



Urban Forestry Commission Meeting

Cravath Lakefront room 2nd floor 312 West
Whitewater Str, Whitewater, WI, 53190 *In Person
and Virtual

Monday, April 06, 2026 - 5:30 PM

**Citizens are welcome (and encouraged) to join our webinar via computer, smart phone, or telephone.
Citizen participation is welcome during topic discussion periods.**

<https://teams.microsoft.com/meet/23760463515772?p=AiS7j2osuwM4RA3gkQ>

Please note that although every effort will be made to provide for virtual participation, unforeseen technical difficulties may prevent this, in which case the meeting may still proceed as long as there is a quorum. Should you wish to make a comment in this situation, you are welcome to call this number: (262) 473-0108.

AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

ROLL CALL

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

A committee member can choose to remove an item from the agenda or rearrange its order; however, introducing new items to the agenda is not allowed. Any proposed changes require a motion, a second, and approval from the Committee to be implemented. The agenda shall be approved at each meeting even if no changes are being made at that meeting.

CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the Consent Agenda will be approved together unless any committee member requests that an item be removed for individual consideration.

1. Urban Forestry Commission meeting minutes from February 2, 2026.
2. Urban Forestry Commission meeting minutes from February 23, 2026.

HEARING OF CITIZEN COMMENTS

No formal Committee action will be taken during this meeting although issues raised may become a part of a future agenda. Participants are allotted a three minute speaking period. Specific items listed on the agenda may not be discussed at this time; however, citizens are invited to speak to those specific issues at the time the Committee discusses that particular item.

To make a comment during this period, or during any agenda item: On a computer or handheld device, locate the controls on your computer to raise your hand. You may need to move your mouse to see these controls. On a traditional telephone, dial *6 to unmute your phone and dial *9 to raise your hand.

CONSIDERATIONS / DISCUSSIONS / REPORTS

3. Discuss email responses and walking quorums.

4. Update from City Forester.
- [5.](#) Discussion and possible action on becoming a Bee City USA member.
- [6.](#) Discussion and possible action on becoming a Monarch City USA member.
7. Discussion, possible action and necessary planning for 2026 Tree Sale.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

A quorum of the Common Council may be present. This notice is given to inform the public that no formal action will be taken at this meeting.

Anyone requiring special arrangements is asked to call the Office of the City Manager / City Clerk (262-473-0102) at least 72 hours prior to the meeting.



Urban Forestry Commission Meeting

Cravath Lakefront room 2nd floor 312 West
Whitewater Str, Whitewater, WI, 53190 *In Person
and Virtual

Monday, February 02, 2026 - 5:30 PM

MINUTES

CALL TO ORDER

Meeting called to order at 5:30 p.m.

ROLL CALL

PRESENT

Board Member Sherry Stanek
Board Member Marjorie Stoneman
Chairperson Nicholas Alt
Board Member Kerry Katovich
Board Member Bill Chandler

ABSENT

Board Member Joshua Kapfer

STAFF

Andrew Beckman, Arborist
Llana Dostie
Brad Marquardt, Director of Public Works

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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Motion made by Board Member Stanek, Seconded by Board Member Stoneman.

Voting Yea: Board Member Stanek, Board Member Stoneman, Chairperson Alt, Board Member Katovich, Board Member Chandler

CONSENT AGENDA

Items on the Consent Agenda will be approved together unless any committee member requests that an item be removed for individual consideration.

1. Urban Forestry Commission meeting minutes from September 29, 2025.

Motion made by Board Member Stanek, Seconded by Board Member Chandler.

Voting Yea: Board Member Stanek, Board Member Stoneman, Chairperson Alt, Board Member Katovich, Board Member Chandler

CONSIDERATIONS / DISCUSSIONS / REPORTS

2. Discussion on tree health concerns along Jefferson Street and justification for planned removals.

Andrew Beckman, Arborist stated that most of the trees will be removed. There will 7 trees that will be spaded and moved to the dog park. Most are Norway maples. There is rot in a lot of the trees.

