

Geneva Green Committee Organizational Meeting

Public Library Study Room 2

12:00-1:30pm June 15, 2024

Present: James Anderson, Marcia Cullen, Sara Britting, Julie Coleman, Pat Wallace;
attending via Zoom: Anne Hoyt

1. AH: there is a lack of institutional knowledge regarding the Lakefront Park and the Park needs someone to manage it. We have asked for the last 3 to 4 yrs for that to be in the City's budget without getting it. The volunteers can't manage it alone. There exist a large # of native species. AH can put together a slide show to raise public awareness and rally a call to action. JC offered to make the slide show into a video to make public on social media to engage the public and to present a suggestion of a solution. AH will write something up to go with it, has shown a slide show to Rotary Club etc. SB: educate public re pollinators. JC: DPW might need to be educated, SB: (Previously-)hired contractors aren't knowledgeable re pollinator plants. AH(?): Jim Engle is now managing any needed spraying at the Lakefront Park plus the near-by 5&20 median strip. He's knowledgeable and has priorities which align with the Comprehensive Plan.) AH: Lakefront Park needs leadership, a horticulturalist on staff. There's an arrangement among DPW, BID (a not for profit supported by City \$), DRI (Downtown Revitalization Initiative, grant \$) regarding workload, plan, long term vision. AH approached FLCC Horticultural Sci Dept w/o response.

2. PW: we need to learn and follow Open Meetings laws, or whatever City uses: posting agendas in advance, making motions and having them seconded by someone else, etc. JC: being open to the public if they wish, tighten up structure. It was noted that sustainability is part of the Comprehensive Plan and that we should have a Council liaison but don't. PW Moved, JC 2nd, all agree, none opposed, motion to learn and follow the rules carried. AH wondered about requiring GGC Members to attend a minimum of one GGC meeting per quarter, SB made the motion, MC seconded it, all agreed, none opposed, motion carried.

3. PW, et al., suggested (as has been discussed previously) we update lists of GGC "Members" vs "Friends of the GGC" for purposes of our webpage on the City's website & having two email versions, sending the Members a detailed email and sending the Friends a lighter version of highlights: send out an email or SurveyMonkey poll to everyone on the GGC email list to ask their preference to be a Member, a Friend of the GGC, or to stop receiving the emails. People must reply by July 1st to be Members, all others and/or those who so choose will be "Friends" (or removed from communications if they so choose). PW will draft something for this. PW shared that Richard Cox has stepped down from the Co-Chair position at this time. AH will stay on as Co-Chair but asked PW to be the other Co-Chair. PW: I'm honored but prefer working in the background. SB: nominated JC to be Co-Chair w AH, MC seconded, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried. PW was nominated as Secretary, JC seconded, all in favor, none opposed, motion carried.

4. PW, et al., suggested (as has been discussed previously) that we update our webpage on the City website w 1 or more photo(s), add links for MaMaWoG Report, Lakefront Park Plan, Weeding guide which AH put together with BluePrint students, and update our mission statement/responsibilities statement (to reflect that there is no application). Members can submit a small # of photos for consideration (on same mailing w Membership). JC created an overall GGC email which can be put on the website to help end silos and create a central GGC clearinghouse:

Genevagreencommittee@gmail.com, all members will have access. PW will send said links to the City Clerk to be added to our webpage with a note that there will be a photo selected soon.

5. AH: there should be recycling receptacles throughout downtown & at all City-sponsored events, as written in the Comprehensive Plan. What are the barriers? AH will talk to Cathrine Price of BID. Define what zero-sort means, include a separate receptacle for returnable containers, ask Growing

Cycles to do Events composting. Need someone to stand there and monitor who throws what where. Waste management Plan, enforcement. AH will look into it. MC: will they have to hire someone as monitor, and what would that cost? Food-inclusive event vendors (would? do?) have higher fees to cover the cost of this.

6. AH: we should review the 2013 Project Benefits Metric Report which went into the Comprehensive Plan and inventoried City energy use. See Part 3 of the Comprehensive Plan. See Part 2 pg 29. Part 3 pg 33, 34. Should we review this now or put this off until Sept? JC: David West is working w Jacob Fox on Geneva's membership in the ClimateSmart Initiative and reestablished our lapsed membership. We can combine all with ClimateSmart Communities, link all together. SB: JF should communicate to GGC what the requirements of membership are. AH: DW is attuned to this, importance of following guidelines, on top of it, they both accumulate points for the City and Town which open up grant \$, but it would be helpful if we're better in touch w DW to see what he's working on, maybe quarterly? DW is knowledgeable, we're lucky to have him, he's pro-active in seeking projects which align w our projects.

Pat will send SB contact info for Irene at BluePrint, who holds the GGC funds. (Done 6/16/24.)

Announcements: Rally for the Green Amendment in Albany on 7/12/24. June 28 sign-up deadline for free Seneca Lake Guardian bus ride, donations encouraged: <https://forthe generations.org/ny-green-amendment-rally-and-march/>

At 1:30 JC made a motion to adjourn, MC seconded the motion, all in favor, none opposed, meeting adjourned.