



Minutes
Green Committee
Tuesday, 7/15/15, 7:00PM
City Hall Conference Rm.

Members in Attendance:

Dan Belliveau, Ken Camera, Adam Maurer, James-Emery Elkin, Anne Hoyt, Jim Norwalk,
Larry Campbell

Others:

Invited Guests: Julie Anderson Coleman

1. *Geneva Green Committee (GGC) energy subcommittee to meet with the City Manager (and other key managers) to review the Carbon Footprint Report and identify which specific projects and activities performed in the City during the study period led to the energy and carbon savings that were reported. The purpose of this session is to assist the subcommittee to link savings to projects and measures taken and to also encourage City Staff to think about other projects that could be undertaken in their departments in the near future for the next update of the report in 2016.*

Ken reported that Matt said that he will be setting up the meeting shortly with himself, Mark Perry and perhaps others. Larry can expect to hear from him directly.

2. **Recycling and material information brochure** for City and Town residents and businesses. (Everyone)

Members of the *GGC* undertook homework regarding sources for recycling and reusing of material. Here is how far we have gotten so far:

- Batteries for hand-held devices - hazardous waste, thru Casella at the Ontario Cty Landfill (bi-annually)
- Car batteries - all automobile repair/parts stores typically accept car old batteries in exchange for purchasing a new unit. Without a purchase drop offs may cost \$5-\$10 per unit. Scrap yards may pay for old car batteries. (Dan B. is researching this a little more to get the most accurate estimate.)
- Electronics - Staples stores will accept most electronics parts that do not include cathode ray type display tubes. (ie no TVs)
- Old TV picture tubes - hazardous waste, Casella or RCR&R, Victor Mendon Rd., Victor, NY <http://www.regionalcomputerrecycling.com/>
- Paint - hazardous waste or mix with kitty litter and let dry out and it can be landfilled.
- CFL bulbs - Lowes et al ??? (Ken needs to confirm about Walmart and others)
- Fluorescent bulbs - Lowes et al ??? (Ken about others??)
- Engine fluids
 - Engine oil - all NYS automobile repair shops that do oil changes must accept oil from any one.
 - Transmission fluid - still need to find out about transmission fluid

We need to confirm that all gas stations take this stuff.

- Appliances - most appliance stores will accept old appliances if a new one is purchased, otherwise scrap metal yards Dox's on N. Exchange????
- Car Tires - most tire stores will accept used tires for a fee of \$2-\$3. (Who wants to confirm with a sample of phone calls????)
- Mercury thermostats - It is illegal to dispose of mercury thermostats in the trash. HVAC supply companies are required to take them back and dispose of properly. In our area Irr Supply (Lyons Rd.), Booth (Geneva), and HEP, Waterloo take mercury thermostats.
<http://www.thermostat-recycle.org/zipsearch/results/14456>

3. **Municipal Composting Ordinance.** First reading completed at the June 2015 City Council meeting and passed unanimously. With the 2nd reading of the new Composting Ordinance in July, Geneva is officially a composting City.

Jim suggested that we now need to provide some promotion and education to residents. We also discussed Jim's research on a low-cost composter that he tested and how we might assess the interest of residents in obtaining composters. Jim is not sure that the unit he is using is appropriate for Geneva because of his experience with squirrels eating the plastic.

As far as promotion is concerned, all agreed that some kind of effort needs to be made to inform the community. Julie said that the GNRC was ready to assist with the production and dissemination of information (ie. brochure). Julie and Jim will consider various vehicles for getting the word out about. It was discussed that perhaps the GNRC could assess resident interest in composters and compost information.

4. **Municipal Composting Survey (Adam/Anne) Update**

Anne is in possession of approximately a dozen surveys of commercial restaurants in Geneva. It was considered a sufficiently large enough sample to write a Guest appearance about recycling, composting, City and County roles, and importance in the context of being a City that is a signatory to the Climate Smart pledge (per DEC). Adam will work with Anne to develop a draft of the article.

5. **Update on Comprehensive Plan** and initiatives that increase our sustainability. What were some of the questions of concern:

- What is the CP saying about the long-range goal for the landfill?
- What is the CP saying about the railroad and its impact on the Geneva Lakefront? (Dan has some info on this issue)
- What about Gas Storage?

Should the GGC provide language for consideration?????

A couple of weeks ago, Ken prepared and disseminated placeholder language that could be used in the City and Town Comprehensive Plans. The idea behind the memo, was to have the GGC work on these important issues but the CP processes are too far along for the standard GGC research exercise. As a result, Ken forwarded his sample language memo to Mark Venuti of the Town, Jackie Augustine, Matt, and Sage of the City for consideration.

It was agreed that the best way the GGC could assist in this area is to make sure that all members read the first draft of the City plan as soon as it is posted for public review (anticipated for the end of July). This reading should be done as soon as the document is released and all members should be prepared to compose a GGC statement and review at the first meeting after the document is publicly released.

6. Geneva Solid Waste Management Plan (Ken)

Ken reported that he had made no progress on the original draft he circulated about three months ago. This is important needs to be done especially in light of the Conference of Majors recent resolution. Adam was nice enough to provide that link.

http://usmayors.org/resolutions/83rd_Conference/displayresolution.asp?resid=83aReso050

7. Update on FLCC Landscape Plan (Ken)

The revised FLCC Landscape Plan was forwarded by Tom Harvey, Ontario Cty. Planning with notes around July 17th. Ken forwarded to the entire GGC around the 19th or 20th. If you haven't received it, please let me know.

8. Other Business?

Discussion of the Railroad and its impact on City. Currently, Dan is carrying on this conversation with the Railroad directly and the City Comp. Planning Cmte. and they seem to be discussing as a general concept and planning goal.

Julie and Anne will work together to coordinate press releases on *GGC* business and provide for some way for Committee members to review press releases in advance. Julie says that *GGC* press releases can be forwarded to her because she already has established access to all the media outlets in the immediate vicinity of Geneva via *GNRC* contacts.

Julie mentioned that she would be willing to enhance and expand green living and *GGC* information on the City website as well.

Julie also said that the *GGC* can count on her assistance in putting together the composting brochure any future print material and media.