Nick asked if the street is getting higher?

Beckman confirmed that.

Nick stated that most of the trees are not native.

Beckman is going to plant what belongs there.

Nick asked about if Beckman had a chance to put the electric underground?

Beckman stated that it would costly.

Margie asked if the city would be providing a letter to the owners that that the trees are coming down.

Marquardt stated that information was included in the informational letter and will be included in the letter closer to the start of the project.

3. Discussion and possible action on Whitewater Unified School District landscape plan for the Whitewater High School improvement project.

Stanek stated that none of the plantings are native plants. Boxwood is temperamental in our environment.

Beckman stated he thinks they are trying to not get a bunch of seeds cooking in the location which is why they are going with the espresso coffee trees. There are a lot of batches of all the same stuff. Beckman stated that the board members need to get him their suggestions by end of day of Thursday.

Motion that we approve the landscape plan for the high school with alterations and recommendations made by UFS members to the City Forester

Motion made by Board Member Stanek, Seconded by Board Member Stoneman.

Voting Yea: Board Member Stanek, Board Member Stoneman, Chairperson Alt, Board Member Katovich, Board Member Chandler

4. Discussion and possible action on Whitewater Unified School District landscape plan for the Whitewater Middle School improvement project.

Alt stated there are only three plant selections.

Stanek stated that there are a lot of them.

Dostie provided a background, that we requested that they provide a plant buffer between the bus exit and the house on W. Highland.

Beckman stated that Colorado spruce should include northern white. A narrow type of tree.

Stanek stated she would like a buffer by the drive for the house on S. Elizabeth.

Motion that we approve the middle school landscape plan with the conditions that the school district create a suitable buffer that the City Forester can approve at both ends of the bus lane so on S. Elizabeth Street and on W. Highland with recommended native trees from UFC and City Forester.

Motion made by Board Member Stanek, Seconded by Board Member Stoneman.

Voting Yea: Board Member Stanek, Board Member Stoneman, Chairperson Alt, Board Member Katovich, Board Member Chandler

5. Discussion and possible action on an education piece for the Whitewater Banner why the Bradford Pear tree should not be used in plantings and the environmental impact of planting them.

Kerry stated he thought that Josh had arranged for an environmental studies student.

Nick asked if we needed the author's permission?

Stanek stated we should ask the student if they want credit.

Motion to have Sherry submit to the Banner once we have found out if the student wants credit along with photo.

Motion made by Board Member Stoneman, Seconded by Chairperson Alt.

Voting Yea: Board Member Stanek, Board Member Stoneman, Chairperson Alt, Board Member Katovich, Board Member Chandler

6. Discussion and possible action on an education session at the Arboretum in 2026.

Stanek stated that she has talked to Jim Neis he is willing to do it again as long we work with him. He doesn't want to do it alone.

Alt asked if there was a date in mind?

Stanek confirmed that there is not date in mind.

Alt wanted confirmation about no date currently.

Stanek stated that there is so much going on during the tree sale we would likely want to do that later.

Stoneman asked when the tree sale is.

Stanek confirmed end of April.

7. Discussion on Whitewater Community Foundation grant award and potential signage to purchase with the funds.

Stanek stated the foundation awarded us \$1,000. Jay has contacted a number of times since Sherry and Jay were unable meet he was are are going to mail the check. Sherry will check with Kevin when he gets back about the check.

Beckman stated the sign is put into concrete and placed in at ground level.

Stoneman asked who would be deciding about what is on the sign.

Stanek stated that there would be a sub committee.

Stoneman asked if we can get a pictures once the signs get put in.

Motion to do the photo op after the signs up with community foundation.

Motion made by Board Member Stoneman, Seconded by Board Member Chandler.

Voting Yea: Board Member Stanek, Board Member Stoneman, Chairperson Alt, Board Member Katovich, Board Member Chandler

8. Discussion on what to do with the wood from the Territorial Oak.

Stanek stated that the wood is aging. It is has been cut and clamped and drying.

