

**AVIAN COMMITTEE MINUTES
MONDAY, JANUARY 9, 2017 – 5:00 P.M.
CITY HALL, MEETING ROOM 2A**

Meeting was called to order by Chairman Horne at 5:04 p.m.

Roll Call: Present: Chairman Horne, Beverly Leonard, Sarah McConnell, Nikki Scott. Absent: Bob Nordhaus. Also Present: City Administrator Oborn. Public Present: Mary Jo Fesenmaier.

Approval of Public Works Committee meeting minutes from December 5, 2016 as prepared and distributed
Horne/Leonard motion to approve. Motion carried unanimously.

Comments from the public limited to 5 minutes.

Mary Jo Fesenmaier, thanked the committee for their service. She hopes in the future they can connect to the chamber of commerce as there are many tourists that are interested in birds.

Discussion/Recommendation/Action on the 6th Annual Swift Night Out to be held in September 2017 at the Geneva Lake Museum

Ms. McConnell contacted the museum, and they are on the books for September 14th. They are still working on a specific speaker. They would like the speaker to discuss swifts, conservation, and general bird information. There was discussion on promoting the event in the schools and at the library.

Discussion/Recommendation/Action on Avian Committee Website Improvements

There was discussion on what sites to link to and what information could be included.

Discussion/Recommendation/Action on Bird House Locations

Clean up and maintenance was discussed. A few commissioners volunteered to help clean out the houses. Mr. Oborn said he will look at other maintenance issues. Mr. Horne asked them to take an inventory on what shape the houses are in.

Discussion/Recommendation/Action on Purple Martin Bird Housing

Ms. Leonard would like to put together an educational flyer or packet. She would like to see if residents would like to contribute to the repopulation of the purple martin as well possibly purchasing a house. It was discussed speaking with different homeowner associations in town to see if they would be interested to split up the cost. Mr. Horne will speak with the people that manage his homeowner's association as they may have several mailing lists of property owners in the area. The houses would need to be installed by April.

Discussion/Recommendation on citywide Mosquito Spraying

Mr. Oborn stated a lot of people support the spraying and this is the will of the Council. The committee would like to get information on how effective the spraying is and how much it costs. Mr. Horne noted stagnant water in people's yards is the biggest culprit for mosquito population. Mr. Oborn said they spray twice a year and they give a two week notice. There are a number of residents who are called and it is posted in the paper. He noted there are other types of spraying that is done in the city as well.

Discussion/Recommendation/Action on Bat Houses

Mr. Horne suggested focusing on the purple martin houses and then revisiting this item.

Discussion/Recommendation/Action on Bird City Wisconsin 2017 High Flyer Flight Renewal Application

The application is done. Mr. Oborn has not heard anything back yet. The City is still maintaining 'High Flyer' status.

Discussion/Recommendation of future agenda items

Mr. Horne suggested the purple martin houses and promoting the Swift Night Out event.

Discussion/Recommendation on next meeting date and recommended City Council meeting schedule

The next meeting will be held on March 27th at 5:00pm.

Adjournment.

Leonard/Horne motion to adjourn at 5:55pm. Motion carried unanimously.

/s/ Stephanie Gunderson, Assistant City Clerk

THESE MINUTES ARE NOT OFFICIAL UNTIL APPROVED BY THE AVIAN COMMITTEE