



Minutes of the Meeting
Natural Resources Committee
A Subcommittee of the Strategic Advisory Committee
Geneva City Hall
January 7, 2026

1. Meeting called to order at 6:00.
2. Geneva NRC Members Present: Jay Womack, Tom Dickinson, John Frankenthal, Kelvin Limbrick, Rachel Ratos, Autumn Bruno, John Potts, Kevin Potts.
Absent: Stephanie O'hara, Carrie Carter, Mel Rooney, Erick Waldchen, Steve Matravers, Ellen Osborne, Adam McMillen, Jeanine McMillen. Mark Kloet (SPAC Liaison)
Guests: Joseph Viso (City Liaison) and Jane Bohn (Geneva resident).
3. Amendments to the Agenda.
 1. No amendments.
4. Approval of Minutes from December Meeting. John Frankenthal moved and seconded by Kelvin Limbrick to approve the minutes. Motion passed.
5. Through a unanimous vote, Jane Bohn was officially voted in as a new member of the Natural Resources Committee.
6. Active Projects:
 - Earth Day Event.
 - i. The next event will be held on April 18, 2026.
 - Eastside Fire Station Natural Landscaping Project
 - i. Dan Ludwig will continue to monitor the landscape.
 - ii. Erick Waldchen volunteered to be the main point of contact for the landscape.
 - River Clean-up Day
 - i. The river is happy and moves quietly through Geneva.
 - ii. The next River Cleanup will be September 19, 2026.
 - Rain Barrels
 - i. Rain barrels have gone to sleep for the winter season.
 - Greening Geneva
 - i. The trees are asleep and are happy in their new homes.
 - ii. Jay checked to see if the NRC can apply tags to each installed tree, including trees dating back to 2012. Public Works said the City does not allow tags to be placed on the trees.
 - Wine, Cheese and Trees.
 - i. Next WCT will be 2/28/2026.
 - ii. Planning meetings are held at the Library, after the Library Foundation meeting.
 - iii. WCT Group to continue collecting items, securing sponsorships, and getting the word out.
 - iv. The NRC will look into a map that can show all trees planted since 2012 and have it at WCT.
 - Gunnar Anderson Stewardship
 - i. Workdays continue per the calendar provided by Jay.
 - ii. Battle of the Brush Piles will be in March 2026, location still TBD.
 - Elm Park Restoration Work.
 - a. Kelvin has seen improvements in the woods and will continue to organize workdays.
 - NRC Facebook and Instagram
 - i. Members are encouraged to send in information.
 - Pumpkin Smash
 - i. The pumpkins are slowly putting themselves back into the soil for next years' gardeners.
 - ii. The next Pumpkin Smash will be Saturday, November 7, 2026.
 - NRC Lecture Series
 - i. The next lecture will be about Mushrooms and be held March 7th, 2 to 3pm.
 - ii. The lecturer will be virtual, he is in Chicago.

- SPAC and Community Engagement
 - i. Rachel continues to engage with SPAC and the City to discuss work we are all doing. Rachel will send updates on attendance at NRC events to City for their reporting.
 - ii. The City is helping to collect Christmas lights at various locations. The bins will stay out for another month.
 - Dark Sky Initiative
 - iii. NRC will continue to promote the Dark Sky Initiative.
 - Tree Ordinance
 - i. NRC resent original comments to Dave DeGroot to begin review process.
 - Bird City Illinois
 - i. The City is working on the final Bird City application and is waiting on confirmation of information from the Park District.
7. New Initiatives
- Continue to support actions to reduce styrofoam and waste.
 - i. Erick Waldchen asked if he could work on this initiative. He has updated information that could improve the way restaurants reduce their reliance on styrofoam.
 - ii. The NRC agreed that this would be a good initiative to move forward, hold educational sessions, and even reach out to a restaurant to discuss ways to reduce styrofoam use and hear their thoughts on the subject.
 - Continue to support an educational opportunity to move Spring leaf collection into May and not April.
8. Treasurer's Report
- i. Tom Dickinson provided a report and said the account is reconciled with City records.
9. Additional business
- None heard.
10. Adjournment – Kelvin moved, and John seconded to adjourn the meeting. The meeting was adjourned at 7:20 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Jay Womack