



626 Geneva St, Lake Geneva, WI 53147- 262.248.3673- cityoflakegeneva.com

**AVIAN COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, JANUARY 5, 2021 – 6:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, COUNCIL CHAMBERS**

THE CITY OF LAKE GENEVA IS HOLDING MEETINGS VIRTUALLY WITH LIMITED CAPACITY IN COUNCIL CHAMBERS TO COMPLY WITH SOCIAL DISTANCING DUE TO THE CORONAVIRUS (COVID-19) PANDEMIC. HERE'S HOW YOU CAN PARTICIPATE:

6:00 p.m.- January 5, 2021 Avian Committee
Tue, Jan 5, 2021 6:00 PM - 7:00 PM (CST)

Please join my meeting from your computer, tablet or smartphone.

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/join/147442805>

You can also dial in using your phone.

United States: [+1 \(872\) 240-3212](tel:+18722403212)

Access Code: 147-442-805

New to GoToMeeting? Get the app now and be ready when your first meeting starts:

<https://global.gotomeeting.com/install/147442805>

AGENDA

Committee Members: Beverly Leonard, Sarah McConnell, Jill Rodriguez, Karen Gallo, Carol Zimmermann, Kelley Happ, and Cindy Flower- Alderperson

- 1) Call to Order
- 2) Roll Call
- 3) Approval of meeting minutes from December 1, 2020
- 4) Discussion/ Recommendation regarding needs at Four Seasons Nature Preserve
- 5) Discussion/ Recommendation regarding Bird City application
- 6) Discussion/ Recommendation regarding Christmas Tree walk
- 7) Discussion/ Recommendation regarding environmental education foundation (support the Learning to Soar)

- 8) Discussion/ Recommendation regarding grants and fundraising for WeEnergies
- 9) Discussion/ Recommendation regarding fund allocations to our library partner in regard to birdwatching book purchases for \$647.50
- 10) Discussion/ Recommendation regarding Great Backyard Bird Count promotion
- 11) Future Agenda Items
- 12) Next meeting Date & Time
- 13) Adjourn

<i>This is a meeting of the Avian Committee. No official City Council action will be taken; however, a quorum of the Council may be present.</i>

cc: Tourism Commissioners, Mayor, Administrator

Avian Committee

Tuesday, December 1, 2020, 6:00 P.M.

City Hall, Council Chambers

Minutes:

1. Call to order: 6:04 P.M. by Alderperson Flower

2. Roll Call. The following members were present in the Chamber or online: Cindy Flower, Alderperson, Carol Zimmermann, Sarah McConnell, Beverly Leonard, Jill Rodriguez, Karen Gallo, Kelley Happ.

No members of the public were present physically or online.

3. Approval of Avian Committee meeting minutes from November 11, 2020:

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

4. Four Seasons Nature Center

Several members toured Four Seasons and the whole group enthusiastically believes we should move forward with ideas to include Four Seasons in our activities: We would like to meet with Neil Waswo (Public Works) to see what we may be able to do and see if we can get partners to work with. Flower will contact Tom Earle to set up a meeting, possibly in January.

5. Discussion of Bird City Application:

Zimmermann displayed the Bird City application online. It is almost complete except for the Resolution from the city. The group discussed additions and changes to the application, as well as the addition of photos from Rodriguez.

6. Bird City Resolution:

Zimmermann presented a draft of a resolution declaring Lake Geneva a bird friendly city to submit to the City Council. The city's resolution needs to be included in the Bird City Application. A few changes were suggested and Zimmerman will send the document to Flower and to David Nord and request a vote by the Council at a meeting in December. The completed application needs to be posted by December 31, along with an application fee of \$35.00.

7. Christmas Tree Walk:

Rodriguez reported that the Avian Committee's tree is beautifully decorated and that 50 to 60 people a day are visiting the museum. Vote for our tree to be the favorite.

8. Discussion Regarding Press Release about the Purple Martin Project:

Happ commented that our successes with the purple martin project needs to be publicized, and the group agreed that the best time would be in April as we're getting the houses ready for a new season. In addition to local news outlets, we will send the press release to the Bird City site and to Lakeland Audubon. Happ will initiate work on this project in early spring.

9. Update on Grants:

a. Environmental Education Association (Learn to Soar)

The Avian Committee received a grant of almost \$1000 from the Environmental Education Foundation for our Learn to Soar educational program. Zimmermann explained the committee's

goal is to expand the program from 20 students to 40 by including students from the public schools or local groups. Committee members brainstormed ideas to target other groups such as Scouts, 4-H, and FFA, as well as incentives for groups or group leaders. We can provide the mentors and structured materials. The committee agreed to reach out to Girl Scouts. Age is not the important factor, as the information can be modified to fit different age groups, but it was decided not to include high school age students, as most are already very busy.

Zimmermann will reach out to Eastview and Star elementary schools to see if there is interest, as well as service or environmental clubs at the middle school. McConnell also mentioned the 4-H in Elkhorn as an active group. The committee agreed to keep each other informed of progress on an email chain.

Zimmermann stated that we need to continue to work on the program for World Migratory Bird Day in May, and also for the bird walk. We will figure out the details as the lockdown allows.

b. Cookies for a Cause

Discussed last meeting

c. We Energies

Keep on the agenda. We need to make plans through the Lake Geneva Museum or the Geneva Lake Conservancy because of their 501(c) 3 status.

10. Future Agenda Items

- Meet with Neil Waswo about Four Seasons Nature Center, possibly at the January meeting.
- Bird City Application update
- Christmas Tree Walk update
- Environmental Education Foundation update
- Library Partnership Donation (\$649) for books or bird watching kits
- Press release for purple martins – plans for April
- Great Backyard Bird Count, to be held in February. We need to discuss publicizing this event

**11. Next Meeting Date -Tuesday, January 5
6 pm in the City Council Chamber or online**

12. Adjourn: Happ moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:55. The motion was seconded by Zimmermann and passed unanimously.

Respectfully submitted
Kelley Happ
12/31/2020