

CITF Project Report February 2023

Solar Bench

The original router did not work. After Mike Bailey and I had repeated communications with Engo and the city, a new router arrived and the necessary tools located in a city office. Mike may have an update.

Pollinator Habitat

- Work on the habitat has halted for the winter, but the shrubs are budding, and some of the forbs are putting out new growth.
- Several volunteers are overseeing jugs of native seeds to add to the plantings in spring.
- We have informal agreement from the city to create a paved access path from the current Harmar river trail and to replace the deteriorating staircase.
- Geoff Schenkel has sketched an informal design for the path and other improvements to include bench placement and creation of a gateway arch.
- I am meeting as part of a neighborhood initiatives group on Feb. 26 to discuss how to connect various Harmar area projects. We will be applying for an AARP Community Challenge grant but have yet to determine the final ask. Habitat improvements will be part of the grant.
- Two people recently signed up as habitat volunteers via the Facebook page.
- We will need at least one work day to cut down old stems and remove any returning invasive species.
- Bermuda grass has invaded the shrub area and the area designated for the heritage garden. We will need to treat with an approved herbicide unless a team wishes to undertake frequent (perhaps weekly) removal. This is a species the city has planted along sidewalks and streets.