



**University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee  
Wednesday April 15, 2020  
10:00-11:30am  
Remote WebEx meeting  
Minutes Approved**

**Present**

Janet Batzli, Rob Beattie, Gary Brown, Andrew Busker, Morgan Grunow, Sara Hotchkiss, Rhonda James, Karen Oberhauser, Lexi Paus, Anna Pidgeon, Stephen Sentoff, Joe Webb

**Also Present**

Tom Bryan (GreenHouse), Ann Burgess (Friends), Adam Gundlach (Preserve), Allison Hellenbrand (Agroecology), Colleen Henegan (Agroecology), Bryn Scriver (Preserve), Kase Wheatley (Agroecology), Laura Wyatt (Preserve)

**Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes from March 11, 2020 was made by Beattie and seconded by Batzli. The motion was approved by consent with no objections.

**Presentation by Agroecology graduate students regarding the use of CALS land at Eagle Heights (Allison Hellenbrand, Colleen Henegan, Kase Wheatley)**

*See Agroecological Living Laboratory (ALL) at Eagle Heights proposal.*

Oberhauser said the UW Arboretum is working with Claire Luby (Dept of Hort), Dan Cornelius (Intertribal Ag Council), and Irwin Goldman (Dept of Hort) on a three sisters garden near Monroe Street that was implemented this past year in 2019.

Hellenbrand said they are looking forward to talking more with the UW Arboretum and yes, Dan Cornelius is on their radar.

Batzli wanted to know how the students have planned to work with FH King, Biocore and the Eagle Heights Gardens.

Wheatley sees that possibly FH King students will come into the space to learn and provide labor. He sees Biocore as an amazing model for integrating classroom and student projects. He's not sure how they could work directly with Biocore, but he said the agroecology area can be thought of as part of the prairie system (savanna transition area). He said in the past the CALS research plots were cordoned off and he sees the area as being more accessible in the future.

Beattie said it was great to hear that they are thinking about funding and infrastructure to make the project work long-term. He wanted to know what they thought they needed at a minimum to get the project moving forward.

Wheatley said they needed an institutional home that could devote staff time. The Horticulture Department looks promising. Hellenbrand said the \$25,000 Ford grant they are applying for would be for prepping the land and the initial planting. Henegan said the project will hopefully strengthen the relationship between UW-Madison and non-profit community groups like the Savanna Institute for guidance and support long term. While the Savanna Institute won't be able to help them financially, their intellectual contributions will help with longevity.

Brown said he needs written word from the CALS Dean's office that they don't need the land for the current use anymore. Wheatley said he can arrange it. It was noted that since the Agroecology program is within CALS and will potentially be a partner with Horticulture, that CALS is really not given up the land for another unit's use but in fact, just changing users within their college. A written confirmation would still be helpful to have on file, especially document which faculty program will be their advisor and who will be sponsoring the program on the land in the Preserve.

A motion was made to support the proposal by Beattie and seconded by Batzli. The motion passed unanimously by a consent vote with not descensions.

### **Staff Reports**

- 1) Director Report (Gary Brown)  
*See Preserve Staff Reports – April 15, 2020*
- 2) Program Manager Report (Laura Wyatt)  
*See Preserve Staff Reports – April 15, 2020*
- 3) Capital Projects Report (Rhonda James)  
*See Preserve Staff Reports – April 15, 2020*
- 4) Field Activities Report (Adam Gundlach)  
*See Preserve Staff Reports – April 15, 2020*
- 5) Volunteers and Outreach Report (Bryn Scriver)  
*See Preserve Staff Reports – April 15, 2020*

### **Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve report (Stephen Sentoff)**

There is no written report.

Friends Field trips are canceled for the indefinite future.

The Garlic Mustard Pull and Spring Planting events have been canceled.

The Prairie Partner Interns project on UW campus has been canceled; the other partners, led by Madison Audubon, have not yet decided what to do about that.

The decision on the Heritage Marker grant proposal submitted by Eve Emshwiller et. al. has been postponed. We are waiting for the decision.

The Friends Annual Meeting, which should have occurred on April 7, has been postponed and will likely be rescheduled in September (now confirmed for Tuesday, September 8, 2020)

Lake Monitoring project activities with the Clean Lakes Alliance will proceed as approved previously by Gary Brown as director of the Preserve. This involves a single person collecting data at the University Bay boat launch. All CDC recommended protocols should be utilized.

### **Review of DRAFT Strategic Plan**

Brown went through the document highlighting section headings. He said there were few changes from the November and December presentations to the Preserve Committee. Changes include making it more

organized, adding dates for completing work, and identifying lead staff members to do that work. He would like the Committee to focus on big picture items—information that is off-base or missing.

One of the main comments Brown received from FP&M leadership was to add background information on how the Preserve came into being; why was 300 acres set aside by the university? He said from day one it's been used for teaching and research.

Hotchkiss would like to have a conversation about the role of the Preserve Committee in respect to strategic priority #5. She and others on the Committee feel the Committee has become more peripheral, more of a stakeholder group and support to the Director and FP&M staff, whereas the charge to the committee is to provide oversight. She wants to work out a long-term solution to how the Committee and staff will work together.

Brown believes the structure of the committee has changed over time. In the past, when there was little to no staff, the committee had direct involvement in management. Now that the Preserve has a director and professional staff the committee role is to provide policy oversight. Brown also noted that there is some question as to the status of the Committee being a defined, shared-governance committee recognized by the governing bodies of the university. Currently it is not, and it reports to the Associate Vice Chancellor for FP&M as an advisory body.

Beattie believes a shared governance committee provides a stronger foundation for work of the Committee and the Preserve itself. It shows the Preserve is integrated in a way with the work of other committees on campus, and it has the potential to give more legitimacy or strength to the Strategic Plan.

Batzli agreed it would be helpful to clarify the role and responsibility of the Committee within the Strategic Plan document and how specifically the educational and research mission is strengthened by Committee involvement.

Beattie said the SWOT analysis does a good job of supporting the strategic priorities, and he thinks it's a great tool that could be used more by calling them out specifically. He suggests putting a line or two in each priority that in part addresses what is in the SWOT analysis.

Brown suggested adding a box or paragraph to each priority page to say what we heard through the SWOT analysis and the stakeholder meetings/survey to explain how each priority recommendation meets the needs as identified through the strategic planning process.

Batzli said to keep the language of learning and research at the front throughout the document.

Committee members were asked to provide feedback on the draft strategic plan document to Brown, Wyatt, and Hotchkiss by the end of April.

### **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Beattie and seconded by Webb to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously by consent.

Submitted by Bryn Scriver, Preserve Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator