

City of Lake Geneva Avian Committee Meeting Minutes
Tuesday, May 14, 2024
City Council Conference Room 2A

1. **Call to Order:** 6:01 PM by Sarah McConnell
2. **Roll Call:** The following members were present: Sarah McConnell, Jill Rodriguez, Karen Gallo and Victoria Ross. Members absent, but excused, were: Cindy Yager, Kelly Happ and Beverly Leonard.
3. **Approval of Avian Committee Minutes from April 9, 2024:** A motion to approve the minutes was made by Rodriguez, and seconded by Gallo. The motion was passed.
4. **Comments from the Public:** None
5. **Discussion of Agenda Items:**
 - a. Calendar for strategic planning purposes: Rodriguez offered to set up a Google Calendar Doc for inclusion of dates for all activities and deadlines;
 - b. World Migratory Day: The Committee Members will have a table at the Farmers' Market on May 23, 2024. There will be handouts on the Purple Martins as well as other information for birders and residents
 - c. Bird City Application Status: Still no update from the City Administrator as to acceptance of the City's application.
 - d. Partnerships and potential grants:
 - i. The Committee is planning to launch a pilot program to place 5-6 Birding Backpacks with downtown area hotels. The cost for the backpacks & materials is being researched, and The Rotary Club of Lake Geneva has offered \$1,000.00 grant towards this project.
 - ii. Committee Members will be at Four Seasons Nature Preserve on May 22, 2024 to put in signage for the Storybook Trail.
 - e. Monarch Palooza/Purple Martin Open House: Scheduled for June 22, 2024 from 12:00 PM to 2:00 PM at the Lake Geneva Public Library. A butterfly release is currently expected, as well as information on the Purple Martins, including a Purple Martins house for public inspection.
 - f. Recognition of Volunteers: Current expectation is this will occur in late September or early October
 - g. Charging Stations: While the Committee explores ideas to meet the climate change requirement of the new Bird City Application, members will individually advocate for charging stations to be placed in downtown Lake Geneva.
 - h. Bird Songs: The equipment will be inspected to make sure it is operating as expected.
6. **Next Meeting Date & Time:** The next Avian Committee Meeting will be on July 9, 2024 at 6:00 PM in the City Council Conference Room 2A.
7. **Future Agenda Items:**
 - a. Bird City Application Status
 - b. Partnerships and Potential Grants
 - c. Monarch Palooza/Purple Martin Open House
 - d. Recognition of Volunteers
 - e. Birding Backpacks for Area Hotels
 - f. Climate Change Topics/Ideas
8. **Adjournment:** McConnell adjourned the meeting at 7:05 PM

Respectfully submitted 05/16/2024
Victoria Ross