

## **Naturalist Report**

### **March 2023**

#### **Admin/Finance**

- There have been no new developments after the resources meeting with other City departments. Based on a conversation with Human Resources Director Swaney it appears that our call-in concerns will be reviewed the next time updates are made to the employee handbook.

#### **Education**

- Medicating Jabber has been fairly inconsistent. He takes the medicine well some days and won't take it other days. The prescription, which was approximately \$90, has a very short shelf life. What was expected to last a month is only good for 14 days after it is mixed. When shipping is added to the timeframe, our \$90 supply of medicine is only usable for 9-10 days. I will follow-up with the veterinarian for any alternate treatment methods.
- I attended the Bringing Birds Back Conference in Oshkosh on March 24<sup>th</sup>. There were a number of presenters that focused on what to do to support bird populations, especially in the wake of 3 million birds lost in North America since the 1970s. A new collaborative initiative called Save our Songbirds has launched in the state to spread education and solutions to the declining bird populations. We will have multiple education opportunities to highlight this initiative during the month of May as part of our World Migratory Bird Day celebrations through social media posts, guided bird hikes and self-guided stations for people to explore.
- I attended a "Slow-Mow Summer" webinar through the University of Minnesota Bee Lab to learn about alternatives to No Mow May for supporting pollinators. We will try to encourage some of these alternate actions, such as reducing the frequency of mowing throughout the summer, choosing alternate turf grass species, and establishing bee lawns by incorporating select native wildflowers that can survive in a lawn even with mowing.

#### **Building & Grounds**

- We have begun working with the Kaukauna High School's JET (Job Exploration and Training) program again and will be hosting a student during the month of April. The student will volunteer for an hour each day, helping with various tasks around the building and property. The student will have a job coach with them for assistance.