

Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee
Monday September 19, 2016
12:30-2:00PM
Union South – Northwoods B
APPROVED Minutes

Present

Janet Batzli, Gary Brown, David Drake, Sara Hotchkiss, Kelly Ignatoski, Rhonda James, Kendl Kobbervig, Gisela Kutzbach, August McGinnity-Wake, Brooke Nelson, Glen Stanosz, Alan Turnquist

Also Present

Kris Ackerbauer (FPM), Adam Gundlach (Preserve), Rhonda James (FPM), Roma Lenehan (Friends), Anne Pearce (Preserve), Bryn Scriver (Preserve), Laura Wyatt (Preserve)

Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from May 12, 2016 was made by David Drake and seconded by Alan Turnquist. The motion was approved unanimously.

Staff Reports

1. Director Report (Gary Brown)

See Preserve Staff Reports – September 19, 2016

Bill Elvey, associate vice chancellor for Facilities Planning and Management, will be leaving the UW in early October. Margaret Tennesen, deputy associate vice chancellor, will serve as interim associate vice chancellor until a nation-wide search is conducted and a replacement is found. Bill Elvey spared the Preserve from cuts in the 2015-2017; we'll have to wait and see if we receive cuts in the upcoming 2017-2019 budget. Brown will keep Margaret Tennesen apprised of Preserve issues.

2. Program Manager Report (Laura Wyatt)

See Preserve Staff Reports – September 19, 2016

There seems to be little or no overlap between jumping worms and European earthworms in the Preserve where staff have been conducting informal surveys or at the UW Arboretum. Graduate student Katie Laushman who's been studying jumping worms at the UW Arboretum has not, at this time, seen dramatic changes in the herbaceous layer as a result of jumping worm presence. Biocore students are looking to see if jumping worms are present in Biocore Prairie.

3. Capital Projects Report (Rhonda James)

See Preserve Staff Reports – September 19, 2016

Note correction to Staff Report: The Near West Recreation Fields are under construction and the estimated completion date for the fields is late fall 2016-- NOT 2017. Landscape completion will be spring 2017. About 2-3 feet of soil is being removed and replaced with stone to allow water to infiltrate through the artificial turf surface and be stored to reduce first flush impacts to the local watershed. The lifetime of artificial turf is about 10-15 years. The turf infill will not be rubber, it will not float, and a 6-inch curb will surround the facility to contain the infill material.

4. Field Activities Report (Adam Gundlach)

See Preserve Staff Reports – September 19, 2016

5. Volunteers and Outreach Report (Bryn Scriver)

See Preserve Staff Reports – September 19, 2016

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve report (Gisela Kutzbach)

See Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve report—September 19, 2016

2016 Work Plan 6-month Status Report (Gary Brown)

See 2016 Work Plan 6-month Status Update

The update is prepared for the Preserve Stakeholder meeting which will be held on October 11, 2016 at 5:30 pm in Room 132 in the WARF building. At this meeting we talk about what has been accomplished and get feedback and answer questions from the public. If anyone wants to propose a project for consideration in the 2017 work plan they can submit one by November 1.

Volunteer metrics for the Annual Report include numbers for all volunteers (including those working on independent projects) not just those who attended volunteer work parties.

We will present statistics for the Preserve Audio Trails at the next meeting.

Volunteers are recognized in the spring Lakeshore Nature Preserve E-Newsletter, as well as receive a thank you by email along with photos of the group. There may be other ways that we can recognize volunteers in the future.

The bridge at the south end of the Class of 1918 Marsh may need to be closed if we cannot find funding to replace it. The Preserve staff have been reaching out to the UW Hospital regarding a proposed healing trail around the Class of 1918 Marsh.

Committee calendar and subcommittee organization (Laura Wyatt)

The Preserve Executive Team is chaired by Gary Brown, and includes the Preserve staff and Senior Landscape Architect Rhonda James as well as the Preserve Committee Chair, Sara Hotchkiss, and the Assistant Director of Physical Plant, Kris Ackerbauer.

If anyone has an item they would like added to the Preserve Committee agenda, they can forward it to Laura Wyatt 10 days to 2 weeks before the next meeting for consideration.

The Preserve Committee has three active subcommittees: the Planning and Implementation subcommittee, the Education subcommittee, and the Communications subcommittee. If anyone is interested in serving on a subcommittee, they should also contact Laura Wyatt or Sara Hotchkiss.

Preserve staff also supports the Students for the Preserve. This student organization has been struggling to formally get established. They have no faculty advisor and they are not a registered student organization, but there are several interested students.

Wyatt asked members of the Preserve Committee to look over the subcommittee descriptions and let her know how they would like to be involved in one of them. Wyatt encouraged student members of the Preserve Committee to get involved in the student group.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was moved by McGinnity-Wake and seconded by Batzli. Motion carried.

Submitted by Bryn Scriver, Preserve Outreach Specialist