

Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee
Wednesday October 21, 2015
8:00-9:30AM
Union South T.I.T.U.
APPROVED MINUTES

Present:

Gary Brown, David Drake, Jacob Hahn, Sara Hotchkiss, Rhonda James, Paul Metscher, Donna Paulnock, Anne Pearce, Phil Townsend, Mattie Urrutia, Will Waller

Also Present:

Ann Burgess (Friends), Kennedy Gilchrist (Friends), Emily Greinwald (Student Engagement Grant recipient), Bryn Scriver (Preserve), Aaron Williams (FP&M), Laura Wyatt (Preserve)

Minutes

A motion was made by Metscher and seconded by Drake to approve the September 23, 2015 minutes. The motion passed unanimously.

Student Engagement Grant Recipient Presentation (Emily Greinwald)

The goals of the project were:

- 1) Provide baseline data on the biodiversity and pollinator specific preferences within the Lakeshore Nature Preserve
- 2) Conservation methods based on these baseline findings
- 3) Provide student opportunity

Greinwald recruited 8 student volunteers using flyers and email announcements; she also worked with 30 international students from Kazakhstan in Bill Barker's Geosciences 376 course. Volunteers conducted weekly photo surveys and submitted photos of pollinators to Flickr; Emily verified 800 submitted photos. For pollinators to be counted in the study the insect had to be on the flower and had to be using the resource—either intentionally or inadvertently pollinating the flower.

Hymenoptera were the most common pollinators and the most prevalent flower visitors. Greinwald also looked at which flower species were most visited by the 2 *Bombus* species with the most sightings--*B. impatiens* (white clover and goldenrod) and *B. vagans* (red clover). She also found that open areas (Biocore Prairie, the Class of 1918 Marsh, Willow Creek Woods, Triangle Marsh, the Old Field and Orchard) contained higher pollinator diversity, while lower pollinator diversity was found in closed canopy areas (Eagle Height Woods, Tent Colony Woods, Frautschi Point).

Greinwald recommends focusing on increasing pollinator resources in areas of areas of low pollinator biodiversity and conducting additional surveys to show trends between years.

Staff Reports

1. Director Report (Gary Brown)

See Preserve Staff Reports –October 21, 2015

2. Program Manager Report (Laura Wyatt)

See Preserve Staff Reports –October 21, 2015

Additional Comments:

The Preserve will leave dead trees where possible. The UW Grounds Department will do the removal work unless it is determined that they need to hire a contractor.

Note December Committee meeting moved to Dec. 9.

3. Capital Projects Report (Rhonda James)

See Preserve Staff Reports –October 21, 2015

4. Field Activities Report (Adam Gundlach)

See Preserve Staff Reports –October 21, 2015

5. Volunteers and Outreach Report (Bryn Sriver)

See Preserve Staff Reports –October 21, 2015

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve report (Will Waller)

The Friends will be submitting several project proposals including a planting festival at Frautschi Point and funding for 2016 Prairie Partners interns. They have also approved funding for an Engineering capstone class project to look at recommending solutions for stormwater run-off problems at the Eagle Heights Garden compost piles.

For the first time the Friends are offering a stipend to a student from the Life Sciences and Communication Department to write an article for the Friends winter member newsletter.

They are also exploring the use of the i-Tree software program to do a tree inventory in the Preserve starting with Eagle Heights Woods. They would consider providing a stipend for a student to do the inventory. Townsend explained that i-Tree is an accounting tool of the ecosystem services provided by trees. Townsend has several students who have collected imagery data over the Preserve going back to 2005 that could be used in this kind of effort. Wyatt wanted to know if there was a student who could translate that data into ecosystem services. If the Friends choose to support some sort of tree inventory or monitoring pilot project they would submit it as a future (2017?) research project for consideration.

2015 Campus Master Plan – Alternatives presentation (Gary Brown)

Brown shared preliminary draft recommendations from the Campus Master Plan Update process that are in or near the Preserve. The areas include: Observatory Hill, Lot 34, Lot 60 and the Triangle Marsh, and the Willow Creek corridor. The master planning process is about 35% complete. The plan should be finalized by next fall/winter.

