



Avian Committee

Alderman Jeff Wall, Chairman

Maureen Winkler, Secretary

Kate Anderson

Bob Nordhaus

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July 31, 2014 Minutes

1. Meeting called to order by Chairman Wall. Time: 5:30pm

2. Roll Call :

Members in attendance:

Chairman Jeff Wall	<u> X </u>	Kate Anderson	<u> X </u>
Secretary Maureen Winkler	<u> X </u>	Bob Nordhaus	<u> X </u>

Public in attendance: Don Forbes, Harvey Larson

3. Approval of minutes from June 19, 2014 meeting as distributed.

Motion to approve by Ms. Anderson, Seconded by Ms. Winkler. Passed.

4. Comments from the public limited to 5 minutes.

- Don Forbes indicated he would like to continue helping the Committee from a Public Citizen position, and Alderman Wall expressed his thanks for Mr. Forbes' continued service.
- The newest Committee Member, Mr. Bob Nordhaus, introduced himself to the Committee as a life-long birder and outdoorsman. He is looking forward to working with the Committee on projects that improve the environment in Lake Geneva. Mr. Nordhaus also shared information about the Walleyes for Tomorrow fundraiser that was to be held on August 2 for the purpose of improving the Walleye population in Geneva Lake.

Agenda Items:

5. Discussion/Recommendation on Bird House Rehabilitation

- Ms. Winkler spoke with Bill Mueller about using the Swift houses for other bird species. He felt it would be a viable idea. Ms. Winkler let him know that the Swift house mounted under the eaves of the Water Utility garage is currently hosting some birds as evidence of the excrement around the opening. She was not sure what specie was there. Ms. Winkler sent Mr. Mueller photos of the Swift Houses, as well as the Kestrel House, along with aerial photos of Four Seasons and the Waste Water seepage cells, which Mr. Mueller requested. Committee Members will speak with Mr. Mueller at the Swift Night Out on Wednesday, August 13th, to see if he has had any ideas how to modify the houses and where to place them.

Motion to continue working on the Swift House Rehabilitation by Alderman Wall, Seconded by Ms. Winkler. Passed.

6. Discussion/Recommendation on American Kestrel Partnership

- Discussion about talking with Bill Mueller about what Partnership would entail and what papers would be necessary to sign
- Committee will also talk to Mr. Mueller about this item at Swift Night Out.

Motion to Continue working on the Kestrel Partnership by Ms. Anderson, Seconded by Alderman Wall. Passed.

7. Discussion/Recommendation on Bird City High Flyer Status

- Chairman Wall had spoken with Bill Mueller, who indicated we were in compliance for High Flyer Status, as long as we had window clings available at City Hall. Alderman Wall noted that City Administer Jordan will look into what kind of money might be available for the decals.
- Ms. Winkler spoke with a local printer who thought that a 2.5" x 8" removable window cling decal might cost in the area of one dollar apiece.
- Ms. Winkler broached the possibility of a fundraiser/project with Elementary students to make decals and sell at the Geneva Lake Museum or at School functions. The profit could go toward future projects like the Kestrel Partnership or Bluebird Boxes.
- The Committee also discussed Four Seasons as part as High Flyer status. Ms. Anderson saw Turkey Vultures and many native plants, despite the proliferation of invasive species. She created a list of the native plants and will share list with Mr. Mueller at Swift Night Out

Motion to: Find ways to fund and distribute window decals and continue working on our Bird City High Flyer Status by Chairman Wall. Seconded by Ms. Anderson. Passed.

8. Discussion on Final 2014 Swift Night Out Planning

- Ms. Winkler stated that the Swift Night Out was being advertised on the Bird City Website, the Geneva Lake Museum website and the Lake Geneva Chamber of Commerce and Convention and Visitors Bureau calendar. Alderman Wall noted that the City's calendar and the Regional News will also carry it.
- Alderman Wall will arrange with Piggly Wiggly grocery store for the Cake/Forks/Plates/Napkins Ms. Winkler will bring the water bottles on ice and Ms. Anderson volunteered to cut and serve the cake.
- Ms. Winkler will verify Bill Mueller's presentation and equipment use with the Museum. (Note: this has been done and all is set for the 13th).
- Ms. Winkler volunteered to print out some Swift Night Out brochures and get them to Hemmingways for the August 2nd Walleyes for Tomorrow fundraiser. (Note: this was done.)
- Chairman Wall volunteered to get more Swift Night Out brochures printed and sent to the Museum for the evening of the 13th.

9. Discussion on future agenda and meeting items

- City Administrator Jordan will price 400 window clings.
- Possible Future Project with Eastview Elementary for clings.
- Reusing Swift Houses/Bird House
- Kestrel Partnership
- Improving habitat at Four Seasons
- Other Partnerships, such as Bluebirds/Monarch Butterfly. Ms. Winkler spoke with local Fairwind developer Brian Pollard about the possibility of erecting Bluebird houses at Stone Ridge after spotting two of them in the neighborhood. Mr. Pollard kindly agreed to that, with the stipulation that he have final approval of placement and possible future movement of the houses as the area becomes more developed.
- 2014 Swift Night Out Recap
- Next meeting date and time Thursday, September 11, 5:30pm
- Motion to adjourn by Ms. Anderson, Seconded by Ms. Winkler. Passed.

Motion to Adjourn: Time: 6:00pm