



AGENDA FOR BEE CITY USA - ASHLAND MEETING

January 27, 2021

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

- I. CALL TO ORDER, CHECK-INS, AND WELCOME
 - Meet new appointment, Commissioner Leslie Eldridge
- II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
 - Approve Minutes from previous meeting
- III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION (10 minutes)
 - Open Forum: To participate, see IMPORTANT NOTE below
 - Pat Nichols, Mountain Meadows
- IV. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA
- V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
 - Proposing a Neonic Resolution to the Parks and Recreation Commission- Kristina
 - Update on East Main Park and Oak Knoll habitat possibilities - Libby, Kristina (Information)
 - Share map of Bee City USA Ashland approved Pollinator Gardens - Libby
- VI. NEW BUSINESS
 - [APRC's Advisory Bodies Handbook](#) as it relates to BCUA - Libby (Discussion)
 - Annual Report for BCU / Xerces and Annual Renewal fee if any- Kristina (Discussion)
 - Goal Setting – (Discussion and Action)
 1. Assist Mountain Meadows and Kestral Park in developing a Pollinator Garden Landscape Plan to be adopted as a model community document. (Kristina)
 2. Research and undertake a Cost-Benefit Analysis of converting public lawns to other landscape approaches with greater biodiversity. (Lorrie)
 3. Develop HOA partnerships: Identify a list of HOAs that BCUA might engage with around use of public spaces, plant lists, etc.
 4. Adopt the Mayor's Monarch Pledge, by asking the Mayor to make a proclamation and taking on two of their suggested action items in 2021. (Libby)
 5. 2021 Ashland Pollinator Garden Tour. Plan and offer the event, and/or to effectively run a virtual educational event if necessary.
- VII. OTHER ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS
- VIII. UPCOMING MEETING DATES
 - April

IMPORTANT: If you wish to virtually attend the Bee City USA Ashland subcommittee meetings, send an email to libby.vanwyhe@ashland.or.us by 10:00 a.m. on the day of the meeting. In order to virtually attend or listen to the commission meeting, please provide the following information:

- 1) The subject line of the email: ".Bee City USA Meeting Participation Request"
- 2) Include your name.
- 3) Specify the date and commission meeting you wish to virtually attend or listen to.
- 4) Specify whether you will be participating by computer or telephone.
- 5) Provide the name you will use if participating by computer, or the telephone number you will use if participating by telephone.
- 6) Please note, participants that sign up to virtually attend will only be invited to speak during the public participation forum, if you have provided your topic ahead of time. If you wish to provide oral testimony, please specify the agenda item on which you would like to speak.

Staff will email you back with the information necessary to join the meeting upon request.

ASHLAND PARKS & RECREATION COMMISSION

340 S PIONEER STREET • ASHLAND, OREGON 97520

COMMISSIONERS:

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TO: Bee City USA Ashland Subcommittee
FROM: Libby VanWyhe, Nature Center Manager
DATE: January 14, 2021
SUBJECT: Further explanation of agenda items for Subcommittee Meeting on 1/27/21

On Wednesday January 21, 2021, the Bee City USA Ashland Subcommittee will conduct a quarterly meeting. At this meeting, the following items will be discussed.

Proposing a Neonic Resolution to the City of Ashland

In March of last year, the subcommittee voted to share the Xerces Society's local policy model with Director Black, so that it could eventually be sent to the Park Commissioners for approval. See "Xerces Model Municipal Resolution to Protect Pollinators from Harmful Pesticides" in this packet. The document was never presented before the first COVID-19 lock down. All that remains is to set up a virtual meeting with Staff.

Update on East Main Park and Oak Knoll habitat possibilities

The Bee City USA committee is interested in being involved in the planning and development of pollinator habitat at the new East Main Park and landscaping at Oak Knoll Golf Course.

At Oak Knoll, Patrick Oropallo is working toward implementing a program called "Monarchs in the Rough", which provides seeds to change "out of play" rough areas into monarch friendly habitat.

Terrain Landscape Architecture was awarded the bid for the East Main Park design. APRC hopes to have the contract in place by the end of April. While there is not a firm timeline yet, landscape is a way out, yet. Administrative Analyst Tara Kiewel will remind Michael that the Bee City USA subcommittee wants to consult.

Share map of Bee City USA Ashland approved Pollinator Gardens

Libby has used Easy Map Maker to map the list of the current "Approved" pollinator gardens in the town of Ashland. See Bee City USA Ashland Approved Gardens, map.

APRC's Advisory Bodies Handbook as it relates to BCUA

The City of Ashland has just finished a handbook about Advisory Bodies (like this group) and public meeting law and ethics. It is important for all members of our subcommittee to review this: ashland.or.us/advisorybodyhandbook

Annual Report for BCU / Xerces and Annual Renewal fee if any

We are asked to submit the 2020 Annual report to the Xerces society by February 28, 2021. The subcommittee will discuss what kind of reporting is required to renew our Bee City USA designation.

Goal Setting

The subcommittee will discuss the following five potential goals, spending approximately 8 minutes each to explain them and two minutes for the committee members to ask questions. Then we will initiate a survey monkey vote in order to pick two goals to focus our efforts on in the coming year.

The potential goals for 2021 are:

1. Development of a Pollinator Plan for Mountain Meadows and Kestral Park, to be adopted as a model community document. (Kristina)
2. Research and Cost-Benefit Analysis of converting public lawns to other landscape approaches with greater biodiversity. (Lorrie)
3. Develop HOA partnerships: Identify a list of HOAs that BCUA might engage with around use of public spaces, plant lists, etc.
4. Adopt the Mayor's Monarch Pledge, by asking the Mayor to make a proclamation and taking on two of their suggested action items in 2021. (Libby)
5. 2021 Ashland Pollinator Garden Tour. Plan to effectively run a virtual educational event if necessary.



MINUTES FOR BEE CITY USA - ASHLAND MEETING

October 28, 2020

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

Meeting called to order at 3:10pm

Present: Kristina Lefever (chair), Nancy Appling (vice chair), Albert Pepe (committee member), Lorrie Kaplan (citizen), Libby VanWyhe (staff liaison)

Absent: Commissioner Joel Heller

I. CALL TO ORDER, CHECK-INS, AND WELCOME

Meeting called to order at 3:15pm

Nancy's life is going on normally, and her connection with NMP is very strong. She is proud of Riverwalk accomplishments. Nancy continues to work for the fire department and is swamped with that work.

Albert, says that things are more or less normal, and things are pretty good. He is glad for every morning. Doing ok, and glad to be here for the meeting.

Libby shares the increasing visitation at the park, and the focus we've been giving to setting goals for the natural area, and trying to manage considerable natural area impacts with much reduced staff presence.

Lorrie Kaplan moved into town a little over a year ago and has been connected to community through North Mountain Park ever since. Affiliated with SOCAN, she is helping to organize around an Ashland chapter of SOCAN.

Appreciates the work of BCU-A and would love to be considered to be part of the committee.

Kristina is very busy right now, with PPRV and some of her projects up in the air. Has been volunteering at the Shoppes at Exit 24, and realizing the enormity of the impact of the fire upon people, pollinators, and habitat.

II. APPROVAL OF MINUTES

1. Approve Minutes from previous meeting

Nancy moved to approve

Albert seconded

All were in favor of approving the minutes.

2. Review Action Items from previous meeting

We appreciated Carolyn Hunsaker for the amazing participation in and support of our work, as she has moved out of town. We appreciate Carolyn's efforts for our sub-committee, specifically her efforts to create the Riverwalk Pollinator Garden.

We will wait until the next Commissioner joins us in a future meeting, and we will share the Xerces resolution against neonicotinoids.

We will add a discussion of the Xerces Society neonic resolution to the next BCUA agenda.

III. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION

1. Open Forum

Lorrie Kaplan has observed a lot of awareness of sustainability, ecological land management in the town of Ashland. Her concern is that we have so many parks that are covered with lawn. She

would like to hear more about the rationale for managing our Parks the way we do. She would like Parks and Rec to embrace a more ecologically friendly approach to land management. She would like to understand how many resources are being used for irrigation and maintenance of lawns, especially at Briscoe School. She would like to find out if citizens can work together to adopt more parks, so that our public lands can be maintained as more ecologically valuable habitat.

IV. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA

Albert would like to keep the East Main St. property Park on the agenda for next time.

Include a check in about the development of the New East Main park on the agenda for our next meeting.

V. UNFINISHED BUSINESS

1. BCUA Committee application - Kristina (Decision)

Review application received from community member Lorrie Kaplan

Committee members briefed Lorrie Kaplan on the commitment to four meetings per year, and the projects we undertake.

Kristina moves that we approve Lorrie Kaplan to the subcommittee

Nancy seconds

All approve to admit Lorrie Kaplan as a full voting member of our subcommittee.

2. Pollinator Gardens - Nancy and Kristina (Information)

Update on number of gardens to date.

Nancy reminds us all to keep our eyes open for beautiful gardens that might be worthy of Pollinator Garden Nomination, and start conversations with those people to suggest they become approved habitat.

We now have 76 BCUA Ashland approved pollinator gardens. The last several gardens have been very impressive.

Kristina mentioned that we need a volunteer to help manage the list. We need to seek a student who might be willing to help us with administration.

3. Riverwalk Garden - Nancy (Information, Discussion)

Status of and plan for garden since Carolyn's departure.

Acknowledge Carolyn Hunsaker for developing this model for stewarding pocket parks. Kristina suggests that other communities might be interested in adopting pocket parks.

Lorrie has a contact list of people who might be interested in volunteering to build habitat. She suggests that we present about the success of the Riverwalk pocket park. Lorrie is interested in asking her contacts in SOCAN to partner in future adoptions.

The City of Talent would be a good source of information about the maintenance requirements for pocket parks that are planted by the Bee City Talent team.

We need to plan a goal setting meeting for 2021.

4. Fire Response / gardens impacted - Kristina (Discussion)

Review the GIS map Libby created for the Tour to locate the ones that may have been impacted and consider how we can help.

We don't believe that any of the approved pollinator gardens were impacted by the fire

Kristina will send Libby the current list of approved gardens,

Libby will update the map (using the easymapmaker.com software) to show the location of all approved gardens.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

1. Mountain Meadows - Kristina (Information, Discussion)

Rochelle Newman, David Lee Myers, and Pat Nichols are residents of Mountain Meadows. They have

helped to build a pollinator garden on a common area in the community.

They are interested in getting their grounds and natural area committee to build more habitat in Mountain Meadows. Their vision is that the entire community might become worthy of being an approved pollinator garden. Kristina gave a presentation to their community sharing the importance of pollinators.

Kristina would like to convene a meeting with Mountain Meadows, residents of Kestral Park Development, and representatives of BCUA / North Mountain Park.

Mountain Meadows is seeking Bee City USA's help to educate the greater Mountain Meadows community about maintenance of their yards and landscaping for pollinators. This is an educational opportunity.

Nancy suggests that our committee members could host a walking tour through their landscape, and point out beneficial plants and opportunities for improvement.

Lorrie would like to meet with our subcommittee more than 4 times a year, in order to generate more momentum and move projects forward. However, Libby cautions that when more than a quorum of subcommittee members gather together to discuss projects, it triggers public meeting process.

Libby will investigate how we might be able to have meetings to carry forward projects that we have approved, while staying in compliance with public meeting law.

General agreement to continue the discussion about educating and partnering with Mountain Meadows residents at the next meeting.

VII. OTHER ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

Kristina remembers that in order to get the 2021 Ashland Pollinator Garden Tour into the Summer Play Guide cycle, we need to submit the program description for consideration in early January.

