

**Bee City Committee
Regular Meeting Minutes
December 17, 2024 – 4:30 p.m.**

Mr. John Monroe called the in-person Laurel Park Bee City Committee Meeting to order at 4:40 p.m. on December 17, 2024.

The following attended at Town Hall, 441 White Pine Drive, Laurel Park, NC 28739:

Anne Hartig
John Monroe
Karen Monroe
Joe Robustelli
Pat LaSalle
Denise Layfield

The agenda was distributed, and John Monroe motioned to approve, and Karen Monroe seconded. The motion to approve the agenda was unanimous.

John Monroe motioned to approve the minutes of November 19, 2024. Karen Monroe seconded, and the motion was approved unanimously.

Old Business:

- A. Leave the Leaves and all banners that the committee was considering purchasing, are on hold till next year due to Hurricane Helene.
- B. Denise Layfield and Anne Hartig proposed to meet and discuss a plan to reach out to HOA's, as the current list is outdated.
- C. John Monroe motioned to approve the 2025 calendar and Karen Monroe seconded. The committee unanimously approved.
- D. Karen Monroe continues to amass relevant data for the LPBCC 2025 renewal application.
- E. The LPBCC would like to participate in educational field trips such as Kim Bailey's pollinator garden tour and recruiting Spriggly's Beescaping for a presentation in the spring.
- F. Susan Brooks continues to focus on the Integrated Pest Management plan to devise a template we can share with the Parks & Greenways Committee to implement.
- G. The committee looks forward to collaborating with Leigh from the NC Extension Office.
- H. The LPBCC will not undertake additional plantings in Canal Park pollinator garden until spring.
- I. The Marsh Dew flower in Laurel Green Park stream is now dormant. The situation will be reassessed before it blooms.

- J. The committee will reach out to Knox Crowell to see if we can participate in Laurel Parks Founders Day for the Centennial Celebration.
- K. Movie night events are on hold presently due to a lack of interest in the community.

New Business:

- A. Minutes were approved as stated above.
- B. Pat LaSalle spoke with Phyllis Stiles of Bee City, Asheville and she invited the LPBCC to her home in the Montford area to share information and resources. Two dates were proposed, that Pat LaSalle will present to Phyllis for our meeting. They are January 21 at 4:00 pm or January 25 at 2:00 pm. Some of the projects that Phyllis wants to share with our committee are their Habitat Certification Program and the Asheville Butterfly Trail, which is a pollinator safari with photo opportunities and butterfly education. Asheville also does the Great Buzz, where four people do fifteen-minute presentations. The LPBCC is looking forward to meeting with Phyllis and collaborating with Bee City, Asheville.
- C. Denise Layfield proposed the committee hire Spriggly's to give a presentation on replanting as Laurel Park has lost at least 10-20% of our tree canopy with Hurricane Helene. We would like to plan an educational program in February or March and coordinate with the Planning Board regarding spring plantings. The LPBCC would also like to consult with Steve Pettis from the NC Extension service. Pat LaSalle and Joe Robustelli volunteered to meet with Steve to discuss appropriate seedlings and possibly have him promote replanting in the area via WHKP radio. Anne Hartig proposed a postcard mailing to inform residents of a spring and fall planting and an investigation of mailing costs by the Parks & Greenways Committee.
- D. Our next meeting will be January 21 or 25 at Phyllis Stiles' home, depending on when she is available. Pat LaSalle will reach out to her and inform the committee of the date.

With there being no further business, John Monroe motioned to adjourn the meeting. It was seconded by Joe Robustelli and approved unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 5:32 pm.

ATTEST:

Karen F. Monroe