Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee Minutes March 27, 2007 and April 26, 2007

(Approved Oct. 16, 2007)

Present (3-27-2007): Kris Ackerbauer, Ray Guries, Alex Hitch, Rebecca Kagle, Kevin McSweeney, Don Waller, and Susan Will-Wolf

Also present (3-27-2007): Cathie Bruner (Preserve staff), Ann Burgess (Friends of Preserve), Gary Brown (FPM), Glenda Denniston (Friends of Preserve), Amy Jo Dusick (Students of Preserve), Daniel Einstein (Preserve staff), Alan Fish (FPM), Eugene Galinovskiy (Students of Preserve), Zach Hirschtritt (Students of Preserve), Roma Lenehan (Friends of Preserve)

Introductions

Ray introduced himself as the new chair of the committee, followed by brief introductions of all present.

Minutes

The minutes from the November 13, 2006 Committee meeting were unanimously approved.

Public Comment Period

No public comments were offered.

Announcements

Earth Day fundraising appeal:

The UW Foundation appeal brochure has gone to the printers. Approximately 1000 (of the 5000 printed) will be mailed out near Earth Day.

Emerald Ash Borer:

Cathie reported that staff from the Department of Agriculture and Trade and Consumer Protection (DATCP) had recently visited the Preserve to sample ash trees for evidence of emerald ash borer. Several ash trees along the lakeshore path have been girdled to serve as trap trees. No emerald ash borers have been located on campus.

Students of the Lakeshore Preserve:

Amy Jo reported on the activities and plans of this registered student group. The group has had several successful work parties in Muir Woods and has produced a draft of a Preserve trail guide. Future activities may include a website and a scavenger hunt.

Field work update:

Cathie provided a brief summary of activities in the Preserve including: filed trips, new signage, maintenance work performed by Grounds staff, invasive plant management, tree and shrub removal to re-define property boundaries at University Houses Gardens, and volunteer work parties. Rebecca provided an update on maintenance activities in Muir Woods and the Lakeshore Path.

Ray inquired about before/after photo documentation of maintenance and restoration G:\Preserve\Admin\Committee\2007 Mtgs\Ap26 and Mar 27\Ap 26-Mar 27 07 min approved.doc

activities. Rebecca indicated that pictures will be taken in Tent Colony Woods using the installed research plot markers as reference points. Photographs have also been taken along the Lakeshore Path, using trees as reference points.

Important Bird Area designation:

The entire Preserve has recently been recognized by the DNR for its value as an important bird habitat. The DNR will list the Preserve on their IBA website and in a published directory. Roma's advocacy for this designation was gratefully acknowledged.

Action Items

Preserve Storage Shed:

Preserve staff requested approval to site a tool storage shed adjacent to the current Biocore tool shed, located on the old concrete foundation of the Caretaker's house. The new tool shed would be identical in size and color to the existing shed.

Cathie explained that the tool shed would be used to store the brush mower and hand tools. Having this equipment near where work is being done is preferable to storage options in the Beach House (the mower will not fit through the door here) or at the Dairy Barn.

Several Committee members expressed a concern that additional tool shed requests might follow on this proposal from other Preserve user groups.

The Committee passed unanimously a proposal that the new tool shed be approved, with the provision that it be considered a temporary placement until such time as permanent storage facilities are built—integrated into the berm surrounding the Physical Plant storage area (as called for in the Preserve master plan.)

Fiscal Year 08 Preserve Budget:

Daniel and Cathie introduced a proposed budget for the coming fiscal year beginning July 1, 2007.

Committee members and representatives from the Friends group asked for clarification on plans to develop a management plan for the Willow Creek Woods. Cathie indicated that before any understory trees might be removed from the site, (a preliminary step towards preserving the large open grown oaks) she wanted to have a plan that took into consideration the long-term teaching and research opportunities at the site. She did not want near-term restoration activities to prematurely compromise data collection activities.

Due to previous commitments, several voting Committee members had to leave the meeting early resulting in the loss of a quorum. Ray indicated that he would call another Committee meeting for sometime in April to take a vote on the budget. The recommendation to adopt the 2007-08 budget as proposed was tabled and the meeting was adjourned until such time that a quorum could be present.

The Committee reconvened at 8:00 a.m. on April 26, 2007 to complete the discussion on the FY 08.

Present (4-26-07): Kris Ackerbauer, Ray Guries, Jan Hornbeck, Rebecca Kagle, Travis Tennessen, Janet Silbernagel, and Susan Will-Wolf

Also present: Cathie Bruner (Preserve staff), Ann Burgess (Friends of Preserve), Glenda Denniston (Friends of Preserve), and Daniel Einstein (Preserve staff)

Following a brief discussion the FY 08 budget passed unanimously.

This was the final meeting for committee member Jan Hornbeck who has served for more than seven years (two full 3-year terms and the remainder of a previous member's appointment.) Her strong commitment to the work of the Preserve was acknowledged and greatly appreciated.

The meeting was closed.

Following the meeting Rebecca led a short walk through Muir Woods to discuss progress on restoration activities at this site.

Submitted by Daniel Einstein