We will need to move this forward before our next full public meeting, so we need to decide whether we want to TRY to offer the Pollinator Garden Tour next June, and what dates we should save for the program.

The Master Gardeners are planning a spring season garden tour and don't want our tour to conflict.

Lorrie moves to that we try to conduct the Ashland Pollinator Garden Tour, and schedule the event for Saturday and Sunday June 26 and 27 in 2021.

Kristina seconds this, and all committee members voted in favor.

When APRC requests for proposals for Summer 21 programs, Kristina will submit our standard marketing language for the Pollinator Garden Tour and propose 6/26/21 and 6/27/21 as the tour dates.

VIII. UPCOMING MEETING DATES

Libby will schedule the next public meeting for Wednesday, January 27th at 3:00pm

Action Items

We will add a discussion of the Xerces Society Neonic resolution to the next BCUA agenda.

Include a check in about the development of the New East Main Park on the agenda for our next meeting.

We need to plan a goal setting meeting for 2021.

Kristina will send Libby the current list of approved gardens,

Libby will update the map (using the easymapmaker.com software) to show the location of all approved gardens.

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Xerces Model Municipal Resolution to Protect Pollinators from Harmful Pesticides

WHEREAS, the loss of pollinators is alarmingly high, with honey bee colonies experiencing significant annual losses, and with populations of native pollinators and other beneficial insects also in decline; and

WHEREAS, these declines are driven by a number of factors including habitat loss, pesticide exposure, lack of forage, and climate change; and

WHEREAS, threats to pollinators concern the entire food system, as pollinator services are valued at \$18 to \$27 billion in agricultural production annually in the United States; and

WHEREAS, the maintenance of healthy, biodiverse ecosystems depends upon the significant environmental services provided by pollinator species; and

WHEREAS, populations of pollinators can be supported and enhanced by increasing native habitat that is protected from pesticide contamination; and

WHEREAS, the systemic neonicotinoids imidacloprid, dinotefuran, clothianidin, and thiamethoxam, are associated with lethal and sub-lethal effects to bees, such as impaired foraging patterns, altered reproductive cycles, and impaired immune systems; and

WHEREAS, other highly-toxic and persistent systemic insecticides that are less studied could also harm bees and other pollinators; and

WHEREAS, research has shown that many pesticides, including fungicides and herbicides, can pose risks to already-compromised bees and other pollinators; and

WHEREAS, integrated pest and pollinator management strengthens efforts to protect pollinators by emphasizing pest prevention first; seeking to eliminate the root causes of plant diseases, weeds, and insect problems; prioritizing cultural, mechanical and biological techniques; and striving to minimize unintended harm to human health and the environment when pesticides are used.

WHEREAS, [the city] can demonstrate its support for pollinators by maintaining pollinator habitat on land managed by [the city] and by encouraging residents to plant pollinator-friendly native and ornamental plants.

NOW, THEREFORE:

[The city] will create, restore, and enhance healthy pollinator habitat that provides safe forage and nesting resources, protected from harmful pesticide contamination. [The city] will identify appropriate locations for creating and managing habitat, potentially including parks, open spaces, roadsides, and around facilities. Where possible, [the city] will seek habitat locations that facilitate habitat connectivity. As possible, [the city] will revise land management and mowing policies to allow wildflowers and other appropriate flowering forage species to bloom and flourish.

Habitat plantings by [the city] will include a diversity of flowering trees, shrubs, or forbs known to provide pollen and/or nectar to pollinators, with preference for ecologically appropriate native perennial species in newly planted or restored areas. Plantings should be designed to ensure that flowers are available throughout the growing season. Habitat should

also include butterfly host plants and pollinator nesting sites such as undisturbed soil, undisturbed foliage, and pithy-stemmed plants.

To further support its pollinator populations, [the city] hereby prohibits the use of the neonicotinoid insecticides clothianidin, dinotefuran, imidacloprid and thiamethoxam on lands owned or operated by [the city]. Furthermore, the city will avoid use of other concerning systemic insecticides that are persistent and highly toxic to pollinators. These include the following active ingredients: abamectin, cyantraniliprole, dicotophos, dimethoate, emamectin benzoate, fipronil, flupyradifurone, malathion and pyriproxyfen.

