



City of Lake Geneva, 626 Geneva St, Lake Geneva, WI 53147- 262.248.3673- www.cityoflakegeneva.gov

**AVIAN COMMITTEE
TUESDAY, FEBRUARY 11, 2025 - 6:00 PM
LAKE GENEVA CITY HALL; CONFERENCE ROOM 2A (UPPER LEVEL)**

Members:

President Sarah McConnell, Beverly Leonard, Jill Rodriguez, Karen Gallo, Victoria Ross, Kelley Happ,
and Cindy Yager- Alderperson

AGENDA

1. Call to Order
2. Roll Call
3. Approval of the minutes from January 14, 2025
4. Comments from the public limited to 5 minutes, limited to items on this agenda
5. Update from City Council
6. Budget Update and 2025 Financial Review
7. Bird City Application status
8. Birding Backpacks Project
9. Climate Change Topics/Updates
 - a. World Migratory Bird Day activities
 - b. EV Chargers in Lake Geneva
 - c. Dark Skies project
 - d. Wording for Building and Zoning to consider bird safe and dark sky ordinances in new and renovated buildings in the city
10. Next Meeting Date & Time
11. Future Agenda Items
12. Adjournment

*A quorum of the Council may be present; however, no official Council action will be taken.
Requests from persons with disabilities who need assistance to participate in this meeting should be made to the City Clerk's
office in advance so that the appropriate accommodations can be made.*

City of Lake Geneva Avian Committee Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, January 14, 2025 6:00 P.M.

City Council Conference Room 2A

1. Call to Order: 6:05 PM by Sarah McConnell

2. Roll Call. The following members were present: Sarah McConnell, Jill Rodriguez, Kelley Happ, Beverly Leonard, Karen Gallo, Victoria Ross and Alderperson Cindy Yager.

3. Visitors and Comments from the Public:

Peg Esposito, Alderperson from Third District updated the committee about activities in the city, including dredging and seawall repairs at the lagoon. She also informed us that the city's search for a new administrator will start all over again. They will also be looking to fill a code and zoning position. The city will also revisit the job description for a Parks Superintendent position with input from various constituents.

4. Approval of Avian Committee meeting minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from the December 10 meeting was made by Rodriguez, seconded by Ross. The motion passed.

5. Budget Update and 2025 Financial Review:

Rodriguez led a discussion of our 2025 budget, with a balance of \$1,353.23 excluding the funds from the city for the 2025 year. Rodriguez made a motion to request the City Comptroller roll the new budget funds into our account. It was seconded by Ross and passed. McConnell will make the request to the Comptroller as well as confirm our reserve account. We will ask for details on all accounts starting January 1.

6. Update from City Council

Alderperson Yager informed us that the city's search for a new administrator will start all over again. They will also be looking to fill a code and zoning position. The city will also revisit the job description for a Parks Superintendent position with input from various groups.

7. Bird City Application

McConnell and Ross reported on their work to update our activities on last year's Bird City application, including Swift Night Out and Story Book Trail. New 2024 activities include the booth at the Farmers Market on June 12 and Cicada Fest on June 8. The City Council passed the Bird City resolution at their January 13 meeting. The mayor will need to sign and we will include a pdf of that document in our application. The city clerk will need to send the packet to Bird City by the due date of Feb. 29. McConnell also reported that VISIT Lake Geneva would like to link to our FaceBook page to use our birding information. We also discussed other communities' efforts to include mitigation from bird strikes and dark sky regulations to aid in migration. Happ will report on this for our next meeting.

8. Partnerships and Funding Opportunities

No new action

9. Birdwatching Backpacks for the City of Lake Geneva

Rodriguez reported that she is working on designs for the new hotel birding backpacks. She is finishing letters to hotels describing this project and encouraging them to participate. She also reached out to two local graphic artists we will need to help design rack cards and brochures.

10. Climate Change Topics and Updates

- **World Migratory Bird Day Celebration**

The Committee is finalizing plans for an event celebrating World Migratory Bird Day, including a speaker and activities for children, to be held on May 17 in the Smith Reading Room at the Lake

Geneva Public Library. We should inquire about possible dates for a migration topic at Geneva Lake Museum's "Tuesdays at 2".

- **EV Chargers**

Yager reported that few EV charging companies are currently working in Wisconsin. She received non-response from all the companies she contacted.

- **Bird Strike Mitigation Legislation**

The City of Madison and Lake County have both instituted bird-strike mitigation initiatives for new non-residential buildings. We will look into this for Lake Geneva. Happ will get more details.