Alt asked if Russ was going to the library bench?

Stanek stated we already voted on it.

Stoneman asked who is paying for this.

Stanek stated that there has not been any payment demands given. Russ wants to have lasting pieces.

Alt asked is it on here because we need to figure out what to do with the tree that wasn't taken by Russ.

Dostie explained that was her understanding.

Beckman stated he thought Russ was taking it all. But it is still there.

Stanek stated she will ask Russ will take it all and found out from Andy what is left.

9. Discussion and possible action on a spring clean up day at the Arboretum.

Alt stated that today is last day on Urban Forestry. Not doing justice to the spot. Will be sending out email. Can still help with the tree sale but that will be his last commitment.

Stanek stated she will appreciate it if he will do the sale in conjunction with Urban Forestry.

If there is not other action than his suggestion this item can be removed.

No action taken

10. Discussion and possible action on installation of Monarch Waystation sign at Clay Street Nature Park.

Stanek stated that Richard Anberg has been taking care of the beds. The city had to do some work there this summer. Thinks that it would be helpful so that people know what the bed is there. The sign from Monarch watch is \$25.00

Beckman stated that yes it can go in the bed.

Stanek stated only a sign where the milkweed is going.

Alt asked if Stanek if this is on here because we need to spend money.

Motion to spend \$25.00 to order a monarch way station sign for Clay Street Nature Park.

Motion made by Board Member Stanek, Seconded by Board Member Chandler.
Voting Yea: Board Member Stanek, Board Member Stoneman, Chairperson Alt, Board Member Katovich, Board Member Chandler

BIRD CITY

Chandler provide his notes for Bird City to be added to the minutes.

Stanek stated that Bird City renewal for March 15, 2026.

11. Discussion and possible action on contracting Fellow Mortals to conduct an educational program at the 2026 Swift Night Out for \$100.00.

Motion to mail \$100.00 to Fellow Mortals to make a presentation at Swift night out, August 29.

Motion made by Board Member Chandler, Seconded by Board Member Stanek.
Voting Yea: Board Member Stanek, Board Member Stoneman, Chairperson Alt, Board Member Katovich, Board Member Chandler

12. Discussion on Bird of the Year Contest.

Stanek stated defer this to next meeting.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

Signage for Arboritum

Territorial Oak for wood not taken by Russell

New Chairperson

Yard of Year (native slate) with a monetary prize

Bird of the Year Contest

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 6:35 p.m.

Motion made by Board Member Katovich, Seconded by Board Member Chandler.
Voting Yea: Board Member Stanek, Board Member Stoneman, Chairperson Alt, Board Member Katovich, Board Member Chandler

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DRAFT

For the Birds

Urban Forestry February 2, 2026

Action Item. Update the Bird City webpage by adding the live cam of the bird feeding station and the video of the Swift dive into the MS chimney.

The Purple Martin annual membership is renewed. The quarterly PMA magazine will be shared with landlords of city-owned Martin houses.

Welcome to new Whitewater Purple Martin landlord - Carol McCormick. She will be included in the communication loop of Martin lovers.

The Whitewater Swift Night Out date is listed in the Wis. DNR website.

\$50 was paid to Fellow Mortals Wildlife Hospital in Lake Geneva to present wildlife at Swift Night Out.

The Urban Forestry Commission is requested to again table at the SNO, the International Children's Day, and the Third Annual Unity Walk at the Armory at 10a-noon on Saturday July 18.

The Swift Night Out will be held on Saturday, August 29. It will commence at 7pm in the Whitewater Middle School cafeteria with a 15-minute presentation of wildlife by the Fellow Mortals Wildlife Hospital from Lake Geneva and presentations by experts TBD from the Whitewater Urban Forestry Commission. At 7:30 the featured performers will start diving by the hundreds into the Whitewater MS chimney.

Reason for inside location.

