

IMPORTANT: Any citizen attending a commission meeting may speak on any item on the agenda. If you wish to speak, please fill out the Speaker Request form located near the entrance to meeting room. The Chair will recognize you and inform you as to the amount of time allotted to you. The time granted will be dependent to some extent on the nature of the item under discussion, the number of people who wish to be heard, and the length of the agenda.



## MINUTES FOR BEE CITY USA - ASHLAND MEETING

December 11, 2018  
North Mountain Park Nature Center  
620 North Mountain Ave.

3:00 p.m. – 4:30 p.m.

1. CALL TO ORDER AND WELCOME
2. APPROVAL OF MINUTES
  - a. Approve Minutes from previous meeting
    - i. Joel and Nancy move to approve. All in Favor.
  - b. Review
  - c. Action Items - some items from last time are still pending.
    - i. If we want to make comments on the Lithia Park Master Plan, we need to make those recommendations soon, because it's being worked on right now.
3. PUBLIC PARTICIPATION
  - a. Kelly Marcotoulli – Oregon for Safer Technology. Kelly is working to amend the City ordinances to prevent 5G. She is trying to educate the community about the impacts of RFs from cell phones. Her research leads her to believe that cell towers are impacting bee populations. She has resources to share. Wants the City of Ashland to be more aware of the impacts, and possibly share some education. Would like signage in parks to ask people to refrain from using their cell phones. Would like Lithia Park to be a place where Wifi is not provided.
  - b. Egon - Wants to know whether Bee City USA group has any way to protect people from toxicity in the environment. Doesn't believe that education works, and he believes that we need enforcement. Vancouver Canada successfully eliminated Neonicotinoids, through an organic alternative method.
4. ADDITIONS OR DELETIONS TO THE AGENDA
5. UNFINISHED BUSINESS
  - a. Review rack card for approval and printing
    - i.  Kristina requests that all committee members review the rack card and provide any suggestions this week.
    - ii.  We will add a line of gratitude to the student who designed the rack card.
    - iii. Southern Oregon Printing can print 100 of them (9by4) for \$70 or 250 for \$141

- iv. Carolyn moves that the group order 250 of them. \$288 remains in the expenditure budget. All committee members voted that we should purchase 250 of the rack cards. Since they are expensive, Joel recommends that we don't give them to people who aren't very interested. Try to conserve them. Suggest putting the cards in businesses like the Grange Co-op.
  - Order 250 rack cards from Southern Oregon Printing, and pay for it out of the expense budget. Libby to complete purchase with her City credit card.
  - Members should consider where it would be most beneficial to leave the cards. Generate a list of places where the rack cards will be available.
- b. Review posters purchased for tabling, approve expense to laminate and/or mount
  - i. Kristina purchased a poster, Butterflies of the Pacific North West.
  - ii.  Purchase another poster that shows the life cycle of the monarch butterfly. Carolyn thinks that it is worth to purchase the life cycle poster. She will contribute a donation.
- c. Discuss 2019 tour
  - i. Committee members have strategized an approach to next year's tour.
  - ii. Suggest having the tour over two days, June 29 and 30, 2019. Suggest inviting Chamber businesses to participate by offering discounts to tour participants. The tour book would be larger this year, with a second map to show participating businesses, and include some promotional logos and thanks, etc. Give participating businesses rack cards. Advertise the tour widely in other cities and invite city officials.
    - Submit a NMP program proposal for the Pollinator Garden Tour by January 30.
  - iii.  Provide Libby with a Master List of all the BCU approved pollinator gardens and their addresses. Indicate what year each one was certified.
    - Libby will ask Lea to make a Master Map of all Certified Pollinator Gardens, with different colors for different years.
  - iv. Kristina met with Dana Preston and Katherine Cato from the Chamber of Commerce. They will accept the Rack Card and a 3"-4" sign for their window.
    - Need to acquire new updated BCU sticker that mentions the Xerces Society and give to the Chamber for the window.
    - Write a blurb about the Pollinator Garden tour and submit to the Chamber by February 15<sup>th</sup>, to put into the March newsletter.
    - Carolyn and Kristina will attend two Chamber meetings, to share this idea.
  - v.  Plan another Pollinator Garden Social on February 27 at the Nature Center.
  - vi.  Ask approved pollinator gardeners to submit a list of their favorite pollinator plants. This list could be handed to visitors during the tour. Also eventually, we could create a booklet of preferred garden plants in 2020.
  - vii.  Submit an Ashland Parks Foundation grant request to pay for the pollinator tour booklet printing. APF grant applications are usually due in early April.
  - viii.  Kristina will contact the Approved Pollinator Gardeners and ask them to submit their gardeners to the Rogue Buzzway Project. Take care not to send this during a time when there are also a lot of communications coming from BCU.
- d. Grove Garden update

