

**CITY OF VANDALIA**  
**MONTGOMERY COUNTY, OHIO**

**RESOLUTION 16-R-91**

**A RESOLUTION DESIGNATING THE CITY OF VANDALIA OHIO 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 three-quarters of the world's plant species, by providing them with healthy habitat, rich in a variety of native plants and free to nearly free of pesticides; and

WHEREAS, bees and other pollinators have experienced population declines due to a combination of habitat loss, use of pesticides, and the spread of pests and diseases; 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 nurseries and growers; and

WHEREAS, due in part to the tremendous diversity of wild native bees, along with the honey bees that were brought to the United States from Europe in the 1700s, individuals have very diverse dietary choices rich in fruits, nuts, vegetables and even dairy products with one in every three bites of food eaten is courtesy of insect pollination; and

WHEREAS, ideal pollinator-friendly habitats: (i) provides diverse and abundant nectar and pollen from plants blooming in succession throughout the growing season; (ii) provides water for drinking, nest-building, cooling, diluting stored honey, and butterfly puddling; (iii) provides undisturbed spaces (leaf and brush piles, un-mowed fields or field margins, fallen trees and other dead wood) for nesting and overwintering for wild pollinators; (iv) is pesticide-free or has pesticide use carried out with least ill effects on pollinators; (v) is comprised of mostly, if not all, native species of annual and perennial forbs, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees in landscapes because many wild pollinators prefer or depend on the native plants with which they co-adapted; (vi) includes, where possible, designated pollinator zones in public spaces with signage to educate the public and build awareness; and, (vii) provides for safe and humane removal of honey bees when required.

WHEREAS, supporting pollinators fosters environmental awareness and sustainability, and increases interactions among community stewards, backyard beekeepers, farmers, children, educators, Master Gardeners, local businesses, faith-based organizations, and nature-related organizations; and

WHEREAS, 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 City of Vandalia chooses to support and encourage pollinator habitat creation and enhancement on both public and private land;

**NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED BY THE COUNCIL OF THE CITY OF VANDALIA, MONTGOMERY COUNTY, OHIO THAT:**

Section 1. The City Manager, Jon Crusey or his designee shall serve as the initial Bee City USA liaison and is authorized to take all reasonable action not adverse to the interest of the City to have the City of Vandalia designated as a Bee City USA sponsor.

Section 2. The City Manager is authorized to form, appoint members to, and assign facilitation of the Bee City USA program to, a committee known as the Vandalia Bee City USA Committee (the "Committee").

Section 3. The function of the Committee shall be to provide to the City Manager recommendations for the following: (i) annual recognition and celebration of National Pollinator Week (third full week of June) or some other appropriate occasion with educational events, pollinator habitat plantings or restoration, proclamations or promotions that showcase Vandalia's commitment to enhancing pollinator health and habitat' (ii) the installation and maintenance of at least one authorized BEE CITY USA sign in a prominent location, and creation and maintenance of a webpage on the City's website which includes, at minimum, a copy of this resolution, links to the national BEE CITY USA website, contact information for the local government's BEE CITY USA liaison, contact information for the Vandalia Bee City USA Committee and reports of the pollinator-friendly activities the community has accomplished the previous year(s); (iii) the implementation of a program to create or expand pollinator-friendly habitat, which can include, but is not limited to Identification and inventory of City real property that can be enhanced with pollinator-friendly plantings, creation of a recommended locally native species list to include forbs, grasses, vines, shrubs, and trees and a list of local suppliers for those species, creation of a least toxic pesticide management plan, dissemination of informational and educational materials to the public and tracking annual area of pollinator habitat created or enhanced by square footage and/or acreage; (iv) pesticide management policies and practices as they relate to pollinator conservation, identify appropriate locations for pollinator-friendly plantings, and consider other appropriate measures. The Committee shall appoint one of its members as the Bee City USA liaison who shall report to the City Manager

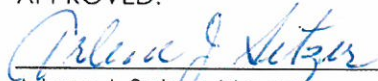
Section 3. After completing the first full year as a BEE CITY USA affiliate, in each January, the City Manager may apply for renewal of the City's BEE CITY USA designation following the format provided by BEE CITY USA, including a report of the previous year's BEE CITY USA activities, and subject to any necessary budget and appropriation requirements, pay the renewal fee based on the City's population.

Section 4. It is hereby found and determined that all formal actions of this Council concerning and relating to the passage of this legislation were adopted in an open meeting of this Council and that all deliberations of this Council and of any of its Committees that resulted in such formal action were taken in meetings open to the public and in conformance with all legal requirements including Section 121.22 of the Ohio Revised Code.

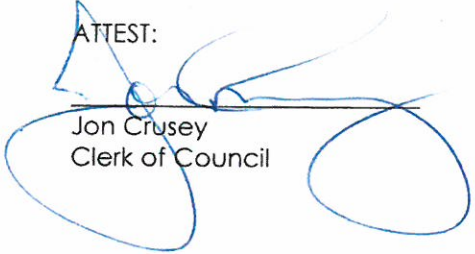
Section 5. This Resolution shall become effective immediately upon its passage.

Passed this 7th day of November, 2016.

APPROVED:

  
Arlene J. Setzer, Mayor

ATTEST:

  
Jon Crusey  
Clerk of Council