

GGC meeting Tue, 9/16/25, Welcome Center conference room, 5:30

**Zoom:** <https://hws.zoom.us/j/92156663764?pwd=UJJ7ExYP7DwblO0Ps2Et1zmjlqPfEb.1#success>

Present: Pat Wallace (Chair), Marcia Cullen, Jim Stiles, Richard Cox, Anne Hoyt, Pat Keefe, Becky \_\_\_\_, Heather Emery; Special Guest: Nicole Tillotson

A, Call to Order. Introductions. Approve Aug's Meeting Minutes: Motion MC, 2<sup>nd</sup> by RC.

B, Correspondence: PW: I received a solicitation from Kim Danna, Community Relations Manager with Solar Simplified, which I forwarded to you last week; should we pursue this? Town of G did community distributed generation via Joule for individual residents (opt in), as opposed to Community Choice Aggregate by municipality (all in unless opt out). RC: yes, pursue. PW: okay, let's form a sub-committee. Who volunteers to be on it? RC: me. PK: the problem w these programs is the up-front cost.

C, Reports/Updates/Discussions

1, City Clerk Nicole Tillotson discussed RRP and clarified that City Manager Amie Hendrix intends to come to October's GGC meeting, not Sept's. RRP is continuing. The fees for services are increasing for 2026 (as w Town of Geneva). The staff salary isn't part of the City budget because they secured a grant to cover it. City will raise awareness and encourage participation by highlighting to residents that they can send their pumpkins to RRP after Halloween along w yard waste. Hours of operation are Th & Sat 8:30a-4:30p. Truck traffic to/from is kept to the north to avoid the residential area. No plans to add any lighting and no plans to operate in evening. No dump items. PK: Need better signage. NT: Yes, we're planning that, and maybe cameras due to ppl leaving inappropriate items outside of business hrs. JS: Tommy and I talk composting, is there a process involved? NT: That's a question for Engineering. Joe's going to be out for a while. The end goal is to have a finished compost product to sell (which involves passing the compost through a screen). [via email from JS: possible plan for a public session making vermicompost reactors.]

2, Rain Gardens: ask residents to consider getting a perc test & install. AH: I'm in contact w Emily DeBolt, Seneca Lake Pure Waters Director, rain garden expert (from the Lake George area) who gave a presentation on this at the Geneva Public Library, invited for tonight but had a conflict. I have info sheets to distribute at Native Plant Sale to ask ppl if they would like to sign up for a perc test towards the goal of establishing a rain garden on their property. PW: would the City Right-of-Way at their house be a consideration? AH: question to be raised. I'll go visit her in Canandaigua before the Native Plant Sale. JS: I want to talk to her about design features. PK: subterranean 4'x4' dry wells, no downspouts onto the surface in Bethesda, MD. PW: what time of year would perc tests be done here, have to avoid winter when ground might be frozen. AH: spring to fall.

3, Tomato contest feedback (JH not present, but four in attendance enjoyed it and it attracted enough of a crowd to fill the venue.)

4, Castle Creek fence/debris update. AH: all set on this.

5, Hotel area of City Lakefront Park gardening update. AH: spoke to Sydney Schumacker. RC: she and I will be on the radio Mon 9/22 at 8:15. AH: Sydney joined the BID to administer a grant and now is Director, has a lot of energy. Grant to advance birds at Lakefront Park. Selected the two swales on either side of the Castle St entrance to focus on this fall; bird habitat; Eaton Birding Club members; wants two weeding volunteers 9/27 and two 10/11 to eliminate invasive weed species and then lay down cardboard, maybe getting Jim Engle to spray in spring if needed. MC: did anyone take over the butterfly garden? [No one knew.]

6, Ontario County Solid Waste Poll feedback. HE: there have been TVs at the curb on their way to the landfill, which shouldn't happen. Residents give feedback online; there should be a dashboard to see what other ppl are saying. AH: Staples takes back things that they sell, but the Ontario County events are way over in Bristol. NT: I keep that info on the first page of ?. AH: Doesn't ToG transfer station accept e-waste? PK: SMI has a separate area for that.

