

**Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee
Tuesday February 22, 2011**

12:30-2 PM

Birge Hall, rm. 447

APPROVED MINUTES

Present

Bill Barker, Rachael Bower, Gary Brown, Katrina Forest, Rhonda James, Anne Readell, Sissel Schroeder, Laura Shere, Susan Will-Wolf

Also present

Janet Batzli (Biocore), Cathie Bruner (Preserve), Ann Burgess (Friends), Adam Gundlach (Preserve), John Magnuson (Friends), Bryn Scriver (Preserve)

Welcome and Introductions

Barker welcomed the newest Preserve Committee member, Rachael Bower, who is finishing out Elsa Althen's term. Rachael has a computer science and library science background. Her research focuses on how to organize the web. Her work on campus is to connect educators and the general public to authoritative online sources. She will confer with Elsa Althen about some speedy ways to start working on the Preserve's digital repository.

Minutes

The minutes from the January 18, 2011 meeting were approved as presented.

Public comment

Magnuson announced upcoming volunteer workparties on Sat. Feb 26 and Mon. Feb. 28 from 1-3PM, They will meet at Picnic Point and work at the Heritage Oak project area. He also invited anyone who was interested to attend the next Friends of the Preserve Board meeting to be held on Tuesday March 1 at the Science House from 7-9PM. Scriver will forward the Friends agenda to the Committee.

Brown noted that construction had begun on the new Lakeshore Housing and Dining Facility project adjacent to Willow Creek Woods.

Process for discussing bikes on Picnic Point issue

According to Barker the Preserve Committee needs to decide on some number of public meetings and then set the agenda for those meetings. He stated the meeting(s) should be like the Picnic Point improvement project meetings. He said he would like the Committee to make a decision on bikes in Picnic Point this semester, adding that a summer decision would not be fair to students.

After discussion. the Committee decided to reschedule the meeting at which to make a final decision from May 10, when students would be busy with final exams, to May 3. It was also decided that a meeting later in the day would be better since some Committee members have

conflicts earlier in the day. Scriver will look into reserving a bigger room for the May meeting in anticipation of members of the public attending.

The Committee chose March 21 (after spring break) for an evening public listening session on the bike issue. Forest thought the public should have something to comment on. Barker thought it would be better to just lay out the issue at the listening session and present some options. Barker agreed to draft a news piece for UW Communications by March 4. He will circulate it by email to the Committee for review. Readel and Jeddloh will talk to ASM for ideas on how to get information out to students. Shere wanted to get something out in the Eagle Heights Administrative newsletter. She also thought the Eagle Heights Assembly would likely want someone to speak on the issue and asked if the Preserve Committee would be willing to do this. There will need to be a Preserve Executive Team Meeting before the Listening Session. Dr. Jack Westman should be made aware of the listening session.

Budget Approval – ACTION ITEM

Two stakeholder meetings were held to solicit proposals and questions from the public and share with them the draft budget documents. The workplan and operating and capital budgets were discussed several times in Committee. Barker commended the open and transparent budget process.

Schroeder made a motion to approve the budget. Readel seconded it. The budget passed as presented.

Brown thanked Preserve staff for putting the budget together. Barker was pleased with the leadership and smoothly operating team.

Subcommittee Reports

Planning and Implementation subcommittee: Will-Wolf asked for a possible vote on a name change for Willow Creek Woods to “Willow Creek Savanna.” Her rationale was that the area now looks more like a savanna than a woods, and thought the name of the site should match what the Preserve Committee has decided the site should be. Magnuson asked how long Willow Creek Woods has been known as such and if there was a historical precedent. Will-Wolf was ok with a name change not being implemented until there was a big website update. Someone asked what the implications would be of this proposed name change on other Preserve areas in the future. Barker thought the subcommittee should discuss the issue more before bringing it back to the Committee. Will-Wolf also said she would like names for areas that are ok to use while discussing management. Barker responded that informally the subcommittee can call areas whatever they want. Burgess said the subcommittee will welcome suggestions for names and input.

Communications subcommittee: Scriver will send Bower a list of who is on the communications subcommittee.

Also someone needs to chair the Research subcommittee which was previously chaired by Don Waller. Both Dave Mickelson and Phil Townsend were suggested as possibilities.

Picnic Point Improvements update

Campus Planning and Landscape Architecture, Grounds and Preserve staff have looked at and commented on the 35% complete construction documents. Brown expects bids to happen this spring and construction to begin this summer or fall.

First Year Interest Group initiative

Forest reported that she, James, Townsend, Schroeder, Bruner, and Barker met to discuss the possibility of a First Year Interest Group (FIG) to bring teaching into the Preserve and expand its visibility. FIGs are for first semester (and some second semester) first year students. It's a learning community of students who are enrolled in a cluster of three classes that are linked by a common theme. They draw students with interests into core courses such as Wildlife Ecology, Forest Ecology and Anthropology. Right now there is a paucity of math and science courses in FIGs. The proposed course would put together, over time, the impact humans have had on the Preserve using data imaging technology. The course would focus on scientific methods. This would be a 3 credit course that someone would have to teach. The proposal is for Fall 2012 so there's plenty of time to work on it.

Schroeder moved to adjourn the meeting and Will-Wolf seconded it.

Adjournment

Submitted by Bryn Scriver