

#4-R-19
Bee City USA

April 17, 2019

Submitted By: Alderperson Meltzer, District 2; Alderperson Schultz, District 9

Referred To: Office of the Mayor

WHEREAS, bees and other pollinators have experienced critical population declines due to a combination of habitat loss, poor nutrition, pesticides including neo-nics and other systemic insecticides, fungicides, and herbicides, parasites, diseases, and climate change; and

WHEREAS, supporting pollinators fosters broad-based community engagement in environmental awareness and sustainability and benefits local and regional economies through healthier ecosystems, increased vegetable and fruit crop yields, and an increased demand for pollinator-friendly plant materials from local growers; and

WHEREAS, the City of Appleton's Municipal Code contains a comprehensive plan which uses "Smart Growth" principles as a framework for land-use decision making, including an Integrated Pest Management program, and establishes procedures for the conservation and effective management of natural resources, which include productive agricultural areas, environmentally sensitive areas, wetlands, wildlife habitat, parks and recreational resources, and stormwater retention ponds, and

WHEREAS, the City of Appleton's **Health in All Policy** Ordinance states that Stakeholder engagement is essential for ensuring that Health in All policies is responsive to community needs, and that the Appleton Pollinators, a community advocacy group, stands ready to provide such input; and

WHEREAS, the City of Appleton is in a unique position to leverage both its proven support of urban beekeeping practices, as well as its potential to significantly increase pollinator-friendly habitats on public lands, to encourage pollinator friendly weed control practices, and, most importantly, to incentivize its citizens to take direct and meaningful action on their own properties, and

WHEREAS, on June 21st of 2017, the Mayor of Appleton did proclaim, in recognition of the vital significance of protecting pollinator health, the third week in June **National Pollinator Week**, in Appleton, and did call upon its residents to celebrate the significance of pollinators with appropriate observances and activities, (Exhibit A) and

WHEREAS, the mission of BEE CITY USA is to galvanize communities to sustain pollinators, responsible for the reproduction of almost 90% of the world's flowering plant species, by providing them with healthy habitat, rich in a variety of native plants and free to nearly free of pesticides,

NOW, THEREFORE, THE COMMON COUNCIL OF APPLETON, WISCONSIN, HEREBY RESOLVES, that the Mayor, or his designee, is authorized to apply for and accept designation to the BEE CITY USA program; and

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED, that the Mayor or his designee is authorized to take such actions, including those enumerated in attached Project participation and implementation with the BEE CITY USA program.

(Exhibit B)

EXHIBIT A



PROCLAMATION

WHEREAS, the monarch butterfly, the honey bee, and other pollinators, including bats, birds and various beneficial insects, play a vital role in the health of Appleton's ecology and natural habitats; and

WHEREAS, pollinator losses over the past few decades require immediate attention to ensure the safety of these populations and the sustainability of our environmental health and food production systems; and

WHEREAS, the monarch butterfly is an iconic North American species, whose multigenerational migration and metamorphosis from caterpillar to butterfly has captured the imagination of millions of Americans; and

WHEREAS, honey bee and monarch populations can be restored through reestablishment of habitat, removal of environmental stresses, and reduced application of herbicides and pesticides; and

WHEREAS, every resident of Appleton can make a difference for the monarch and the honey bee by planting native milkweed and nectar plants to provide habitat and forage for the monarch and pollinators in locations where people live, work, learn and play; and

WHEREAS the United States Senate has designated the third week in June as "National Pollinator Week" in recognition of the valuable role pollinators play in our delicate ecosystem supporting terrestrial wildlife, providing healthy watershed and more; and

WHEREAS, the City of Appleton has recently sought designation as a bird city as well as expanded bee-keeping options for its residents; and

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT I, TIMOTHY M. HANNA, Mayor of the City of Appleton, Wisconsin, in recognition of the vital significance of protecting pollinator health, do hereby proclaim the week of June 19 – 25, 2017

NATIONAL POLLINATOR WEEK

in Appleton and call upon residents of Appleton to join me in celebrating the significance of pollinators with appropriate observances and activities.

Signed and sealed this 21st day of June, 2017.



TIMOTHY M. HANNA
MAYOR OF APPLETON



EXHIBIT B

Project Participation for BEE CITY USA® affiliate

In order to enhance understanding among local government staff and the public about the vital role pollinators play and what each of us can do to sustain them, Appleton chooses to support and encourage healthy pollinator habitat creation and enhancement, resolving as follows:

1. The City of Appleton is hereby designated as the BEE CITY USA sponsor.
2. The Mayor or his designee will assign a representative of the City of Appleton as the BEE CITY USA Liaison, within 30 days of the adoption of this resolution.
3. Facilitation of the Appleton BEE CITY USA program is assigned to the Appleton Pollinators, a community advocacy group for pollinator awareness and engagement.
4. The Appleton Pollinators group is authorized to and shall:
 - a. **Celebration:** Host at least one educational event or pollinator habitat planting or restoration each year to showcase Appleton's commitment to raising awareness of pollinator conservation and expanding pollinator health and habitat.
 - b. **Publicity & Information:** Facilitate the installation and maintenance of at least one authorized BEE CITY USA street sign in a prominent location, and provide information for an Appleton website page, within its Sustainability page, which includes, at minimum:
 - a copy of this resolution and links to the national BEE CITY USA website;
 - contact information for Appleton's BEE CITY USA Liaison and Appleton Pollinators group;
 - reports of the pollinator-friendly activities the community has accomplished the previous year(s); and
 - a recommended native plant species list and integrated pest management plan (explained below).
 - c. **Habitat:** Develop and implement a program to create or expand pollinator-friendly habitat on public and private land, which includes, but is not limited to, the following actions:
 - Identify and inventory Appleton public properties that can be enhanced with pollinator-friendly plantings.
 - Create a recommended locally native plant list to include wildflowers, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees and a list of local suppliers for those species.
 - Track (by square footage and/or acreage) annual area of pollinator habitat created or enhanced.
 - d. **Pollinator-Friendly Pest Management:** Review and adapt the existing integrated pest management (IPM) plan designed to prevent pest problems, reduce pesticide use, and expand the use of non-chemical pest management methods.
 - e. **Policy:** Include in the City of Appleton's Sustainability Plan, acknowledgment of and commitment to the BEE CITY USA designation.
 - f. **Plan Review:** Review the Sustainability Plan and other relevant documents to: consider improvements to pest management policies and practices as they relate to pollinator conservation, identify appropriate locations for pollinator-friendly plantings, and consider other appropriate measures.
 - g. **Renewal:** After completing the first calendar year as a BEE CITY USA affiliate, each February, apply for renewal of the Appleton's BEE CITY USA designation following the format provided by BEE CITY USA, including a report of the previous year's BEE CITY USA activities, and paying the renewal fee based on Appleton's population.