

City of Lake Geneva Avian Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, May 12, 2022, 6 P.M.

City Meeting Room A

1. Call to order: 6:03 by Cindy Yager

2. Roll Call. The following members were present: Carol Zimmermann, Sarah McConnell, Karen Gallo, Kelley Happ. Out new Alderperson, Cindy Yager, was welcomed. Jill Rodriguez and Beverly Leonard were excused.

3. Approval of Avian Committee meeting minutes from March 10, 2022:

Motion to approve minutes by Zimmermann, second by McConnell. The motion was passed.

4. Comments From the Public:

There were no members of the public present.

5. Financial/Budget Reports:

No new information. One outstanding bill to be submitted for Learn to Soar project).

Zimmermann moved to accept report, seconded by Yager.

6. Learn to Soar Update, including Story Book Trail

Zimmermann reported that Avian members continue to meet with the fifth grade students to conceptualize and create their new storyboard. Students are researching and planning; they have been divided into teams to write, draw, research facts and make up fun activities for each of the nine pages. They have selected the purple martin to personify and have created a tale of migration, house hunting and selecting Four Seasons Nature Center for their summer home.

Thursday, May 26 is the “unveiling” and presentation event, scheduled from 1:15 to 2:00 pm at Four Seasons Nature Center in which the fifth graders present their finished project to the community in honor of World Migratory Bird Day. Zimmermann created an e-vite and Committee members came up with a list of invitees to this event. Invitations will go out May 16.

The Committee scheduled a workday on May 25 at 9:30 am to ready the boards for the new story. Additional assignments for the presentation day: McConnell will bring two tables, Happ bring water, first aid kit, field guides and pencils for students. Zimmermann will make SNO poster for early promotion of this event. Zimmermann will greet guests and participants, make introductions and give brief talk about the Storybook project.

7. Update on Grants:

Rodriguez’s “Go Outside” application to the Natural Resources Foundation of Wisconsin was granted for \$250. The money will help with the Learn to Soar project. Happ will continue to work on the grant from S. C. Johnson Company, with help as needed from the committee.

8. Swift Night Out Update:

McConnell reported that SNO plans are in place for the September event.

9. Purple Martin Update and Open House event July 9

The Avian Committee will host an “Open House” at the Geneva Public Library on Saturday, July 9 from 10 AM to noon, as part of the library’s annual Author Fest. This will be our opportunity to tell the public about our Martin houses along the lakefront. Gallo and McConnell think it will be an appropriate time to open several boxes to show nests and eggs. We also hope to get the names of other people interested in helping with Avian committee projects.

With the “Learn to Soar” project coming to a head in the next two weeks, it was agreed to focus on the Open House plans at the next meeting.

10. Calendar/Project Review and updates on partners:

Find a date that the Brownie Troup can meet with the City’s Committee of the Whole

11. Next Meeting Date:

Tuesday, June 14 at 6 pm in Conference Room A

14. Future Agenda Items:

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Roll Call
- 3) Approval of the Minutes from May 12
- 4) Comments from the Public
- 5) Avian Committee Financial/Budget Reports and Updates
- 6.) Learning to Soar Update - Story Book Trail
- 7) Update on grants and potential grants
- 8) Swift Night Out update
- 9) Purple Martin update, including “Open House” event July 9
- 10) Brief 2022 Calendar/Project review and updates on partners (including the Tree Board, Park Commission, Geneva Lake Conservancy, Public Library, Lakeland Audubon and the Geneva Lake Museum)
- 11) Next Meeting Date and Time
- 12 Future Agenda Items

12. Adjourn:

Zimmermann moved to adjourn the meeting at 7:12 PM. The motion was seconded by McConnell and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted
Kelley Happ
6/9/2022