

## RESOLUTION #4-R-19

Designating Appleton, Wisconsin as a BEE CITY USA® affiliate.

**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; and

**WHEREAS**, thanks to the more than 3,600 species of native bees in the United States, along with introduced honey bees, we have very diverse dietary choices rich in fruits, nuts, and vegetables; and

**WHEREAS**, bees and other pollinators have experienced population declines due to a combination of habitat loss, poor nutrition, pesticides (including insecticides, fungicides, and herbicides), parasites, diseases, and climate change; and

**WHEREAS**, pollinator-friendly communities can benefit local and regional economies through healthier ecosystems, increased vegetable and fruit crop yields, and increased demand for pollinator-friendly plant materials from local growers; and

**WHEREAS**, ideal pollinator-friendly habitat (A) is comprised of mostly native wildflowers, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees blooming in succession throughout the growing season to provide diverse and abundant nectar and pollen, since many wild pollinators prefer or depend on the native plants with which they co-adapted; (B) is free to nearly free of pesticides, as many pesticides can harm pollinators and/or their habitat; (C) comprises undisturbed spaces (leaf and brush piles, unmown fields or field margins, fallen trees and other dead wood) for nesting and overwintering; and (D) provides connectivity between habitat areas to support pollinator movement and resilience; and

**WHEREAS**, Integrated Pest Management (IPM) is a long-term approach to maintaining healthy landscapes and facilities that minimizes risks to people and the environment by: identifying and removing the causes of pest problems rather than only attacking the symptoms (the pests); employing pests' natural enemies along with cultural, mechanical, and physical controls when prevention is not enough; and using pesticides only when no other method is feasible or effective; and

**WHEREAS**, supporting pollinators fosters broad-based community engagement in environmental awareness and sustainability; 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 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 21<sup>st</sup> 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

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

**BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED**, that in order to enhance understanding among local government staff and the public about the vital role that pollinators play and what each of us can do to sustain them, the Mayor or his designee is authorized to take such actions, including those enumerated below 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 Appleton's BEE CITY USA program is assigned to Pollenablers-Fox Cities, a community advocacy group for pollinator awareness and engagement.
4. Pollenablers-Fox Cities and the City of Appleton are 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:** Install and maintain at least one authorized BEE CITY USA street sign in a prominent location, and create and maintain a webpage on Appleton's website which includes, at minimum a copy of this resolution and links to the national BEE CITY USA website; contact information for your BEE CITY USA Liaison and Committee; reports of the pollinator-friendly activities the community has accomplished the previous year(s); and your 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, identifying and inventorying Appleton's real property that can be enhanced with pollinator-friendly plantings; creating a recommended locally native plant list to include wildflowers, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees and a list of local suppliers for those species; and, tracking (by square footage and/or acreage) annual area of pollinator habitat created or enhanced.
  - d. **Pollinator-Friendly Pest Management:** Review and adapt if necessary its Turf Management Plan and Grounds Management plan to prevent pest problems, reduce pesticide use, and expand the use of non-chemical pest management methods.
  - e. **Policy & Plans:** Establish a policy in the Appleton Sustainability Plan to acknowledge and commit to the BEE CITY USA designation and 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.
  - f. **Renewal:** After completing the first calendar year as a BEE CITY USA affiliate, each February, apply for renewal of 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.

ADOPTED by the Common Council of Appleton this \_\_\_ day of \_\_\_\_\_, 20\_\_.