

Food Policy Council Progress Report Pollinator Protection Work Group October 2018

Responses to Six Questions posed by the Community Engagement Work Group in 9/5/18 memo to all Madison Food Policy Council Work Groups

1. Background: What is the general issue you're focused on, or the mission of the group? Why are you working on this? Please include any key materials or documents, e.g. council resolution, handouts, reports etc.

- What is the Work Group focused on?
 - Protecting pollinators from threats and hazards
 - Preserving existing pollinator habitat and encouraging more
 - Educating city staff and the public about pollinator-related issues
 - Providing guidance to city staff and the public
- Why is this being worked on?
 - Colony collapse among honeybees
 - Pollination is essential to food production
 - Importance of City leadership on the issue
- Key Materials
 - Pollinator Protection Task Force
 - June 2014 White House memo asks federal agencies to study pollinator impacts
 - Dane County and State of Wisconsin establish study groups
 - October 2014 proposed by MFPC, approved by Common Council Resolution
 - December 2014 convened (with city staff from 7 departments)
 - August 2015 report and recommendations finalized
 - Pollinator Protection Work Group
 - Created by Food Policy Council in 2016 to implement recommendations in the Task Force Report
 - Terrace Planting Brochure

2. Accomplishments:

- 2014-2015 Pollinator Protection Task Force met monthly for one year
 - MFPC members Rhodes-Conway, Clarke and Fey, Alder Zellers
 - collaborated with Dane County and State of Wisconsin
 - provided recommendations to Common Council
- 2016 Work Group created by Food Policy Council
- 2017 Madison approved as Bee City USA, identified future actions
- 2017 Began working with Beichen Tian on Pollinator Habitat Map
- 2017 Madison signed the Monarch Pledge of National Wildlife Federation

- 2017-2018 with Edible Landscapes & Terrace Planting Work Group
 - Revised City's natural lawns/landscapes ordinance
 - Revised City's noxious weeds ordinance
 - Produced and published brochure to educate the community about these changes, provide resources for plantings and practices
- 2018 established Task Force to review the City's Integrated Pest Management Policy (adopted in 2004)
 - Notified appropriate departments/division and city committees
 - Requested representatives to serve as liaisons
 - Drafted possible survey of current city practices
 - Drafted enabling resolution to Common Council (passed 7/24/18)
- 2018 continued work on potential Habitat Suitability Map on city website
- 2018 developing signage to educate community re: Bee City membership

3. Current Projects/Key Issues: What are you actively working on?

Do you have a work plan?

- The Integrated Pest Management Policy Review Task Force (IPM-PRTF) will be meeting from October 2018 and February 2019, when it will be making recommendations to the Common Council on how the current policy (dated 2004) could be revised and implemented for city agencies that use pesticides on city property. Martinson, Fey and Zellers will provide updates at monthly MFPC meetings.
- Reviewing Pollinator Protection Task Force Report for new projects now that the IPM Policy Review Task Force has been established
- Workplan for 2019 will be based on projects chosen from list of recommendations in Pollinator Protection Task Force Report (see #4)

4. Next Steps: What are your next goals? What is the timeframe for those goals?

What does the group expect to need help with in the next 6 -12 months?

- Currently reviewing the 2015 Pollinator Protection Task Force Report for new projects now that the IPM Policy Review Task Force is under way.
- Projects in the report are categorized by likely timetable, so the Work Group will likely choose several that range from short through medium and long range.

5. Participants: Please note any Madison Food Policy Council members, city staff, alders, etc. you may be working with, and describe key relationships with community partners.

- Food Policy Council community members currently include Fey and Martinson. (former member Nathan Clarke, beekeeper)
- Olbrich Gardens Director Roberta Sladky
- Alder Ledell Zellers is also a member of the Food Policy Council
- George Reistad (Food Policy Coordinator) staffs the Work Group, and is assisted by Karl van Lith (Organizational Development) on the IPM-PRTF

6. Website Presence:

What would you like the city's website to say about your work? What materials would you like to be linked there?

- The website already includes the following:
 - Pollinator Protection Task Force Report 2015
 - Terrace Planting brochure
 - Edible Landscapes permit process
- The following should be added:
 - Task Force Recommendations Spreadsheet updated October 2018
 - IPM-PRTF enabling resolution and roster

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