

Geneva Green Committee, Welcome Center meeting room, 8/22/23, 5:30

Present: Richard Cox (Co-Chair), Pat Wallace. (Various emails contained conflicting meeting dates.)

Richard has proposed a new discussion group centered on Gretta's book and suggested that a short film could be paired with each of the book's sections. Collaborators to whom Richard has already spoken include the Geneva Public Library and BluePrint Geneva.

Richard has made climate change curricula suggestions to Bo Wright (Geneva School District Superintendent) and Mark Gearan (Hobart & William Smith Colleges President, who passed it along to Sarah Kirk, Provost).

Pat and Jason met at the end of July to improve the Greener Geneva Facebook page which the GGC has been using informally for a couple of years. The challenge questions had somehow disappeared, so new ones were put into place. The page had been started by Melissa Hegarty, who added Pat as an admin a couple of years ago and agreed that a link could be put on the GGC's page of the City's website to direct people to the Greener Geneva page. The GGC has been using the Greener Geneva Facebook page to advertise the Mission Zero events, plant sales, mattress collections, free stuff/fix-it events, and rallies, etc.

Geneva Green Committee, Public Library 2nd Floor meeting Room, 8/29/23, 5:30

Present: Richard Cox (Co-Chair), Anne Hoyt (Co-Chair), Pat Wallace, Marcia Cullen, Pat Keefe, and Geneva High School Green Club members Rowan Magee, Rendall Belanger-Curren, and Sofie Augustine.

1, RC: want report from Jacob Fox on the status of the Town of Geneva ReUse project, but Jacob was not present. Jan Regan should be kept in the loop so that she can guide the City in agreement.

2, RM: Geneva High School Green Club report: our two main projects are solar and food waste. We've made a little progress on solar in the form of research, and plan to meet with the facilities superintendent. Food waste being collected for compost has the challenge of plastics being tossed in with the organics. The only items washed and reused are the trays; all utensils are single-use plastic. Can compostable corn syrup plastic or bamboo utensils be provided instead of petrol-plastic? Who controls the purchasing contracts? The food least contaminated by plastic available for compost collection is the unserved food. AH: check with other NYS schools (e.g., Ithaca) to see what they've learned on food collection for compost.

3, Facebook page status: RC requested that RM create a new Facebook page for the Green Committee. RM: I would need access to the accounts of the 206 current members of the Greener Geneva Facebook page and would need to know what you want. After further discussion it was decided that the GGC would continue using the current Greener Geneva Facebook page and that PW will send the URL to the City Clerk to link to it from the GGC page of the City's website. PW: we should also have at least one photo on the GGC page of the City's website.

4, GGC Membership: RC: 38 people receive the GGC emails, but only a handful attend meetings and/or participate in events; I want to send out an email asking everyone "Do you want to continue receiving these emails?" to eliminate nonparticipants or to split the emails into two lists (participating members vs informational mailings). Others felt that it doesn't hurt to keep everyone on the email list, and can not only help keep people informed but also possibly spur them to attend a meeting.

5, The Doran Ave Resource Recovery Park contract is coming up for renewal in Sept. Jan Regan had conveyed to RC that the City is not happy with how the Nardozzis have been operating it and may shorten the duration of the contract from three years to one year (or possibly monthly). The Nardozzis had been invited month after month to the GGC meetings, and month after month after month had cancelled on short notice, never actually attending.

6, RC reported having contacted Mark Gearan (HWS President), John González (Geneva School District Assistant Superintendent), and Bo Wright (Geneva School District Superintendent) to encourage them to include *All We Can Save* and/or Greta Thunberg's *The Climate Book* in their curricula, and to emulate NJ's k-12 Climate Change curriculum. He has not heard back from them but reported that Bo Wright wrote a newspaper article asking where citizens wanted their school district to be headed. RB and SA: climate change comes up in some classes, such as Earth Science, and in some activities, e.g., extra-curricular evening activities, ESSYI (Environmental Studies Summer Youth Institute at HWS), and the HWS Envirothon. RM: the Green Club could encourage teachers to teach a Climate Change course.

7, RC gave PW an outline of Greta Thunberg's *The Climate Book* so that she can start looking for short videos (and/or other media?) to go along with each book section to facilitate discussion in a proposed new book club.

8, RC: Fall Plant Sale will be at the Farmers' Market at the Welcome Center.

9, RC: Not enough people signed up for the bus to the NYC rally near the UN; if anyone wants to go, they can try to get on one of the buses from Rochester or Ithaca. As a fall-back, there's a Sept 15th march.

10, RC & AH: Planning Day for the upcoming year was scheduled for Sunday, Sept 24, 2:00pm, location TBD. Everyone should bring a new idea for a project to work on in the coming year, identifying collaborators, time frames, benchmarks of success, costs, funding sources, priorities, tactics, and techniques. Progress reports can be expected from each sub-committee.

11, AH mentioned having attended an IPM/Cornell Cooperative Extension Sustainability Conference, at which the Rochester group Blocks in Bloom encouraged municipalities to plant pollinator gardens; AH suggested this as a Green Club project.