

City of Lake Geneva Avian Committee

Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 10, 2022, 6:00 P.M.

City Council Conference Room 2A

1. Call to order: 6:07 PM by Carol Zimmermann

2. Roll Call. The following members were present: Carol Zimmermann, Jill Rodriguez, Sarah McConnell, Kelley Happ, Karen Gallo via phone link. Cindy Flower - Alderperson, and Beverly Leonard were not present. There were no members of the public.

3. Approval of Avian Committee meeting minutes from December 2021

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

4. Comments from the Public

There were no comments.

5. Bird City Application:

Zimmermann reported that the 2022 Bird City Application was filed before the January 31 deadline. We should hear in a few months.

6. Swift Night Out:

Swift Night Out is scheduled for September 8, 2022. McConnell confirmed this date with both the Geneva Lake Museum and Schlitz Audubon. She is working on food trucks for the evening. It was reported that Bob McCullough has swifts in the Manor, and the Olive Oil shop also has swifts. We should add this information in our PR.

7. January Strategic Planning Update:

We will plan our activities from Zimmermann's outline.

8: Reports from Liaison with Partners:

- It was suggested we give the Park Board our project outline to see if there are areas they want to interface with us. We discussed the possibility of including Rodriguez's Oak project with activities at Four Seasons. Flower will contact the Park Board.
- A new idea surfaced about interfacing with Oakfire for outreach; maybe promote our Purple Martin project with an "early bird" lunch at Oakfire.
- A sub-committee will meet on Friday, Feb. 25 at Rodriguez's home for updates and work on grants.
- We will be partnering with the Geneva Lake Conservancy on their Martin event on Friday, July 1.
- The committee also discussed hosting an Avian "open house" to showcase our Martin babies the week of the Library's Author fest – perhaps Saturday, July 9 from 10 am to noon. Rodriguez will talk with the Library about this possibility and Happ will contact bird book author Sheryl DeVore to see if she would be interested in selling books at Author fest.
- It was also suggested we invite members of the Tree Board to our next meeting – first on the agenda – to see if there are common interests and projects that we could work on together.

9 - 10: Learning to Soar Program and Great Backyard Bird Count:

Zimmermann reported that Learning to Soar classes started last week and that students have begun bird ID. They will participate in the Great Backyard Bird Count Feb. 17-20 and enter their ID's through our account. It was suggested we put the GBBC on our Facebook page – Jill will do. Also we should link to Lakeland Audubon and their event at Kishwaukee.

11: Invoices:

None

12: Review Local Ordinances:

Will address at a later time

13. Next Meeting Date and Time:

Thursday, March 10 from 6 – 8 p.m.

(Committee members had agreed to move our Tuesday night meetings to the second Thursday of each month to accommodate everyone's busy schedules).

14. Future Agenda Items

- Invite Tree Board to meeting
- Learning to Soar update, including StoryBook Trail
- Update on potential grants
- Review Local Ordinances and issues
- Swift Night Out update
- Purple Martin Update including our "Open House" event July 9
- Brief 2022 Calendar/Project review

Adjourn:

Rodriguez moved to adjourn, seconded by McConnell and approved. Meeting was adjourned at 6:55 p.m.

Respectfully submitted

Kelley Happ

2/28/2022