



CITY OF WILLIAMSTOWN, WV “Bee City USA” Committee Meeting

Tuesday, February 11th, 2020 – 6:30pm

Williamstown City Council Offices

***** MEETING NOTES *****

In Attendance: Marty Seufer

Madeline Scarborough

Teresa Wagoner

Calvin Blevins

Edie Lemon

Sharon Dye

Joyce McDougal

Randy Dick

Jim Stage

Debbie Dick

Jennifer Houston

The committee reviewed the speaker event that was held on Monday, January 27th. The speaker was Sheldon Owen from the West Virginia University Extension Service. His topic was “Pollinator Habitat and its Benefits for more than Pollinators”. Twenty people attended the event and it was agreed that his topic was important and interesting.

The upcoming speaker event will be held on Tuesday, February 25th at 7:00pm at the First Baptist Church of Williamstown. The speaker will be Susan Olcott from the West Virginia Department of Natural Resources. The topic will be “Monarch Butterfly Status, Conservation, Pesticides, Agriculture and Pollinators”. Marty stated he will have a flyer done by the end of this week for the event. They will be available at the Williamstown City Building and also Marty will have them available. The scheduled speaker for March 24th will be Brandy Brabham from the

West Virginia University Extension Service. Her topic will be "Creating a Pollinator Haven in Your Yard and Garden".

Marty stated he had presented the Bee City USA program to the Williamstown Womens Club and the Williamstown Lions Club in the past 2 weeks. He is scheduled to present to the Marietta Natural History Society on Thursday, February 20th at 7:00pm.

The new sign for designating the city a Bee City USA was presented to the group. It was designed by Elite Signs in Vienna and will be placed on the brick structure in Armstrong Garden.

Joyce McDougal gave an update on the Armstrong Garden project. She said she had staked off the garden area and had purchased a number of seeds to grow there. Jim Stage stated he will seek out estimates for the pathway to be extended out into the new garden area. Marty stated he will request an email be sent out to the Wood County Master Gardeners to see if any of them would be willing to start the seeds for us.

Joyce McDougal discussed the pollinator certified gardens project. The group hopes to approve the criteria to have your garden designated as such at an upcoming meeting.

Marty asked the group if they felt we should attempt to file an annual report with the national headquarters even though we are not required to do so until February, 2021. The group thought it was a good idea and Marty will attempt to do so.

Edie Lemon stated that she has talked with three different vendors (Tom & Kate Fagan, Mike & Debbie Murphy and Tara Huck) at the River City Farmers Market in Marietta who have agreed to have native pollinator plants available for sale. The Market is open from 8:00am till noon on Saturdays and is located at the Washington County Fair Grounds.

Marty stated he had met with a local foundation and they are interested in exploring the possibility of a pollinator education program for elementary school children. Marty stated he will reach out to the elementary school to gauge their interest.

The meeting adjourned at 7:40pm