



City of Lake Geneva, 626 Geneva St, Lake Geneva, WI 53147- 262.248.3673- www.cityoflakegeneva.gov

**AVIAN COMMITTEE AGENDA
TUESDAY, JULY 8, 2025 - 6:00 PM
LAKE GENEVA CITY HALL; CONFERENCE ROOM 2A (UPPER LEVEL)**

Members:

President - Sarah McConnell; Members - Beverly Leonard, Jill Rodriguez, Karen Gallo, Victoria Ross, Kelley Happ, and Alderperson - JaNelle Powers

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of the minutes from June 3, 2025
4. Comments from the public limited to 5 minutes, limited to items on this agenda
5. Discussion regarding birding backpacks for area hotels
6. Discussion/Update regarding climate change topics
7. Updates regarding Swift Night Out plans
8. Next Meeting Date & Time
9. Future Agenda Items
10. Adjournment

*A quorum of the Council may be present; however, no official Council action will be taken.
Requests from persons with disabilities who need assistance to participate in this meeting should be made to the City Clerk's office in advance so that the appropriate accommodations can be made.*

City of Lake Geneva Avian Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, June 3, 2025
City Council Conference Room 2A

1. **Call to Order:** 6:03 PM by Sarah McConnell
2. **Roll Call:** The following members were present: Sarah McConnell, Beverly Leonard, Jill Rodriguez, Karen Gallo, Victoria Ross, and Alderperson JaNelle Powers. Guests: Betty Volquardsen. Members absent, but excused, were: Kelley Happ.
3. **Comments from the Public:** None
4. **Approval of Avian Committee Minutes from April 13, 2025:** A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rodriguez, and seconded by Gallo. The motion was passed.
5. **2025 Financial Review and Budget Update:** Members had no comments or questions regarding the financials.
6. **Update regarding the hotel birding backpacks:** Rodriguez reported that there are four (4) confirmed hotels; she attended the Visit Lake Geneva Monthly meeting and presented the backpack, its purpose and the contents; and once the tags & rack cards are received, distribution to the hotels will begin.
7. **Discussion regarding climate change topics:**
 - a. Dark Skies Ordinance: Ross presented at the City Council Committee of the Whole regarding getting a Dark Skies Ordinance in place for the City of Lake Geneva.
 - b. EV Chargers: this is currently on hold, but Ross will research what needs to be done to move the process forward. McConnell & Rodriguez will reach out to their contacts at Yerkes Observatory to see how Yerkes was able to get the chargers installed there.
8. **Updates regarding the Purple Martin Houses:** There are a total of 76 nests with eggs evenly distributed between the East and West end houses. There have no additional dead Purple Martins since the 3 reported last month. These were the first deaths due to territorial fighting. The use of construction netting in nest building is contributing to Sparrow deaths.
9. **Discussion/Action regarding Swift Night Out:** The plan is to continue with the format from last year which includes: Vendor Displays; Taco Truck; Audubon "Raptors & Friends Program; and Swift viewing as the finale. In addition, tables will be set-up so kids can decorate bird feeders & houses prior to the event. Interest in seeing if Community Bank will provide the Ice Cream Truck again was also discussed.
10. **Next Meeting Date & Time:** The next Avian Committee Meeting will be on July 8, 2025 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Conference Room 2A.
11. **Future Agenda Items:**
 - a. Birding Backpacks for Area Hotels
 - b. Climate Change Topic Updates
 - c. Swift Night Out Plan Updates
12. **Adjournment:** McConnell adjourned the meeting at 6:53 PM

Respectfully submitted 06/06/2025
Victoria Ross