- i. Soil and irrigation schedule seemed problematic. Need to meet with irrigation crews at the start of next year. Nancy has planted more Russian sage and lavender. Kristina fertilized with fish solution.
    - ii.  Joel will attend a sign committee meeting in February and discuss the possibility of a sign at the Grove pollinator garden.
  - e. Riverwalk Garden update
    - i.  In January, we will begin designing the planting plan for the Riverwalk pollinator garden. Hoping to plant the sheet-mulched area in the spring.
    - ii. If the center part really needs more solarization, they plan to solarize one more summer and then plant the center section in the fall.
    - iii. Wes and crew sprayed Burn Out in the right back of the site, and then they covered the area with compost and woodchips. Waiting for a delivery of more cardboard to finish sheet mulching.
    - iv.  When the Ashland Parks foundation grants are open again, we will request a grant for the Riverwalk Pollinator Garden. Also, Carolyn will request donations from the interested homeowners.
    - v. Hanns and Wes are on board to work with us for

## 6. NEW BUSINESS

- a. Look at updated 2019 calendar?
  - i. We already have a full plate for 2019 including the garden tour and the Riverwalk garden. The committee decided not to pursue any other projects at this time. Instead, members identified the following project ideas, from the list, that we'd like to prioritize in a future goal setting discussion. Possibly for 2020.
- b. #34 Update the City Plant List on the website to include Pollinator Plants
- c. #17 Nancy has a friend Alex Jaspersen who is willing to write a puppet show script
- d. #23 and #24 Develop an educational program for HOAs and seek out and train Adopt a Park Groups.
- e. #29 Install plant ID placards to identify plants in the Riverwalk and Grove pollinator gardens.
- f. #21 and #33, rehabilitate Science Works Bear Garden and offer a Summer Camp on the subject of pollinators.
- g. #30 Lobby the City to issue a neonics resolution to publicize the fact that we are pesticide free.
- h. Also... Libby and Kristina are interested in writing a new pollinator-themed Service Learning Lesson for North Mountain Park.

## 7. OTHER ITEMS FROM COMMITTEE MEMBERS

- a. A new 5 acre park has been acquired on the south side of town, off of East Main before you turn up Tolman creek, with access through Clay. Is there a formal HOA next door? Is there a possibility for a Community Garden? Or a food share garden in the same form as Access?  
Albert will do some research into the Access garden program and share with the Commission as they discuss plans for the new park.
- b. There is a small pocket park on Whightman and Main, and Albert is suggesting that we encourage nearby homeowners to create a pollinator garden.

- c. Also, we should look ahead to Lincoln Park, if Parks and Rec does indeed acquire it.
  - d. Kristina and Libby were contacted by Laz Ayala and Tom Madara, who are planning a development in town and wanting to incorporate a pollinator garden and commit to NOT using synthetic pesticides. They want to become a Bee City USA Approved Pollinator Garden.
8. UPCOMMING MEETING DATES
- a. March 13, 3:00-4:30pm

## ACTION ITEMS:

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