

Cool Cities July 20, 2023

Present: Sherrill Wible, Stephanie Malench, Rachel Tompkins, Kristen Pauli

Guests: Rick Essner, Jo Gibson, Joe Carrington, Richard Worldzyn

Rick Essner spoke about the diversity of wildlife in the Edwardsville area. Takes students to Bohm Woods to study birds. Many rare species call Edwardsville home. Studies Illinois chorus frogs (an endangered species) living in Poag Sand Prairie. 300-800 adult frogs in the area. Heartlands Conservancy has been instrumental in saving them. Heartlands getting ready to close on approximately 70 acres along Poag Rd.

Protection could involve a culvert for frogs to cross or signs. Unincorporated so would be a County issue.

City can talk to DNR about controlling deer population.

Joe Carrington- Just wanted to see what Cool Cities is about.

Jo Gibson- Bike and Pedestrian Committee Chair- came to encourage collaboration between city committees since we have multiple goals in common. Email: jgibson@siue.edu. Initial meet and greet in the fall.

Sustainability plan only available by clicking to sign up.

Richard- would like to have a forest of evergreens in Edwardsville for hiking. Also wants to know why trees that are blown down in storms are not cleaned up in wooded areas.

Oldest tree in Edwardsville Competition- where do we stand?

Bee ordinance- none at this time and not needed because there are no problems.

Parking Ordinance- city staff discussing July 21.

Landscaping Ordinance- we want to retain tree canopy, plant native trees only, 50% of non-tree plantings must be native plants.

Native plant link on Cool Cities page to Grow Native

Green Cities Challenge- No update

Elections: Rachel Tompkins- Chair

Stephanie Malench- Vice Chair

Kristen Pauli- Secretary

Adjourned 7:42pm

Rachel V. Tompkins