

**Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee**  
**Thursday Sept. 4, 2014**  
**1-2:30PM**  
**350 Bascom Hall**  
**APPROVED MINUTES**

**Present:**

Gary Brown, Jacob Hahn, Rhonda James, Donna Paulnock, Sissel Schroeder, Phil Townsend, Alan Turnquist, Mattie Urrutia, Chloe Wardropper

**Also Present:**

Kris Ackerbauer (FPM), Ann Burgess (Friends), Kennedy Gilchrist (Friends), Adam Gundlach (Preserve), Roma Lenehan (Friends), Rowyn Noe (Preserve), Bryn Scriver (Preserve), Alex Steiner (student), Will Waller (Friends), Suzy Will-Wolf (Friends)

**Minutes:**

A motion was made to approve the minutes from the May 6, 2014 meeting by Hahn, was seconded by Turnquist and approved.

**Public Comment Period for Items not on the Agenda:**

Kennedy Gilchrist wanted to call to everyone's attention to the latest edition of the Friends newsletter for an article by John Magnuson on salt in the Madison lakes.

Kris Ackerbauer shared information he learned in a City of Madison meeting that less than 15% of the salt in the Madison lakes is due to road salt. The rest comes from water softeners and other sources. He noted that the UW needs to balance risk management with slip and fall hazards.

**Project Updates**

1) Rec Sports Master Plan (Brown)

Near West Playing Fields upgrades (located west of Willow Creek) will be added to the 2015-2017 capital budget for construction between 2015 -2016.

South East Recreation Facility replacement will be added to the 2015-2017 capital budget for construction between 2017-2019.

The Natatorium replacement will be part of the 2017-2019 capital budget for construction between 2019-2021.

The Near East Playing Fields upgrades (located west of Elm Drive) will be part of the 2017-2019 capital budget for construction between 2021-2022.

The Nielsen Wellness and Tennis Stadium and the University Playing Field upgrades have no currently approved funding and no timeline for implementation. If at any time this happens we'll have a task force to see if changes need to be made due to concerns expressed by this committee and/or the Friends of the Preserve.

For the Campus Master Planning Process the emphasis will be on site planning and stormwater management. A team of consultants has been identified. The Master Plan process will take 18-24 months. We anticipate around 200 public meetings, plus an interactive website to collect comments. The Preserve Master Plan will be a separate process that will start around 2018.

## 2) West Campus Stormwater Projects (Rhonda James)

The bioretention swales at Eagle Heights Apartments are completed except for some reseeding and weeding. The bioretention swales in the University Bay ditches will also need reseeding. They will look like grassy swales with native plants when completed. The Lot 60 pond has a lot of emergent plants which are being protected from geese by flagging and wire fencing. The upland may need to be reseeded. The chain link fence will stay up around the pond until next growing season. The planned pond at Triangle Marsh is on hold because the UW can't get a permit from the Army Corps of Engineers.

## 4) Eagle Heights Woods implementation (Adam Gundlach)

Staff and interns shut down the steepest segment of the northeast trail and relocated the trail further east on a more gradual slope. A volunteer and students in a summer course collected vegetation data on the cleared mound zone and the central zone respectively.

The Prairie Partners intern crew sponsored by the Friends of the Preserve was a really good bunch. We got a lot of work done this summer including looking for and controlling porcelain berry vines.

Volunteers have been doing a lot of brush removal on Picnic Point. The piles will be chipped next week. We'll do initial seeding to cover the bare ground this fall/winter. We have a lot of buckthorn and honeysuckle sprouts to control Preserve-wide.

We are looking to potential fall burns.

The Preserve will pay a contractor to remove Walnut tree limbs that hang over the University Houses gardens in the next week or two at the request of the Gardens.

## 5) Volunteer Program/Outreach Program (Bryn Scriver)

We had 198 volunteers donate 479 hours at volunteer workparties between May 6 and Sept. 2, 2014. In addition we have 5 individuals working on independent projects in the Preserve whose hours are not included above. Volunteer activities included chipping trails in Eagle Heights Woods, removing invasive shrubs on Picnic Point, planting in Frautschi Point, at the Heritage Oak, along the shoreline across from Dejope Hall, and collecting seed in Biocore Prairie. We have been working closely with the Clean Lakes Alliance to bring their corporate partners out to volunteer. The Friends continue to offer their excellent Field Trips. We had a couple opportunities to reach out to the Eagle Heights community over the summer.

## **Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve report (Will Waller)**

The Friends launched a new website in mid-April. Gisela Kutzbach has put in lots of time on this. The Friends thought the Prairie Partners intern program was once again successful. They have sponsored this for the last 8 years and plan to continue this program indefinitely.

The Friends board has started discussions on contributing to the Eagle Heights project to raise all or part of the \$135,000 budget. The kickoff will likely be in April at their Annual meeting.

The bluebird trail led by volunteer Paul Noeldner includes 14 houses which are observed on a weekly basis. Data on the trail is being tabulated and will be on the Friends website soon.

Waller wanted people to know about the Friends tour being led by Adam Gundlach on Sept. 9 in Eagle Heights Woods.

## **Subcommittee Reports and Discussion**

### 1) Information Dissemination /Education

We need to remind grantees to write a thank you letter to the donors. We need to start the next grant cycle soon.

### 2) Communications /Archives

No report

### 3) Planning & Implementation

No report

### 4) Development

No report

## **Other topics:**

The Preserve has a new Program Manager, Laura Wyatt, who will start Sept. 15. She comes to the Preserve from the Forestry Division at the DNR. She has also worked at the Morten Arboretum, the Chicago Botanical Garden, and she was the Executive Director of the Klehm Arboretum in Rockford, Ill.

The graffiti on picnic point was removed within a week of its discovery. The stone came clean.

The limestone around the fire circle at fire circle 6 at the tip of the Point is deteriorating. We may have to replace it with granite.

We are getting complaints about dogs off leash in the Preserve. The current policy is that dogs are allowed in the Preserve under control of the owner and on leash. No dogs are allowed at the UW Arboretum. An alder is looking at allowing dogs on leash into Madison City Parks.

New campus rules allow segways on specified routes after 4:30 pm and on weekends. They are not allowed in the Preserve or on the Howard Temin Lakeshore Path.

We will continue our discussion on academic coordination. The permit process helps us to know who's using the Preserve and to assure that activities are appropriate and that they do not interfere with each other. It also allows us to advertise to the community how much the Preserve is used for education and research.

A motion to adjourn was moved by Turnquist and seconded by Hahn.

## **Adjournment**

Submitted by Bryn Sriver