- **Dark Skies Project**

Happ will research and report on dark sky regulations in other communities

McConnell provided an update on Avian flu and feeding backyard birds from the Cornell Lab of Ornithology. Happ will create an update on this for our Facebook page.

11. Next Meeting:

The Next Avian Committee meeting is on **Tuesday, February 11 at 6 pm in Conference Room 2 A**

15. Future Agenda Items

- Update from City Council
- Budget Update and 2025 Financial Review
- Bird City Application status
- Birding Backpacks Project
- Climate Change Topics/Updates
 - World Migratory Bird Day activities
 - EV Chargers in Lake Geneva
 - Dark Skies project
 - Wording for Building and Zoning to consider bird safe and dark sky ordinances in new and renovated buildings in the city.
- Other
- Next meeting Date and Time
- Future Agenda Items

16: Adjournment:

Rodriguez moved to adjourn, seconded by Beverly Leonard and approved. Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, 2/3/2025
Kelley Happ

Account Number	Account Title	2024-24 Prior year Actual	2024-24 Prior year Budget	Variance Current year	% of Budget
GENERAL FUND					
MISCELLANEOUS					
MISCELLANEOUS					
11-70-00-47300	AVIAN DONATIONS	1,000.00	250.00	750.00-	400.00
Total MISCELLANEOUS:		1,000.00	250.00	750.00-	400.00
MISCELLANEOUS					
11-70-00-57800	AVIAN COMMITTEE EXPENSES	3,071.77	4,425.00	1,353.23	69.42
Total MISCELLANEOUS:		3,071.77	4,425.00	1,353.23	69.42
Total MISCELLANEOUS:		4,071.77	4,675.00	603.23	87.10
GENERAL FUND Revenue Total:		1,000.00	250.00	750.00-	400.00
GENERAL FUND Expenditure Total:		3,071.77	4,425.00	1,353.23	69.42
Net Total GENERAL FUND:		2,071.77-	4,175.00-	2,103.23-	49.62
Net Grand Totals:		2,071.77-	4,175.00-	2,103.23-	49.62

Journal	Reference Number	Payee or Description	Debit Amount	Credit Amount	Balance
11-70-00-47300 AVIAN DONATIONS					
		01/01/2025 (00/25) Balance	.00 *	.00 *	.00
		01/31/2025 (01/25) Period Totals and Balance	.00 *	.00 *	.00
YTD Encumbrance	.00	YTD Actual	.00	Total	.00
YTD Budget	250.00-	Unearned	250.00		
11-70-00-57800 AVIAN COMMITTEE EXPENSES					
		01/01/2025 (00/25) Balance	.00 *	.00 *	.00
AP	50	LEONARD, BEVERLY	75.00		
		**Desc: PMCA MEMBERSHIP			
		01/31/2025 (01/25) Period Totals and Balance	75.00 *	.00 *	75.00
YTD Encumbrance	.00	YTD Actual	75.00	Total	75.00
YTD Budget	2,750.00	Unexpended	2,675.00		
11-70-00-57810 AVIAN COMMITTEE DONATION EXP					
		01/01/2025 (00/25) Balance	.00 *	.00 *	.00
		01/31/2025 (01/25) Period Totals and Balance	.00 *	.00 *	.00
YTD Encumbrance	.00	YTD Actual	.00	Total	.00
YTD Budget	.00	Unexpended	.00		
Number of transactions: 1 Number of accounts: 3			Debit	Credit	Proof
Grand Totals:			75.00	.00	75.00

Report Criteria:

Actual amounts

All accounts

Account.Account number = "11700047300","11700057800","11700057810"

Account Number	Account Title	2025-25 Period Actual	2025-25 Current year Actual	Current year Budget	Variance Current year	% of Budget
GENERAL FUND						
MISCELLANEOUS						
MISCELLANEOUS						
11-70-00-47300	AVIAN DONATIONS	.00	.00	250.00	250.00	.00
Total MISCELLANEOUS:		.00	.00	250.00	250.00	.00
MISCELLANEOUS						
11-70-00-57800	AVIAN COMMITTEE EXPENSES	75.00	75.00	2,750.00	2,675.00	2.73
Total MISCELLANEOUS:		75.00	75.00	2,750.00	2,675.00	2.73
Net Total GENERAL FUND:		75.00-	75.00-	2,500.00-	2,425.00-	3.00
Net Grand Totals:		75.00-	75.00-	2,500.00-	2,425.00-	3.00