



**AGENDA  
CITY OF CREVE COEUR  
HORTICULTURE, ECOLOGY AND  
BEAUTIFICATION COMMITTEE  
CITY HALL- MEETING ROOM 2  
MARCH 26, 2025  
4:30 PM**

**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

1. Approval of February 19, 2025 HEB Committee Meeting Minutes

**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

2. Arbor Day
3. Conway Park Pond Rehabilitation Project

**NEW BUSINESS**

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

4. Friday, April 25, 2025  
Meet at Tappmeyer at 2 p.m.

**ADJOURNMENT**

Posted by: \_\_\_\_\_

Date/Time posted: \_\_\_\_\_

***If you need special accommodations to attend a meeting, services may be arranged by contacting the Office of the City Administrator in advance.***



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**CALL TO ORDER**

**ROLL CALL**

Committee Chair Mara Berry - Present  
Committee Member Paulette Pierson (Vice-Chair) - Present  
Committee Member Fran Cantor- Present  
Committee Member Rachel Eilbott- Present  
Committee Member Gene Rovak- Present  
Committee Member Carol Mueller - Absent

Council Liaison David Hoffman - Absent  
Staff Liaison Emily Groves - Present

Others in attendance: Public Information Officer, Melissa Bradford and Assistant Public Works Director/City Engineer, Steve Berecz

**APPROVAL OF MINUTES**

**1. Approval of 12/18/2024 DRAFT Minutes**

<p><b>RESULT: APPROVED</b> <b>MOVER:</b> Mara Berry <b>SECONDER:</b> Fran Cantor <b>AYES:</b> Mara Berry, Paulette Pierson, Fran Cantor, Gene Rovak <b>ABSTAIN:</b> Rachel Eilbott</p>
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**UNFINISHED BUSINESS**

**2. Runnymede**

Mara advised the committee that she had been in communication with the Runnymede subdivision president, Marsha, and that the project for the West/Shelter side of the Runnymede entrance off of Ladue Road was not a big project. Mara has made resource recommendations, including MO Wildflowers, and a consultant, Scott Woodbury, who runs a native design landscaping company. This business has now been completed and closed, and we will look forward to seeing what develops at the Runnymede subdivision entrance.



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### **3. Arbor Day**

The Arbor Day event is coming together.

Action Items:

- Fran will contact the St. Louis Audubon Society and Wild Ones.
- Mara will reach out to Forest ReLeaf, Grow Native! (MO Prarie Foundation), and the Chairs for the Arts Committee, Parks & Historic Preservation Committee, Energy & Environment Committee, and the Stormwater Committee to ask if they would like to staff a table at the event.
- PIO Melissa will order some Arbor Day yard signs to help spread the word.
- Staff liaison, Emily, will gather the aforementioned committee chairs' contact information for Mara.
- Emily will contact MSD and a member of the Purple Martin Society (who is also a Bluebird SME) to see if they would like to participate in Creve Coeur's Arbor Day event.
- Emily will compare the list of schools and assisted living facilities that Rachel brought with the list of institutions we have already contacted to ensure no one was left out and everyone has been invited.
- Emily will reach out to City Arborist, Matt Kammerer to request a 5' dogwood in a 2-3 gallon pot for planting during the Arbor Day event.
- Emily will contact Recreation Director, Jason Valvero to ensure that we have **the** key and the alarm code for Tappmeyer, and ensure that the HEB committee will have access to the house from 2-4pm on Friday, April 25th for event set-up.
- We will all make note and keep in mind for future years, that this event should only be 1.5 hours maximum.

### **4. Monarch Butterfly Banners**

The committee unanimously agreed that PIO Melissa's mock-up of the Creve Coeur Monarch banner was perfect, and gave the go-ahead to order from The Flag Loft. Mara reminded the committee that only half of the banners would be replaced, and we will be hanging them alternately with the old banners. The committee will make note to review the Creve Coeur logo (size, accuracy, etc.) on the old banners when it comes time to



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replace them.

**5. Ordinance Wording Update**

Fran Cantor and Mark Perkins have not reconvened to discuss the ordinance wording yet. Emily will ask Mark to arrange a time to meet with Fran and finalize the changes to the wording.

**6. Raingarden Article Update**

Gene Rovak has started putting something together. The Raingarden article has been put on hold until closer to April. We will revisit this at the March 26th HEB Committee meeting.

**NEW BUSINESS**

**7. Conway Park Pond Rehabilitation Project**

Steve Bercz presented the Conway Park Pond Rehabilitation Project PowerPoint to the committee. The committee learned that dredging was going to be costly and difficult to maintain over time, whereas a pocket wetland would bring many of the same benefits as a lake, but at a more reasonable cost of both labor and money. Gene asked about dimensions (~400X60) and shared that a good way to mitigate sediment build-up would be to have large/clean rip-wrap to filter any runoff before ending up in the lake/marsh/wetland. Gene said that a natural bottom would be fine, but opting for concrete over rip-wrap may not be for the best in the long run. (SWIM Model???) Fran confirmed that a similar rip-wrap was built in Westchester in 2001, and has not needed dredging attention since. Steve agreed to bring Gene's expertise to the company which the city is working with on this project (Intuition Logic). Steve asked for feedback on the best plantings for the area based on the Cypress Tree Island pocket wetland concept, which will include mixed-size raised planting beds and submerged aquatic beds. Claire started by advising that a few grasses would be good, with shorter rushes along the edges. In no specific order and at the time of the meeting, the committee recommended the following for shallow areas: Buttonbush, Rattlesnake Master, Joepyeweed, Big & Little Bluestem, and Cardinal Flower (like damp, not soaking), and for deeper water areas, the committee recommended Iris (especially Copper Iris) and Hardy Hibiscus.

Other recommendations included various echinacea (aka Coneflower), milkweed, and blue lobelia. The committee has been asked to send any additional recommendations



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to Emily by no later than March 5, 2025.

Steve Berez, Assistant Director of Public Works and City Engineer, requested feedback/thoughts/opinions from the committee regarding older trees along Bellington Lane, which are negatively affecting the sidewalk. They are large trees, and there is not enough room in the easement between the sidewalk and the street to allow effective root-trimming as a solution. The committee asked about the types of trees. The trees in question are Sweet Gum, Pin Oak, maybe some maple, but not sure which variety, and at least one Persimmon. The committee asked if the affected residents had any opinions, but were advised that this had not been addressed with the residents at this stage. The committee agreed that if the Pin Oaks had burrs that they would most likely not be missed and residents may be pleased that the city took care of them before they became hazardous. Fran stated to the committee that slipping on Sweet Gum balls is one of the leading causes of broken wrists, and that many people would not be opposed to getting rid of that hazard by removing the trees. The committee agreed that Sweet Gum trees are not a favorite, and asked what types of trees could replace the ones that the city removes. Steve Berez advised that there would be more "parkway appropriate" trees, but did not have specifics at the time.

**NEXT MEETING DATE**

**8. March 26, 2024**

**ADJOURNMENT**

Mara announced to the HEB Committee that she is running for City Council. The committee was happy and excited for Mara, but asked if she would please become the Council Liaison for HEB so that she may continue working with the committee. Mara stated that David Hoffman might not want to hand over a committee he enjoys being a part of. Mara assured the committee that she would still participate in the Arbor Day Event even though she would be leaving the HEB committee in April.

Mara motioned to adjourn at 5:38p.m., and Fran seconded.



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