



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

**AVIAN COMMITTEE AGENDA
TUESDAY, AUGUST 12, 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 July 8, 2025
4. Comments from the public limited to 5 minutes, limited to items on this agenda
5. Financial review/update and discussion regarding 2026 plans
6. Update from City Council
7. Discussion/Update regarding Swift Night Plans
8. Discussion/Update regarding Hotel Birding Backpacks
9. Discussion regarding Climate Change
10. Next Meeting Date & Time
11. Future Agenda Items
12. 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, July 8, 2025 6:00 P.M.

City Council Conference Room 2A

1. Call to Order: 6:00 PM by Sarah McConnell

2. Roll Call. The following members were present: Sarah McConnell, Jill Rodriguez, Kelley Happ, Karen Gallo, Beverly Leonard and Alderperson JaNelle Powers. Victoria Ross was excused

3. Approval of Avian Committee meeting minutes

Rodriguez made a motion to approve the minutes from the June 3 meeting, seconded by Gallo and passed.

4. Visitors and Comments from the Public:

Betty Volquardsen, our new member-to-be is waiting for official appointment by the Mayor and Council. Powers spoke to the Mayor and he said the number of committee members was 6. This was changed by previous Mayor Tom Hartz to 7 members several years ago. The mayor will look into this.

No other members of the public were present.

5. Update from City Council

Alderperson Powers relayed news from the city, including proposed kayak racks to be placed near the west end piers; boat slips to be designated for full-time residents only beginning in 2026, and the city's dredging project and plans for the lagoon. Also she reported that perching rods for our bird houses will be installed when Public Works find time. Brush drop-off will be expanded to include two Saturdays, one in September and one in October, and that the new drop off system has saved the city a great deal of money. Also, Powers said an offer went to a Park Director prospect – they expect to hear soon.

6. Birding Backpacks

Rodriguez reported that the birding backpacks are ready to be distributed and that four hotels have expressed interest. McConnell will approach Bella Vista Suites and Happ will talk to Comfort Suites, neither of which responded to letters offering the backpacks to their facility.

7. Discussion/Update on Climate change Topics

Rodriguez attended a talk at Yerkes by the new Deputy Director Dr. Amanda Bower, and suggested she might be a very good speaker for one of our future presentations.

8. Swift Night Out Plans and Updates

Plans are set for the September 4 program at the Geneva Lake Museum. McConnell said Community State Bank will again provide free ice cream, and there will be two food trucks.

9. Purple Martin Report

Leonard reported on current activities in the lakefront Martin houses – her team counted 48 hatchlings and 39 additional eggs still to hatch. Gallo reported 49 babies. She also reported seven dead birds – the first time we have had this, and after discussion with the Purple Martin Society, they decided it might be territorial fighting or survival of the fittest. The gourds have the most occupancy ever, as did the Wrigley house. Leonard has ordered six more guards for next year.

10. Future Agenda Items

- Update from City Council
- Swift Night Updates and Plans
- Hotel Birding Backpacks Update
- Purple Martin Update

- Climate Change Topics
- Budget Update and Plans for 2026
- Other
- Next meeting time and date

12. Next Meeting Date and Time

The meeting will be held on **Tuesday August 12 at 6 pm in Conference Room 2 A.**

13: Adjournment:

Rodriguez moved to adjourn, seconded by Gallo and approved. Meeting adjourned at 7:20 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, 8/4/2025

Kelley Happ

Account Number	Account Title	2025-25 Period Actual	2025-25 Current year Actual	Current year Budget	Variance Current year	% of Budget
GENERAL FUND						
MISCELLANEOUS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
11-70-00-47300	AVIAN DONATIONS	.00	.00	250.00	250.00	.00
Total MISCELLANEOUS:		.00	.00	250.00	250.00	.00
MISCELLANEOUS						
11-70-00-57800	AVIAN COMMITTEE EXPENSES	222.92	2,187.77	4,100.00	1,912.23	53.36
Total MISCELLANEOUS:		222.92	2,187.77	4,100.00	1,912.23	53.36
Net Total GENERAL FUND:		222.92-	2,187.77-	3,850.00-	1,662.23-	56.83
Net Grand Totals:		222.92-	2,187.77-	3,850.00-	1,662.23-	56.83

Date	Journal	Reference Number	Payee or Description	Account Number	Debit Amount	Credit Amount	Balance
AVIAN DONATIONS			06/30/2025 (06/25) Balance	11-70-00-47300			.00
			07/31/2025 (07/25) Period Totals and Balance		.00 *	.00 *	.00
YTD Encumbrance			.00 YTD Actual	.00 Total	.00 YTD Budget	-250.00 Unearned	250.00
AVIAN COMMITTEE EXPENSES			06/30/2025 (06/25) Balance	11-70-00-57800			1,964.85
07/08/2025	AP	144	LEONARD, BEVERLY **Desc: PURPLE MARTIN-SUPPLIES		222.92		
			07/31/2025 (07/25) Period Totals and Balance		222.92 *	.00 *	2,187.77
YTD Encumbrance			.00 YTD Actual	2,187.77 Total	2,187.77 YTD Budget	4,100.00 Unexpended	1,912.23
AVIAN COMMITTEE DONATION EXP			06/30/2025 (06/25) Balance	11-70-00-57810			.00
			07/31/2025 (07/25) Period Totals and Balance		.00 *	.00 *	.00
YTD Encumbrance			.00 YTD Actual	.00 Total	.00 YTD Budget	.00 Unexpended	.00

Number of Transactions: 1 Number of Accounts: 3

Total GENERAL FUND:

Number of Transactions: 1 Number of Accounts: 3

Grand Totals:

Debit	Credit	Proof
222.92	.00	222.92
222.92	.00	222.92