

CITY OF LAKE GENEVA REGULAR COMMITTEE OF THE WHOLE MINUTES
WEDNESDAY, JULY 5, 2023 - 6:00 PM
LAKE GENEVA CITY HALL; COUNCIL CHAMBERS (MAIN LEVEL)

Members: Council President: Mary Jo Fesenmaier
Council Vice-President: Cindy Yager
Alderpersons: Joan Yunker, Shari Straube, Linda Frame, Peg Esposito, Tim Dunn, Ken Howell

Call to order-Council President Fesenmaier
Council President Fesenmaier called the meeting to order at 6:00 p.m.

Pledge of Allegiance – Alderperson Howell
Council President Fesenmaier led the Committee of the Whole in the Pledge of Allegiance.

Roll Call
Present: Fesenmaier, Yager, Dunn, Esposito, Frame, and Straube
Absent: Howell and Yunker

Approval of the Committee of the Whole Minutes from June 5, 2023 as prepared and distributed
Motion by Esposito to approve, second by Frame. No discussion. Motion carried 6-0.

Comments from the public as allowed by Wis. Stats. §19.84(2), except for public hearing items. Comments will be limited to 5 minutes. Be further advised that matters brought up at this time may be referred to the appropriate committee or individual for further discussion and consideration.

Joan Yunker; 101 Broad St; Spoke in regards to the Geneva Shore Report's false reporting and addressed the Council regarding certain conduct.

Cheryl Borowiec; 421 Gallant Dr; Spoke in regards to the Hillmoor Ad Hoc Committee's work and spoke in opposition of the YMCA locating to the Hillmoor property.

Sherri Ames; 603 Center St; Spoke in opposition of the short-term rentals and that they should not be getting City resident amenities, such as beach passes. She also spoke in regards to a portion of sidewalk that was spray-painted orange in front of her home and expressed concerns about the tripping hazard. She then expressed discontent with the open records requests pending for the personnel files for Alderperson Frame.

Walter Smith; 1800 LaSalle St; Spoke in favor of using Hillmoor as a City park and not having the YMCA relocate there.

Kate Meyer; 101 Broad St; Spoke in favor of using Hillmoor as a City park and not having the YMCA relocate there.

Henry Sibbing; 1725 Hillcrest Dr; Spoke in favor of the work that the Hillmoor Ad Hoc Committee has done. He further thanked the Police Department, Fire Department, and the Public Works Department for their hard work during the holiday weekend.

Judy Dara; 414 Gallant Dr; Thanked Alderperson Fesenmaier and Alderperson Frame for their work to keep their constituents informed. She spoke in opposition to the proposed Phase 8 of the Symphony Bay development.

Victoria Ross; 301 Cadence Circle; Spoke in opposition to the proposed Phase 8 of the Symphony Bay Development and the increase that would put on the development's amenities. She spoke in regards to the basements in the development and her discontent of the Building and Zoning Department, in relation to inspections being conducted.

Denise Wendell; 101 Broad St; Spoke in favor of using Hillmoor as a City Park and not having the YMCA relocate there.

Dave Mahoney; Spoke in favor of using Hillmoor as a City Park and not having the YMCA relocate there. He added that the parking rates need to stay as is and that there doesn't seem to be any issue with the rates being paid by the tourists. He also encouraged the Council members to set aside their political differences and work together to better the City.

Parking Ad Hoc Committee Report-Mayor Klein

Mayor Klein addressed the Committee regarding the Parking Ad Hoc Committee. The next meeting will be July 12, 2023. She added that the committee has approved the Walworth County Senior Citizen pass at \$65 per year. She explained that half of Lot I will be used for pre-paid reservation. Esposito asked that the Committee be provided a report to show how many cars are parking per weekend. No action taken.

Hillmoor Ad Hoc Committee Report-Mayor Klein

Mayor Klein noted that the committee has been meeting every two weeks and she then introduced Ad Hoc Committee member Michael Krajovic. Mr. Krajovic addressed the committee regarding the progress of the ad hoc committee and the vision for Hillmoor. He stated that the committee has been reviewing different ways to utilize the land at Hillmoor and the different phases needed to achieve it. He added that those visions are not only the work of the ad hoc committee, but also from the public's input. No action taken.

Presentation and Discussion/Recommendation: Police Department presentation regarding Neighborhood Watch Teams

Police Chief Gritzner addressed the committee regarding reinstating the Neighborhood Watch program. He explained that he would like there to be a team from every district to fairly represent the City. This role would require regular meetings of the group and at those meeting various different concerns could be addressed. He encouraged anyone interested to sign up and to not be afraid to bring up any concerns. No action taken.

STANDING COMMITTEE REPORTS. The following Aldermen will be given the opportunity to make announcements or reports at the meeting in regards to committee activities they have been involved in since the last meeting on behalf of the City, future activities and citizen contacts. It is not contemplated that these matters will be discussed or acted on but referrals to the appropriate committees and/or individuals will be made.

Finance, License, and Regulation Committee-Chair Howell

Howell was not present. No report given.

Personnel Committee-Chair Dunn

Dunn noted that they have not met as of late, but that they will be meeting in August. The Parks Manager position and employee evaluation process may be discussed. No action taken.