The inside location will be easier on wildlife away from the lights and generator of the food truck and audience chatter. The cafeteria has probable access to electricity if needed and seating for the audience. Also, the inside audience will be quieter, and it will be easier for them to see the wildlife. Most importantly, because the audience can use umbrellas outside for 15-20 minutes to view the dive, the Swift Night Out will not be cancelled due to rain.

Suggestions are now requested from UFC to fill the remaining 15-minute time slot

Possible presenters: Kerry Katovich and Joshua Kapfer, wildlife experts from UWW, Nick Alt and/or Jim Nies Why Diversity in Nature, Sherry Stanek thank you to Whitewater Community Foundation for signage in Starin Park Arboretum and Overview of UFC, Impact of AI data centers, Benefits of solar and wind, other possible presenters?



Urban Forestry Commission Meeting Item 2.

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Monday, February 23, 2026 - 5:30 PM

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AGENDA

CALL TO ORDER

Called to order by Vice Chair Chandler at 5:30PM.

ROLL CALL

Present: Bill Chandler, Josh Kapfer, Kerry Katovich, Sherry Stanek, Margarie Stoneman.

Staff: Andrew Beckman, Kevin Boehm

Guests: Nick Alt

APPROVAL OF AGENDA

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Motioned to approve by Stanek. Seconded by Kapfer. Ayes: Chandler, Stanek, Kapfer, Katovich, Stoneman. Nays: None.

CONSENT AGENDA

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1. Urban Forestry Commission meeting minutes from February 2, 2026.

Motioned by Stanek to table to the next meeting due to minutes not being provided at the meeting in paper form. Seconded by Chandler. Ayes: Stanek, Kapfer, Katovich, Stoneman, Chandler.

HEARING OF CITIZEN COMMENTS

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None

CONSIDERATIONS / DISCUSSIONS / REPORTS

- 2. Election of Chairperson.
Moted by Stoneman, seconded by Katovich to nominate Stanek for Chair. Stanek accepted nomination. Ayes: Kapfer, Katovich, Stoneman, Chandler, Stanek.
- 3. Discussion and possible action regarding 2026 Tree Sale
Discussion was had by all to determine the needs of the committee to have a successful tree sale with Nick Alt stepping down from the UFC. Alt provided details on what needed to be done yet. He will continue to assist with this tree sale. Chandler will help with picking up the trees. No action taken.

FUTURE AGENDA ITEMS

ADJOURNMENT

Meeting adjourned at 5:55pm.

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Please do not pass this resolution until your city/county has started a Bee City Application and Bee City USA has approved your draft resolution. Upload your draft resolution to your "Application" tab.

Below, you may modify the "Whereas" section of your resolution. The "Now, Therefore" section can be lightly modified, but the commitments cannot be deleted or greatly modified.

Questions? Email beecityusa@xerces.org.

RESOLUTION NO. _____

A RESOLUTION of [your city council or county commission of your city and state] designating [your city or county] 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, [your city or county] should be certified a BEE CITY USA community because [this is optional section for you to highlight anything your community has already done or plans to do to conserve pollinators]; and

NOW, THEREFORE, 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, [your city or county] chooses to support and encourage healthy pollinator habitat creation and enhancement, resolving as follows:

1. The [your city or county] [appropriate department name] Department is hereby designated as the BEE CITY USA sponsor.
2. The [appropriate position title] of [department above] is designated as the BEE CITY USA Liaison.
3. Facilitation of [your city or county]'s BEE CITY USA program is assigned to the [committee name] Committee.
4. The [committee name] Committee is authorized to and shall:
 - a. **Celebration:** Host at least one educational event or pollinator habitat planting or restoration each year to showcase [your city or county name]'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 the [your city or county name] 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 [City or County]'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:** Create and adopt an 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 & Plans:** Establish, through the [City or County], a policy in the [Plan name] Plan of [City's or County's] Comprehensive Plan to acknowledge and commit to the BEE CITY USA designation and review the [Plan name] 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 [your city or county name]'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 [your city or county name]'s population.

