

City of Lake Geneva

Avian Committee

Minutes for Meeting on Tuesday, April 11, 6 pm

1) Call to Order

McConnell called to order 6:04 pm.

2) Roll Call

Present: Leonard, McConnell, Yaeger, and Zimmermann. Excused: Rodriguez, Gallo, Happ

3) Approval of the minutes

Moved by Zimmermann, seconded by Yager. Approved: 4 yes, 0 no, 0 abstentions.

4) Comments from the public:

No members of the public present.

5) Financial Review

Tabled until the May meeting.

6) Learning to Soar update – see attachment *“Key Dates, Events, and Items that Need Action Today (or soon)”* for details.

Committee members reviewed plans for a preparation visit to the Storybook Trail to see the condition of the posts and signs, consider minor repositioning, and cleaning and adding information to the entry signs. McConnell, Yager, and Zimmermann will make this preparation visit on Thursday, April 13 at 11 am.

McConnell has new posters for the entry signs that she would like to have laminated.

Zimmermann moved that this be approved as a part of the World Migratory Bird Day Celebration budget line item. Seconded by Yager. Approved with 4 yes votes.

If an additional workday at Four Seasons is needed, this will be on Wednesday, May 3 at 10 am.

The research site visit for the Learning to Soar students is Wednesday, May 19. Please see attachment *“Key Dates, Events, and Items that Need Action Today (or soon)”* for details. Zimmermann will reach out to members not in attendance to see who can participate. Zimmermann will also modify the schedule noted in the attachment, communicate with the mentors and the school, create research response sheets and notebooks, and make nametags for the mentors.

7) Migratory Bird Festival – Bird Walk 2023

Zimmerman reported that the Geneva Lake Conservancy has, once again, invited the Learning to Soar students to participate in the bi-annual Bird Walk at Kettle Moraine. The walk will be the morning of Friday, May 19. The GLC will pick up the program costs and lunch. The AvianCommittee would create and provide student materials. Both entities

would work together to publicize the event. Also see details in the attachment *"Key Dates, Events, and Items that Need Action Today (or soon)."*

The Committee has this even as a 2023 project and would like to participate, if this works for the Learning to Soar teacher and class. Zimmermann will reach out to the school and will report back.

Committee members had reached out to MaryJo Fesenmaier to gauge the interest of students and teachers at Eastview. Fesenmaier would like to revisit the possibility of the Bird Walk for that school in early fall 2023.

8) GLAS interface

No response yet from this organization.

9) Grants Update

Yager reported progress on the SC Johnson grant application. From the time that the first draft was composed until Yager attempted to upload the grant this week, the categories and some of the required responses had change. With a bit of assistance from Zimmermann, Yager revised the application, finalized the budget, and assembled supporting documents. She hopes to have the application uploaded in the near future.

10) Swift Night Out Update

McConnell reported steady progress. The food vendor, Jo Jo's has committed to the event.

11) Purple Martin Colony Update

Leonard reported that houses have been moved and are in place, although some of the houses may be a bit close to trees. Gallo is working on the bird security issues. Since Purple Martins are arriving in Wisconsin already, Leonard indicated that the houses would be raised and opened later this week. She also reported that she and Gallo had recruited two new nest-keeper volunteers.

12) Planning Calendar and Project Review – see attachment *"2023 Avian Committee Planning Calendar."*

Zimmermann briefly review the planning calendar. She is asking all members of the committee to look through the past, current, and future events. At the May meeting, the Committee will offer edits, additions, and updates in order to create a record of 2023 activities.

13) Next Meeting Date:

Tuesday, May 9, 6 pm, Conference Room 2A

Zimmermann will email all members to see if we can expect a quorum that day (McConnell and Leonard will not be available).

14) Agenda Items (also in a separate attached document)

Call to Order
Roll Call
Approval of the Minutes
Comments from the Public
Financial Review
Grants Review
Purple Martin Colony Update
World Migratory Bird Day Celebration
Learning to Soar Update
Bird Festival Update
Swift Night Out Update
Planning Calendar – Update and additions from members
Partner Updates (not covered in above items)
Next Meeting Date and Time
Agenda Items for Next Meeting
Adjourn

15) Adjourn

Zimmermann moved to adjourn the meeting, seconded at Yager. With a consensus vote, McConnell adjourned that meeting at 7:00 pm

Respectfully submitted,
Carol Zimmermann
(in the absence of the Committee Secretary, Happ)