

## Item 25-0226: Adopt Resolution 2025-01 Bird City Designation Renewal

### Parks and Recreation Committee

Mon, Mar 10, 2025 6:15PM

**Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 48:38**

Our last item this evening is 25-0226, to adopt the resolution 2025-01 Bird City Designation Renewal.

**Aldersperson Vaya Jones (District 10) 48:49**

Move to approve.

**Aldersperson Nate Wolff (District 12) 48:50**

Second.

**Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 48:50**

We have a motion to approve and a second. Any discussion? Before we take the vote, I did want to take a moment to acknowledge the passing of former aldersperson Joe Martin. He was passionately devoted to this committee and spearheaded the Bird City movement. I hope that his friends and family know that they are in our thoughts and our prayers, and I hope that they find comfort knowing the positive impact that he had on this community. Anyone? All right, hearing—oh, go ahead.

**Aldersperson Martyn Smith (District 4) 49:27**

Sorry.

**Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 49:28**

Go ahead.

**Aldersperson Martyn Smith (District 4) 49:28**

Thank you, Chair. Does this cost—so is this just something that we declare? I don't see anything further here.

**Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 49:36**

All that I saw here was that there was a migratory bird proclamation by the mayor. I don't see any other—

**Aldersperson Martyn Smith (District 4) 49:50**

And then we all—it says, "hereby renew its bird city designation," which I'm in favor of. But I'm just wondering if, does that come with a membership or something like that?

**Aldersperson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 50:00**

I think that what we could do is, before the next council meeting, we could have just a little bit more information on the—I think there's just a it's a very small membership fee, if I recall from the last time I discussed this. I want to say, like under \$200, but I honestly don't know if that still applies. So, if perhaps we could check with staff and have them provide that information. Alder Schultz?

**Aldersperson Alex Schultz (District 9) 50:01**

Yeah, for these and other designations there is small fee, some—ranging from \$50 to like the Bee City which is a \$400 annual fee. To date, the city has been covering the cost of all these certifications. So, I think it's in the mayor's budget if you want to—

**Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 50:37**

I recall seeing it in the budget. So, we can just make sure that that information is available, but I don't believe there's any additional cost from previous membership fees, but we'll make sure that that is available. Any other questions or comments? All right, hearing—oh, I'm sorry you. Would you like to speak on this item? And again, state your name and—

**Ron Jones (Appleton Sustainability Advisory Panel) 51:02**

Ron Jones, [XXXXX] in Appleton. And again, I'm speaking to you as a member of the Appleton Sustainability Advisory Panel and also as a board member of the local chapter of Wild Ones for natural landscaping. And this resolution—well, the—our panel, our advisory team, has been working on an initiative, as reported out in December to the council, on a sustainable ecosystem initiative that takes into account the 2021 Climate Action Plan, the natural areas. All those goals, and the goal are of this initiative is to develop a healthy, safe, and functioning, biologically diverse ecosystem through Appleton that supports a healthy population of pollinators and birds.

**Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 51:59**

So, you would be in favor of being a Bird City.

**Ron Jones (Appleton Sustainability Advisory Panel) 52:02**

Yeah—

**Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 52:03**

Excellent.

**Ron Jones (Appleton Sustainability Advisory Panel) 52:03**

—and being designated as a Bird City Wisconsin goes hand in glove with this initiative, and is a good thing for Appleton. I recommend that you approve this and move it on to the Council for approval.

**Alderson Katie Van Zeeland (District 5) 52:18**

Excellent. Thank you very much. Anyone else? All right, hearing none, we'll vote. All those in favor say aye. Aye. Any opposed? That motion passes five zero.