

**HILLMOOR COMMISSION MINUTES**  
**THURSDAY, June 12, 2025 - 6:00 PM**

**LAKE GENEVA CITY HALL; COUNCIL CHAMBERS (MAIN LEVEL)**

**Members:** Mark Davids, Kenneth Etten, Dan Getzen, Larry Happ, Paula Porubcan, Peggy Schneider, Lowell Thompson, Mayor Todd Krause, Alderperson Cindy Yager and Consultant Michael Krajovic

**Call to Order** by Mayor Krause at 6:00 pm.

**Roll Call**

Present: Mayor Krause, Alderperson Cindy Yager, Consultant Michael Krajovic, Kenneth Etten, Dan Getzen, Paula Porubcan, Peggy Schneider, and Mark Davids.

Excused/Absent: Larry Happ and Lowell Thompson were excused. They tried to join via Zoom, but were not able to connect.

**Comments from the public as allowed by Wis. Stats. §19.84(2), limited to items on this agenda, except for public hearing items. Comments will be limited to 5 minutes.** Tom Reed, Joe Zimmer, Betty Volquardsen, Peg Esposito, Andria Christiansen, and Mary Jo Fesenmaier spoke during the public comment period.

**Approve the Minutes of May 8, 2025.** On a motion by Paula Porubcan and second by Mark Davids the minutes from the meeting of May 8, 2025 were unanimously approved.

**Presentation on Ecological Restoration by Skip Harless from The Grand Geneva and Clay Frazer from Native Range Ecological.** Clay Frazier gave a PowerPoint presentation on their Grand Geneva project and about the overall importance and complexity of doing ecological restoration involving the removal of invasive plant species and replanting preferred species to improve natural habitat and increase bio-diversity. He stated that doing an ecological assessment of the property is an important first step needed for developing a comprehensive restoration plan for large properties like the Grand Geneva and Hillmoor. The plans will require commitment, resources, and could take multiple years to complete. Mr. Harless described the growing interest of guests at the Grand Geneva wanting to connect to Nature and the need for ecological restoration.

**Presentation/discussion on Ecological Restoration for the Hillmoor property.** Paula Porubcan presented a three page handout that described the importance of restoring the Hillmoor property that included specific goals and objectives including allocating funds to develop a restoration plan for the Hillmoor property. Krajovic stated this would be in direct alignment with the City's Vision and Major Objective for Natural Preservation of the Hillmoor property. There was a brief discussion and show of support by the Commission members for the initiative that will be discussed at a future meeting.

**Status Report on SEWRPC's (SouthEastern Wisconsin Regional Planning Commission) botanical inventory, rare species survey, and invasive species estimates for the Hillmoor property.** Paula Porubcan reported that Zach Kron, senior specialist/biologist from SEWRPC, started surveying the property this week and will need to visit the property a few times to complete the work. He indicated that he would be willing to come to a future Hillmoor meeting to report results.

**Status report on Rt. 50 Frontage Improvements and Discussion about adding new mowed paths on Hillmoor.**

The Mayor reported that the Public Works Department had started work on clearing the section of land that runs along Rt. 50. Before and after photos were shown. He stated that he received several favorable comments from residents about the improvements. He also mentioned that plans to improve the gate at the old, main access road which would provide access for people with mobility challenges are still moving forward. Krajovic presented a conceptual layout of new, proposed grassy trails in Zones 4 and 5. The City's Public Works Department will be asked to clear the new trails to provide residents temporary hiking access to these areas of the property. Krajovic stated that the damaged bridge over the drainage swale near the front of the property would need to be repaired or replaced. It was agreed that these would be welcomed improvements.

**Presentation/Discussion on the Project Evaluation Process.** Michael Krajovic presented a flow chart diagram that illustrated the project review process. Various Commission members gave feedback on the process and project ideas for the five Land Use Zones. Krajovic said that the Commission will be using the process in an upcoming meeting to select the projects or amenities that will be included in the planning phase of Zone 1 as part of the Knowles Nelson grant project.

**Future Agenda Items.** Krajovic encouraged the Commission members to send additional comments on the project evaluation process to him before the next meeting.

**Future Meetings.** The next Hillmoor Commission meeting is scheduled for 6:00 pm, Thursday, July 10th at City Hall.

**Adjournment** - Motion by Paula Porubcan and second by Ken Etten. Voice vote, approved, motion carried. Adjourned at 7:44 pm.