ADOPTED by the [City Council or County Commission] of the [your city or county name, state],
 this ___ day of _____, 20__.

BEE CITY USA
Beecityusa.org

Application steps

1. Form a committee.

Every committee will be different, but should include individuals with experience and interests that will help the committee complete the commitments. Committees generally include a mix of volunteers and city staff. We recommend including at least one park/grounds/landscape staffer. The committee should have a chair or multiple co-chairs. This committee should be managed either by the affiliate (i.e. City, County, or Township) or a non-profit organization and should have a regular meeting schedule that is open to the public. See the [resolution](#) for a full list of requirements associated with the committee.

2. Assign facilitation to a local government body or non-profit organization.

Assign facilitation of the Bee City USA effort to a new or existing committee. This committee may be based in a local government or with a non-profit organization and may be an existing committee or a newly formed subcommittee.

3. Designate a local government department as a sponsor.

Designate a local government department as the Bee City USA program and committee sponsor and an employee from that department as the Bee City USA committee liaison. The liaison may or may not serve on the Bee City USA committee, but they facilitate communications between the city, the city staff and elected body, and the Bee City USA committee as needed.

4. Complete the online application form.

[Log in](#) to create a profile and complete the online application form. Your application form will be reviewed once you indicate that it is complete and ready for review.

5. Complete the draft Bee City USA resolution.

Complete the [draft resolution](#) by downloading the template and updating the areas highlighted in yellow. *Please note: we ask that you [start an application](#) and upload your draft resolution for our approval before it is passed.*

join Monarch city usa

You can read about the requirements for joining Monarch City USA below, along with a list of practical steps to take once you've become a member. Once you have read all the information and feel confident you are ready to join, please click the **Register Now** button above to purchase your membership.

Don't hesitate to contact us via email with any questions you may have at ***info@monarchcityusa.com***

COST TO JOIN

To become a **Monarch City USA member**, a \$50 lifetime fee is required. We offer signs in three different designs to place around your town at \$150 each. Cities are encouraged to purchase at least 2 signs, with bulk discounts offered for larger sign orders. You can purchase 6 signs for the price of 5 with discount code: **6FOR5**. If registering as a local organization or civic group, you also have the option to purchase Monarch City USA signs.

ASK YOUR CITY

Your city council may require a presentation or letter for MC USA membership, and we have provided a sample city proclamation here: [SAMPLE LETTER](#). A short presentation at a city council meeting can help build support with local officials and let them know why your town should become a Monarch City. Be sure to include plenty of photos of the monarch in your talk, which always awe and inspire!

TAKE ACTION!

As part of your **Monarch City USA** membership, we ask that you read over this list of simple, positive actions and commit to implementing the ones that make sense for your community. Please note that Monarch City USA encourages a self-directed approach for our members and offers up these suggestions as a means of helpful guidance. They are not all mandatory, but highly suggested. We hope that you will use this as a jumping off point and provide ideas of your own too.

1. Publicly proclaim that your city is committed to helping the monarch butterflies survive by your immediate and future actions. (A good example is from Brookings, Oregon: <https://or-brookings.civicplus.com/AgendaCenter/ViewFile/Item/6170?fileID=12283>)
2. Encourage citizens to plant private milkweed and nectar gardens throughout your city.

3. Work with gardening, landscaping, and/or arboretum clubs in your city.
4. Join the national movement to support monarch butterfly habitat development by purchasing and placing Monarch City USA signs at appropriate sites.
5. Convert abandoned lands to monarch butterfly habitat.
6. Re-establish native milkweed and nectar plants where possible.
7. If possible, host an annual monarch butterfly festival. (Free advice is available from us, Monarch City USA.)
8. Integrate monarch butterfly conservation into the city's future land use planning efforts.
9. Work with the local K-12 school system and educators to promote a better understanding of land use conservation.
10. Investigate possible Monarch Butterfly Sanctuary sites.