

City of Geneva Green Committee July meeting, 7/18/23, Public Library  
Attended by Richard Cox (Co-Chair), Anne Hoyt (Co-Chair), Jan Regan (City Council Liaison), Larry Campbell,  
Pat Wallace, Pat Keefe, Jason Rearick

RC forwarded the Town of Geneva's Design Connect report prepared by Cornell Univ students on the Town's plans to build a new Transfer Station, with the Doran Ave facility as a satellite location. RC: start by mandating that all schools participate in collecting organic materials for composting.

Report on any flooding (in many locations, repeatedly) and any movement to find solutions, status of grant applications for flooding risk and remediation (deadline extended).

AH report on Weeding Wednesdays: professional gardener Jill Byington, working for BID (part of DRI) a few hrs/week, has been bringing 2 or 3 BID workers with her to Weeding Wednesdays, a great help. Jill scouts the park in advance for what needs to be done each week. Americorps leaders and BluePrint Geneva kids joined in last week. Council should transfer the care of the lakefront from the City to BID. Plants are choked out by weeds that the volunteers can't keep up with and dying from pesticide sprays and neglect, especially in front of the hotel (whose personnel don't help with the maintenance, but rather are planting inappropriate plants not in the park's Master Plan). The hotel benefits from our efforts but doesn't contribute or help. The grass plugs purchased last year are surviving, but may need a few years to become established enough to thrive, currently over-run by weeds. BID plantings in the rts 5&20 medians are in a dangerous location to weed.

Grants are available for "reducing food waste." A long shot but would that include composting?

The Fall Plant Sale will be Sept 30<sup>th</sup> (indoors in the event of inclement weather). Next year's Mission Zero will be Saturday, April 27<sup>th</sup> (again at the ice rink with the Shade Tree Committee sapling give-away).

The work session to fine-tune the Greener Geneva Facebook page (and Twitter, Threads, Instagram, etc) on which to share information wasn't scheduled due to absence of high school students. We should have a link from the City Green Committee website to the Greener Geneva Facebook page and have at least one photo on the City website. Several members present aren't active on Facebook or any social media and prefer email.

JR will look into Doran Ave Resource Recovery Park contract and expiration thereof.

What are your visions for the next year? We are trying to set a time [probably on a Saturday given work and classes] we can meet for a project planning session to present ideas for us to address next year. Each person would take a turn to present an idea of something they would like to pursue, providing justification for why it is important to the city, listing the outside collaborators to be involved and steps to achieve success, and providing benchmarks for how to measure success. Everyone was asked to distribute this to the group before our meeting to give us a chance to consider. Each presenter would have five minutes, with another five to ten minutes for questions and brainstorming. (Waste diversion with Town of Geneva, stormwater run-off, synthetic pesticides, solar energy, CCA, road salt reduction, weatherization, Greenwich, plastic clam shells...) Would Sept 9th work for you?

RC talked to HWS Pres Mark Gearan and high school superintendent Garcia regarding adding climate change to the k-12 curriculum (as in NJ), and to the public library about a CC-centered book club (with BluePrint support).

For those of you who are 60 or older, would you be interested in forming a chapter of **Third Act** here in Geneva? For more info about Third Act, go to <https://thirdact.org>