August 3, 2022 5:30 PM WRES

Environmental Committee Meeting

Present:

Catherine Colby
Mary Beth Sutton
Hannah Lynch
Barbara Womack
Tony Wheeler
Larry Roberts
Joe Davis
Linda Collins
Dawson Wheeler

- Larry Roberts discussed International Dark Skies Association and the fact that McCoy property is doing light reduction although they are not becoming an official Dark Sky Location. We could look at ordinances and see how other cities like Ashville manage light pollution. Shades downwards always needed to reduce glare into skies while still providing light in needed areas. Do we want to propose ordinance?
- Diane Ryder discussed pollinators in decline. We need to expand pollinator gardens across the mountain- can be combined with rainwater gardens for stormwater control. We can work with McCoy, Wild Ones, Reflection Riding and Nurseries. Diane will work on the application to Bee City and form a subcommittee.
- Hemlocks discussion by Barbara Womack. Must consider runoff and toxicity if treatment not done right. Will investigate how McCoy manages the Town of Walden's injectors and the advice that they give and update it if needed. Barbara will be working on a Nature Fest which the Environmental Committee will support.
- Stormwater. Catherine is getting a handle on options for increased Stormwater regulations. She is talking with Steve Casey a consultant from Nashville and has spoken to staff in Belle Meade(same size as Walden and with their own MS4 permit) about their independent stormwater strategies. She will be working with MTAS on what Walden can do- specifically to see if Walden can do an overlay on Hamilton County regulations to better protect Walden's lands and water.

Next meeting September 7, 2022.