Public Works Committee-Chair Straube

Aldersperson Straube gave a report about the Public Works Committee recent work. She noted that the the most pressing issues include vandalism to downtown trees, the South Street TAP Grant Project, and other various City projects. There has also been a recommendation to discuss placement of traffic lights in various location within the City. No action taken.

Piers, Harbor, and Lakefront Commmittee-Chair Yunker

Aldersperson Yunker joined the meeting at 7:01 p.m.

Aldersperson Yunker addressed the committee regarding the Piers, Harbors, and Lakefront Committee discussions. The most recent discussions include the proposed dam repairs and possible work to the lagoon. No action taken.

COMMITTEE, COMMISSION AND BOARD REPORTS. The following committee representatives will be given the opportunity to make announcements or reports at the meeting in regards to committee activities they have been involved in since the last meeting on behalf of the City, future activities and citizen contacts. These matters will be required to be placed on the agenda to comply with Wis. Stats.

Utility Commission-Frame and Howell

Aldersperson Frame did not offer a report. No action taken.

Tree Board-Esposito

Aldersperson Esposito explained that the Tree Board has been working on the City Forester ordinance updates. The next meeting will be held on July 18, 2023 where the tree vandalism will be discussed. No action taken.

Police and Fire Commission-Yunker

Alderperson Yunker addressed the committee regarding the Police & Fire Commission's current issues, including the Neighborhood Watch formation. The Commission next meets tomorrow, July 6, 2023. No action taken.

Plan Commission-Yunker

Yunker explained that the most recent discussion has been surrounding the City's Comprehensive Plan. No action taken.

Board of Park Commissioners-Frame

Frame noted that the Park Board has discussed the Butterfly Habitat at the Library to be built by the Rotary Club. The hope is that this program will be educational and will mirror the Purple Martin education program. Other discussion included having a dedicated area for dogs to visit the lakefront. No action taken.

Library Board-Fesenmaier

No report.

Historic Preservation Commission-Dunn

Dunn stated that the commission is receiving help from the State Historical Society and the Whitewater Historical Society to draft an ordinance. He stated that there might be possible grants for studies of archeology of Hillmoor. Frame commented that it might take a long time for those types of studies to be completed. No action taken.

Avian Committee-Yager

Yager stated that the Purple Martins are currently hatching and that there are approximately 73 new hatchlings. She added that you can watch them live through the Purple Martin Organization's website. She added that the Swift Night Out is currently being planned, which will happen later this year. No action taken.

Tourism Commission-Fesenmaier and Howell

Fesenmaier stated that the commission has been reviewing many grants for events that generate over night stays in the City hotels. She added that they receive monthly updates from VISIT Lake Geneva, the Downtown Business Improvement District, and the Riviera Coordinator. No action taken.

Cemetery Board-Fesenmaier

Fesenmaier stated that the Cemetery Board is reviewing the possibility of a property purchase, adjacent to the Cemetery. She added that the City has rolled out a new software program, called Pontem, where people can view graves sites and burial information online. No action taken.

COUNCIL REPRESENTATIVES SERVING ON OTHER BOARDS AND COMMITTEES. The following committee representatives will be given the opportunity to make announcements or reports at the meeting in regards to committee activities they have been involved in since the last meeting on behalf of the City, future activities and citizen contacts. These matters will be required to be placed on the agenda to comply with Wis. Stats.

VISIT Lake Geneva-Yager

Yager stated that VISIT Lake Geneva is having Donald Driver come to Lake Geneva for a media campaign. She added that VISIT will be holding Concerts in the Park every Thursday this summer, in Flat Iron Park. They have attended several ribbon cuttings for Sotheby's Real Estate, Geneva High Ropes, Organic Cuts (upstairs wedding area), and the Geneva Stage. No action taken.

Geneva Lake Museum-Dunn

Dunn stated that all is well at the museum, but that the nice weather may be negatively impacting the attendance. There will be a "traveling" type exhibit of the Black Point costume on display until October. The museum will also be showcasing the new exhibits, including Dungeons & Dragons Exhibit and the Barber Shop Exhibit. No action taken.

Lake Geneva Economic Development Corporation-Howell and Yager

No report.

Geneva Lake Environmental Agency-Dunn

Dunn stated that the agency has been working on the ordinance for Invasive Aquatic Species and it will be before the Council for consideration soon. He added that there have been many studies regarding the e coli in the water near the beach and studying the pollution from the Bigfoot Pond. The agency continues to work on the clean boats and clean water initiative. No action taken.

Geneva Lakes Family YMCA-Straube

Straube stated that the YMCA just celebrated their 140 year anniversary! They are also hosting summer camps for 275- 300 kids. They have been actively sending out Hillmoor surveys to current and former members. They have currently sent out 9,000 and have received 700 as of June 8, 2023. She explained that they may be possibly purchasing a Montessori school and partnering with Inspiration ministries for their daycare. No action taken.

Geneva Lake Use-Esposito

No report.

Business Improvement District-Straube

Straube stated that the July BID meeting was canceled due to the holiday, but that Finance, Licensing, and Regulation Committee just approved their amended budget. No action taken.

Geneva Lake Law Enforcement Agency-Mayor Klein

Mayor Klein stated that she was recently named Chairman, but that a meeting has not be held as of yet. No action taken.

Adjournment

Motion by Yager to adjourn, second by Frame. Motion carried 7-0. The meeting adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

MINUTES ARE UNOFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE COMMITTEE

Lana Kropf
City Clerk