7, Green, Sustainable Prosperity Through Efficiency. JS: I'm happy to answer people's questions. How to proceed: adopt/endorse the stuff put together and shop it around to look for allies on that theme. Any questions/thoughts? AH suggestion: it seems to be missing NYS's ClimateSmart Program? JS: that's one of the outreach programs to do. AH: The City earns points for accomplishments and the points can be used to get grants. NT: Taylor Youngs, new Assistant City Manager... Canandaigua good. AH: Canandaigua has a City Council person in charge of theirs. NT: standing committee.... AH: revive our old GNRC. RC: did they have "hubs"? NT: Marty Davis, good energy. She and Craig Talmage have Neighbors Together meetings, connect with them for resources. The LDC meets the first Wednesday of each month, 2<sup>nd</sup> floor, City Hall, 12:00 noon. AH: add Community Solar. Under Waste Management, RRP.... Private vs municipal hauler, Canandaigua did a study and found the municipal model to be cheaper, more efficient. RC: they said that they used their staff people for other purposes when not picking up trash. NT: CC wouldn't want to increase taxes. The whole county is looking into the waste issue. Ken Camera used to be on CC. the County landfill is closing soon. All municipalities are involved in a taskforce to reuse/recycle. It'll trickle down to municipalities. MC: In \_\_\_\_, IL, it was mandatory to recycle, separate plastic, glass, etc. NT: Mandatory here, too.... wear and tear on roads, AH: How, why the change? NT: I'm not clear on that, it was before I came but we want to do that next year. AH: Under Water Resources, should include Seneca Lake. Storm water abatement is important. What's "woonerven"? RC: walkable streets. JS: from the Netherlands. Pine St could be a playground for kids. Have to allow cars, but need ppl to manage it. Transportation corridors. PK: Can we close Linden St (permanently)? NT: not permanently. There are mail box drive-ups, businesses, and residents. JS: So, where do we go from here? find allies, divide up.... RC (to NT): interesting plan for you, Amie, and Taylor Youngs to have in mind. Ken's housing idea good for Town & Country Plaza. NT: The plaza has a new owner who is working on full occupancy. There's a Portland suburb village [model?] w retail on the bottom level, housing above. RC: the T&C Plaza is walking distance to grocery store, drug store, new medical unit. JS: Input to new Master Plan. NT: Tie new Master Plan into economic development. We need more housing. Work Force housing: OEO, Jackson St, Lakeview (FLT site). JS: Thoughts on process? AH: LDC good partner. NT: Craig Talmage [talmage@hws.edu](mailto:talmage@hws.edu)

Notes on website. JS: Scope narrow/expansive/changeable? NT: IDA structured w laws. Regulated by State. LDC and IDA chartered by State. AH: BID another collaborator. Will put info online. NT: If you send me a written statement, I can read it/comments into the minutes of CC meetings.

D, Announcements:

- 1, Ongoing: Weeding Wednesdays:  
<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/10C0E48ADAC2AA4F5C16-48380529-weeding/150107481#/>
- 2, Ongoing: Ontario County Solid Waste info & poll: <https://bandl.mysocialpinpoint.com/ontario-county-lswmp>
- 3, \*Geneva Community Conversations w City Manager Amie Hendrix & Assistant City Manager Taylor Youngs, 6:00-7:30pm Tue, 9/16/25, Bozzuto Center, 22 Castle St
- 4, The Thur 9/18/25 Town of G Sustainability meeting is **POSTPONED to Thursday October 16**, Town Hall, 3750 Co Rd 6, 7pm
- 5, Weekend of 9/21/25 SunDay: <https://www.sunday.earth/welcome>  
FLX event Sunday 9/21/25, 1:00pm FLX Welcome Center, hosted by Yvonne Taylor / Seneca Lake Guardian [Click here to RSVP.](#)
- 6, Sat, 9/27/25, 8am-1pm Autumn Native Plant Sale & Seed Giveaway at the Farmers' Market
- 7, The BID received a Robert F. Schumann Foundation grant to support the creation & revitalization of habitats at Seneca Lakefront Park & improve conditions for native bird species while ensuring a healthier, more sustainable environment. Work will take place between now & next summer. They will remove non-native invasive plants & replace them with native species that provide food, shelter, & support for birds, pollinators, & other wildlife to help restore balance to the lakefront ecosystem & create a cleaner, more welcoming park space for the community by beach cleanups, birdwatching activities, & volunteers' data collection. The BID is hosting **Save a Lakefront Landscape Bed!** volunteer events **Sat, Sept 27 & Sat, Oct 11**, w shifts available from 9:00 a.m.–12:00 p.m. & 1:00–4:00 p.m. Sign up by [visiting the BID website](#)
- 8, Sunday, Oct 5: Town of G Free Stuff Day & Fix-It Clinic (Rain Date Oct 12), 32 White Springs Rd
- 9, Hobart & William Smith Colleges' Newton Tree, a Flower of Kent propagated from the one which inspired Sir Isaac's theory of gravity, is about to be felled. Attempts are being made to propagate it.

Motion to adjourn: PW; 2<sup>nd</sup>: MC