

Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee

Tuesday March 13, 2012

11 AM -12:30 PM

South Hall, rm. 304

Approved MINUTES

Present

Peter Allen, Mike Amato, Bill Barker, Gary Brown, Katrina Forest, Kelly Ignatoski, Rhonda James, John Magnuson, Anne Readell, Sissel Schroeder, Phil Townsend, Suzy Will-Wolf

Also present

Kris Ackerbauer (FPM), Cathie Bruner (Preserve), Ann Burgess (Friends), Glenda Denniston (Friends), Adam Gundlach (Preserve), Roma Lenehan (Friends), Bryn Scriver (Preserve)

Minutes

The minutes from the Feb. 14, 2012 meeting were approved with the following change: Spell out FIG—First-Year Interest Group.

Public comment

The Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve will celebrate their 10 year anniversary on Tues. April 3 with a presentation by Tom and Kathie Brock on the History of the Preserve. The meeting and presentation will be held at the Arboretum Visitor Center starting at 6:15pm. Everyone is welcome to attend.

Suzy Will-Wolf proposes a discussion on fundraising for the general stewardship fund at the April committee meeting. John Magnuson said the Friends have an interest in this too. The Development subcommittee has not met for over a year.

Presentation--Biocore Prairie Bird-Banding Station (Mara McDonald, mamcdona@wisc.edu) Presented by Adam Gundlach

- All volunteer run
- Initially funded by small grants from Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve/Biocore and small out of pocket grants from Mara McDonald
- Research & Outreach –bi-annual banding station open house **Sat. May 19, 2012**
- Two study sites 1) Biocore prairie and adjacent old field

Objectives:

- To provide a resource for Biocore and Wildlife students to study wildlife ecology.
- To monitor changes in the bird and mammal communities concurrent with prairie restoration.

- To provide a teaching and research resource for the University and local communities.
- To collect baseline data for long term monitoring and conservation of birds and mammals.

Discussion:

Readel said this is a good story that could bring in donors. Will-Wolf is impressed that this research takes place in a urban setting, and Barker said it proves the point that even small natural areas/restorations provide habitat for increased bird diversity. Forest wanted to know the impact of banding on the birds. Burgess said she knew of a study that showed the capture stress on birds is not very harmful; she'll look for the paper.

Presentation--Ecosystem Processes on the Lakeshore Preserve (Phil Townsend)

- Lakeshore Nature Preserve is one of many research sites in and around Madison.
- The Preserve is a good location for bringing undergrads.
- There are 10 or 11 permanent plots in the Preserve; plots are 50meters square.
- NASA funded remote sensing using LIDAR.
- Looking at how urban forest processes (Carbon and nutrient cycling) compare to non-urban forests.
- Field Measurements (Diameter at Breast Height, Height, Crown Base Height, Crown Width)
- Calculated measurements (Aboveground Biomass, Basal Area-Total, Live and Dead)
- Using LIDAR and ground truthing to show changes in above ground biomass, mean stem diameter and mean tree height between 2005 and 2009.
- Using AVIRIS measurements (foliar biochemistry) to investigate the relationships between insects and foliar Nitrogen concentrations. Increased nitrogen = increased insect diversity. Use pan traps and branch sampling to collect insect data.

Update on Picnic Point Improvements (Rhonda James)

End of March or beginning of April the contractor will remove the lake safety light and will put up a second light at the boat launch. Planting will be complete by the Fall.

Update on Eagle Height Woods Planning Process (Rhonda James)

The public came to the meeting with lots of use and management ideas. All agree that the buckthorn has got to go. We need a practical way to keep it gone.

Goals:

- 1) Protect the attributes we have. Dry-mesic woods is the target given in the master plan. The historic definition may be different today given climate change.
- 2) Look at as a system.
- 3) To support various uses the mission sets out.

Subcommittee Reports

Planning and Implementation Subcommittee (Will-Wolf)

This subcommittee has been a sounding board for the Eagle Heights planning process. They have a list of plants that they've noted growing on the mounds which they will get to James and Einstein.

Archive Subcommittee (Bower)

Bower not present. Bruner said Kristin Eschenfelsder's Library and Information Sciences Special Topics Class needs more archive materials on Picnic Point.

Motion to adjourn; seconded and passed.

Adjournment

Submitted by Bryn Scriver