in Lake Toxaway.
6. The installation of Bee City signs will be handled by Bryan. The committee discussed taking a field trip to determine the exact location, near Hendersonville Country Club and Fifth Ave. near the church.
7. Acquire more banners to spread the news regarding pollinators. Those being considered are World Bee Day (May 20), Leave the Leaves (Fall), Solitary Bee Week (July), Plant Native Plants, Earth Day (4/22), IPM Awareness, and Turn Off the Lights and Close the Curtains at night.
8. Make an effort to collaborate with Hendersonville Bee City sustainability representative, Caitlyn Gendusa.
9. Add more members to the LPBCC. Denise Layfield volunteered to contact local Laurel Park HOA's. Tamara will provide a list from 2022.
10. Participate in UGA's Great Southeast Pollinator Census, August 23-24. We would participate personally and in the community at Shred Day and Mountain Community School near the NC Extension office.
11. The LPBCC would like to add Laurel Park to the Henderson County Pollinator Trail. Pat LaSalle volunteered to inventory Laurel Parks pollinator plants and gardens to present in an article to Henderson County.

12. Enhance Laurel Park website to improve navigation to Bee City pages. John Monroe and Pat LaSalle met with Tamara on July 10, 2024, and will meet again to discuss changes. Navigational changes must be approved by the Website Committee.
13. Obtain a wildlife habitat certification for Laurel Park from the National Wildlife Federation.
14. Collaborate with the NC Extension service to coordinate increased pollinator habitat.
15. Add representative brochures to NC Extension service booth at the Apple Festival.
16. Provide representative brochures for the Earth Day Festival.
17. Volunteer at Trash Pick-up Days in the spring and fall, spearheaded by the Parks and Greenways Committee.

The next meeting will be July 16, 2024, at the Town Hall.

With no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 3:40 pm.

ATTEST:

A handwritten signature in cursive script, reading "Karen F. Monroe", is written over a horizontal line.

Karen F. Monroe