

GGC Meeting, Tues, 2/17/26, Welcome Center conference room, 5:30pm

Present: Pat Wallace (Chair, Secretary), Jim Stiles, Richard Cox, Marcia Cullen, James Anderson, Pat Keefe

A, Call to Order

Motion to approve Dec Minutes: MC, 2nd:JA

Motion to approve Jan Minutes: RC, 2nd:JS

B, Correspondences

In a 2/1/26 email, Joe Venuti stated "Casella needs to be notified in advance of when needed rollofs are full and need to be pulled. They do a fine job when we notify them." GRRP manager Jacob Fox stated that all questions, suggestions, etc. go through him. PW received from multiple people reports of problems at the GRRP (bins overflowing and/or frozen shut), so used the official GGC gmail account Thursday, 2/4/26 to contact JF, requesting that the GRRP bins which were overflowing and/or frozen shut be dealt with by the following day (as the day after that, Saturday, would be when the GRRP would be open again). PW followed up with a second gmail to JF 2/13/26 regarding another report of the GRRP gates being locked shut during posted business hours (which has happened to other people, too). We sympathize with the attendant's exposure to cold and boredom, but customers finding it closed when it's supposed to be open wastes their time and trip (which may have been en route elsewhere and not conducive to keeping their yard debris/recycling/garbage with them) and disincentivizes potential new customers. What solutions could there be? (e.g., 1) ask Tommy what he needs, 2) a structure with plumbing, heat, and a break area, 3) having another employee stop over long enough to give the attendant a lunch break plus a restroom break when needed, 4) close during lunch....) JF replied 2/13/26 that he checked the bins the day in question and that they were fine, and reiterated his request for volunteers to help cover. JA: Blueprint students might be able to help in the summer.

C, Reports/Updates/Discussions

1, RC: MZ will not happen this year, postponed until next year, make it bigger, maybe an art show at Dove Block, drama, lead-up events, response option for what

Geneva could do for sustainable prosperity (the theme for the next MZ). PK: include “Earth Day” in the title of the event, invite near-by municipalities to join with us.

2, JN: GARDEN PROTECTION ACT (Senate Bill S879A/Assembly Bill A2122A):

<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/S879/amendment/A> and
<https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/A2122/amendment/A>

Read bill text: <https://www.nysenate.gov/legislation/bills/2025/S879/> and

<https://nyassembly.gov/leg/?term=2025&bn=A02122>

See also <https://westernnewyork.wildones.org/legislative-call-to-action-for-ny-native-food-gardeners/>

The GGC is leaning towards supporting this but will ask JN to draft an action item/letter for it.

3, Decide what to do for the March Monthly Meeting; PW and MC will not be available on the 3rd Tue. Options: cancel, change the date, or hold the meeting w/o them. The GGC decided to change the meeting date to **3/24/26**.

4, GRRP & worm hotels: JS will make available a copy of the YA book he wrote. Regarding Sustainable Prosperity, JS talked to Amie Hendrix, who wants to include it in the new Master Plan but doesn't have any specific action on it at this point. JS is willing to host a series of workshops and invite City Council, Chamber of Commerce, et al. Other organizations could also table at it.

Worms: several ppl are willing to foster vermiculture colonies at their homes to raise for the GRRP. PW will run it by JF first. Want ~1 million worms per trench. JS will find where to purchase red wigglers. PW will send out an email to see who's interested and who needs a canvas pot. After ~6 weeks, give some of the worms to another worm starter. When the weather gets nice, donate them to the GRRP.

JA: Crystal St community gardens could do a worm bin when it warms up.

PK: Look up Home-grown National Park and join, and watch the “Extraordinary Caterpillar” video.

Motion to adjourn: RC, 2nd: MC

D, Announcements

1, State St Community Garden 2026 kick-off 2/22/26, Bozzuto Center, 22 Castle St, 1pm.

2, Geneva Parks Collective Meeting, Sunday 2/22/26, Bozzuto Center, 22 Castle St, 2pm

3, Seneca Lake Guardian is sharing as much information as they can regarding the proposed nuclear power plant in Schuyler County via this link*:

https://docs.google.com/document/d/19LVra9oIPrFZ_vKKeZWM_BF5eXq_VdRgrWAm7zoHpg/edit?usp=sharing

**If you do not have access to Google, please [email](#) us and we will send a PDF to you.

Please take some time to review what we have shared, and consider signing onto [this letter](#) urging Schuyler County to rescind any bids/ letters of interest regarding siting a nuclear power plant in the county. This is a regional - even statewide issue- so anyone concerned about the potential development of nuclear power plants in the region is invited to sign on. Please share this widely with others whom you may feel are interested in signing [this letter](#).

Thank you,
Yvonne Taylor

Co-Founder and Vice President,
Seneca Lake **Guardian**, A Waterkeeper Affiliate”

Respectfully submitted,

Pat Wallace, Chair, Secretary.