[The city] shall not purchase or use landscaping materials, including plants and seeds, that have been treated with neonicotinoids. [The city] shall review the production methods of its landscape materials suppliers and give priority to suppliers who demonstrate commitment to integrated pest management principles.

[The city] will adopt an integrated pest and pollinator management (IPPM) policy and program for lands and facilities that it owns or operates. The IPPM program will strive to prevent pest problems, reduce pesticide use, and expand the use of non-chemical pest management methods. Other than targeted control of noxious or invasive species, pesticides will not be used on designated pollinator habitats. Pesticides will be permitted on other lands owned or operated by [the city] only when there is a justifiable reason for the pesticide to be applied. A justifiable reason is supported by evidence that a pest or disease outbreak exists or has strong potential to exist, currently available nonchemical methods are not feasible, and the pest will cause significant harm if not managed with chemical methods. [The city] will discourage pesticide applications, especially insecticides, for cosmetic purposes or for controlling nuisance pests. [The city] will periodically review its list of chemicals to prohibit and/or avoid, and based on information that is current at that time, will revise the lists as needed. [The city] will provide training to employees in integrated pest and pollinator management practices, such as identification of pests and natural enemies, nonchemical suppression strategies, pesticide risk mitigation strategies, and pollinator conservation.

Because [the city] recognizes the critical importance of pollinators and their services, [the city] will support and actively engage in efforts to educate the broader community about the actions it is taking. Through policies and actions of volunteer committees, [the city] will encourage government entities, businesses, homeowners and homeowner associations operating within [the city] to adopt some or all of the strategies outlined in this resolution that will support and conserve pollinators within [the city].

Definitions

Cosmetic: The use of pest control products simply to improve the appearance of lawns, gardens, parks or other public facilities. Source: Canadian Cancer Society (adapted)

Highly toxic to bees: Following EPA classification, active ingredients are considered highly toxic if studies on adult honey bees cause 50% of test organisms to die when the pesticide is administered at concentrations less than 2 µg/bee. Source: U.S. Environmental Protection Agency Guidance. Note: This policy's limit on the use of highly toxic, persistent systemic insecticides focuses on avoiding bees feeding on contaminated pollen and nectar. Therefore, the list of highly toxic insecticides includes insecticides that are highly toxic via oral exposure. The IPPM program should further efforts to protect bees from other pesticide use.

Integrated pest and pollinator management (IPPM): Building on the concepts of integrated pest management, IPPM also integrates pollinator welfare into an IPM pest management programs. Integrated Pest Management is a strategy that focuses on longterm prevention or suppression of pest problems with minimum impact on human health, the environment, and nontarget organisms. Source: Dave Biddinger, University of Pennsylvania and Mary Louise Flint, University of California Integrated Pest Management

Nuisance: A pest that may be an annoyance but does not endanger human health or safety, threaten the welfare of useful plants or domestic animals, or damage stored products or structural materials Source: North Carolina State University (adapted)

Persistent: Highly persistent: Pesticides that degrade slowly; i.e. studies show that 60 or more days is required for the active ingredient to be reduced by half in terrestrial environments, in or on plants, or in laboratory soil tests under aerobic conditions. Moderately persistent: 16-59 days is required for the active ingredient to be reduced by half. Source: National Pesticide Information Center (adapted)

Significant harm: The harm caused by a pest that, left unchecked, endanger human health or safety, threaten the welfare of useful plants, ecosystems, or domestic animals, or damage stored products or structural materials. Source: North Carolina State University (adapted)

Systemic: Pesticides that are taken up by the plant and transported to all the tissues (leaves, flowers, roots and stems, as well as pollen and nectar). Source: Task Force on Systemic Pesticides

Bee City USA Ashland Approved Gardens

