

# **Parks & Public Landscaping Advisory Board Bee City USA Subcommittee**

## **Agenda**

**May 1, 2023**

**Library Small Meeting Room**

**951 Spruce Street**

**5:30 PM**

Members of the public are welcome to attend in person. Remote attendance is not available at this time.

The Subcommittee will accommodate public comments during the meeting. Anyone may also email comments to the Subcommittee prior to the meeting at [AMcneal@LouisvilleCO.gov](mailto:AMcneal@LouisvilleCO.gov).

- I.** Call to Order
- II.** Roll Call
- III.** Approval of Agenda
- IV.** Approval of Minutes
- V.** Public Comments on Items Not on the Agenda
- VI.** Agenda Posting Location – action

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Persons planning to attend the meeting who need sign language interpretation, translation services, assisted listening systems, Braille, taped material, or special transportation, should contact the City Clerk's Office at 303.335-4536 or [MeredythM@LouisvilleCO.gov](mailto:MeredythM@LouisvilleCO.gov). A forty-eight-hour notice is requested.

Si requiere una copia en español de esta publicación o necesita un intérprete durante la reunión, por favor llame a la Ciudad al 303.335.4536 o 303.335.4574.

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***City of Louisville***

*Parks Division 749 Main Street Louisville, CO 80027*  
*303.335.4774 (phone) [www.LouisvilleCO.gov](http://www.LouisvilleCO.gov)*

- VII.** Staff Report
- VIII.** 2023 Work Plan Discussion and Review
- IX.** Discussion Items for Next Meeting
- X.** Adjourn

## **Work Plan discussion items for Louisville Bee City USA Subcommittee Community Outreach**

### **Replanting Home Landscapes after the Marshall Fire (John)**

Supporting our local families and businesses in the planning and replanting of landscapes to support pollinators, featuring native and water-wise plants and turf. This could be a community-wide and long-lasting initiative.

### **Louisville Farmer's Market booth (Laurie, John)**

A booth at the Louisville Farmer's Market to spread the word about Bee City USA and the things that Louisville has been doing to promote conservation and habitat restoration for pollinators, including our native bees. We could pass out native plant lists, sell native and pollinator plants for the garden, promote water-wise landscaping, maybe some local honey, T-shirts, coffee mugs, and window/bumper stickers? This booth could go on the road to other farmer's markets in the area. Yum, fair food!

### **Bee and Pollinator-themed Art Contest for Louisville Elementary schools (Patricia)**

Patricia has made great strides in organizing our first outreach event. Two Louisville Schools are currently participating, plus we will have an entry submission box at the Louisville Public Library for additional individual entries. Winners will be selected by Louisville Bee City USA Subcommittee volunteers. We will have gift cards from Sweet Cow for the winners. Artwork from our contest winners (and honorable mentions?) will be displayed at the Louisville Library and possibly at other City facilities.

### **Encourage Pollinator Education at Local Schools (Josh)**

The second grade at LES is currently studying insects. We could investigate places in the local school curricula where we could educate students about the importance of pollinators.

### **Louisville Community Garden outreach (Signe)**

Louisville has community gardens where citizens get a plot of land to garden to their heart's content. Could we "recruit" them to plant at least one pollinator bush or plant for the bees on their individual plot. This would be an easy project to execute.

### **Pollinator Houses and Native Plant Seed Strips (Susan)**

Sponsor a papermaking session with flower seeds impressed in the paper for kids. They can write a note of promise to the pollinators on the paper and then "plant" it so the seeds will germinate.

Coordinate an event at the Home Depot store to build bat and bee houses and help find places to install the houses.

Reach out to local nurseries that are neonic-free to see if they'll offer discounts to Marshall Fire victims when they're replanting their yards.

### **Policy Initiatives to Consider/Support (Josh)**

The Louisville City Council will consider a dark night sky lighting ordinance for residential properties later this year. Dark night skies are important for nocturnal pollinators. We could think about advocating for this ordinance.

No Mow May is an international effort to convince people not to mow their lawns during May so that pollinators can make use of all of the flowers that bloom in the spring. We could publicize this effort, and we could ask the City to adopt this policy.

Louisville City Council will also be considering a ban on gasoline-powered landscaping equipment later this year. Studies have shown that air pollution from such equipment negatively impacts insects and mowing and blowing negatively impacts insects and their habitats. We could think about advocating for this ordinance.

The golf course is the only City property where glyphosate and certain other pesticides are permitted. There are a handful of so-called organic golf courses across the world. We could push our golf course towards organic practices including the inclusion of native, pollinator-friendly plantings along the course's edges.



## **Opportunities with Butterfly Pavilion – Louisville Bee City**

1. Pollinator education
  - a. Butterfly Pavilion offers presentations and hands-on workshops about how to create habitat for pollinators. These can be scheduled especially at a time and place that works for the Louisville community, or we can share programs that are already planned here at Butterfly Pavilion.
  - b. Butterfly Pavilion's Pollinator Palooza in May and June will offer a variety of programs for all ages about how we can all "bee the change" for imperiled pollinators.
  - c. Butterfly Pavilion can be a part of any local pollinator festivals or celebrations. Our educators bring hands-on activities and lots of educational materials .
  - d. The Pollinator Protectors series of trainings educates adults on how to lead their neighborhoods and networks to greater appreciation and stewardship of pollinators in residential areas.
  - e. Our education department has in-person, after school, and distance learning options for K-12 school programs. One of our recent offerings is a series of programs in which the students design and plant their own pollinator habitat at the school.
2. Pollinator habitat restoration
  - a. Butterfly Pavilion is already planning to collaborate with Louisville's open space department on the planting, maintenance, and monitoring of pocket prairies. We'd like to get more Louisville residents involved with this effort. We also work with Friends of Coal Creek on various opportunities throughout the north metro area.
  - b. Butterfly Pavilion offers Restoration Master Volunteer trainings, which are open to all Louisville residents, for those who are interested in ensuring biodiversity has a place in their urban and suburban natural areas (I provided information to John about these trainings.)
  - c. Butterfly Pavilion's science team can advise land managers about best practices in pollinator habitat restoration.
3. Pollinator participatory science
  - a. Butterfly Pavilion can lead "bioblitzes" in which members of the public assist in observing and identifying the pollinators in a particular location (or series of locations) for a defined period of time (usually 12-48 hours). These can be repeated yearly to document changes over time.
  - b. Via our Urban Prairies Project, we offer training in pollinator monitoring, for individuals interested in more in-depth understanding about what pollinators are in Louisville and what plants they are visiting.



- c. Butterfly Pavilion also offers trainings for our Colorado Butterfly Monitoring Network program. Individuals conduct repeated observations in one site over the course of the season (May-Sept). We can offer special trainings in Louisville or connect volunteers with trainings already scheduled at Butterfly Pavilion and other locations.

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