Observatory Hill

Option 1 removes lot 34 for a stormwater facility featuring boardwalks and platforms which can be used for education and research. Parking would be replaced elsewhere on campus (south of Linden Drive in the area of the old hospital). The option also removes parallel parking along Observatory Drive to enhance views. The mowed lawn on the hill would be replaced with a combination of meadow and/or oak savanna/shortgrass prairie.

Option 2 removes lot 34 and replaces it with a smaller stormwater facility. The mowed lawn on the west side of the hill would be replaced with oak savanna/prairie while the east side of the hill would remain mowed lawn for passive recreation. Option 2 also shows Observatory Drive being closed in this section of campus, an idea that doesn't seem to be getting much support from stakeholders on campus.

North Charter Street

The current steep asphalt driveway that connects N. Charter Street down to the Lakeshore Path contributes to excessive erosion at the bottom of the hill and across the Temin Lakeshore Path. It would be replaced with boardwalks and steps featuring an open grid system to prevent snow collection. The slope would be revegetated with native species.

Linden Drive and Willow Creek corridor

The Campus Master Plan includes an expansion of the Vet Med school, Meat Sciences, and the Natatorium (rebuild in about 6 years) in this area of the campus. Two alternative concepts enhance Willow Creek using linked stormwater treatment areas and/or adding steps and seating. Housing wants to provide more lake access by updating Willows Beach. [Jacob Hahn wants to be part of this discussion.] The City is rebuilding the south end of Willow Creek next summer to remove sediment as it enters the Creek. Brown said that a dredging project in University Bay at the mouth of Willow Creek was probably 5-10 years out since the state has no money for on-going maintenance projects. Questions remain about what to do with dredge spoils—carry off or use on campus?

West campus

When the need arises for an additional Health Sciences tower (15-20 years out) and additional meeting spaces and a new campus “union-like space” is needed (20-25 years out), the McClimon

track complex has been proposed to be moved to the lot 60 location. The recreation alternatives take better advantage of the lakeside setting rather than parking 1,300 cars in a surface parking lot. One alternative uses Triangle Marsh as a stormwater facility while the other brings the lake into the marsh and connects a planned Union-like facility to the lake.

Townsend noted the change in University Bay Drive that would make room for an interpretive learning center for the Preserve. Brown said in the time since the 2006 Preserve Master Plan we have seen an increased need for an outreach facility with restrooms and classroom space in this location. It would also allow Preserve staff to be closer to their field location and the primary entry to the Preserve.

Brown said he needs the help of the Committee to promote integrating more green space, the environment and lake into the urban campus. He stressed that having a plan helps us raise funds for these initiatives. He encouraged members to comment on-line and attend the public information meeting at 7 PM on October 27 in the Health Science Learning Center, Room 1352.

Update on Reorganization of Students for the Preserve (Anne Pearce)

Leadership for the Students for the Preserve dissolved at the end of last semester. Student Preserve Committee members Anne Pearce, Katya Mullendore and Paul Metscher have been working with Laura Wyatt and Gisela Kutzbach from the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve to set up a recruiting meeting. Alan Turnquist and Jacob Hahn are willing to help. A kick-off meeting is set for Wed. Nov. 4. The Friends of the Preserve have agreed to supply pizza for the meeting.

Members suggested advertising the kick-off meeting to Forestry Club, Botany Club and Geo Club members.

In addition to sending meeting announcement flyers through the UW flyer route system, Wyatt will interdepartmental mail flyers to each committee member to get the word out.

Education Subcommittee Report (Mattie Urrutia and David Drake)

Education subcommittee met to review the grant submission process--dissemination network, timing of grant application process. The subcommittee decided to move the proposal deadline from mid-February to March 1 to give student more time to apply. We are also working on formatting the request for proposals form so that applicants are prompted to supply all the information we need to make a decision.

Adjournment

A motion to adjourn was moved by Drake and seconded by Urrutia. Motion carried unanimously.

Submitted by Bryn Scriver, Preserve Outreach Specialist