# Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee Minutes October 16, 2007

(Approved January 28, 2007)

**Present** Kris Ackerbauer, Bill Barker, Robert Bohanan, Ann Burgess Ray Guries, Lars Higdon, Kevin McSweeney, Laura Shere, Travis Tennessen, Don Waller, and Susan Will-Wolf.

**Also present:** Cathie Bruner (Preserve staff), Glenda Denniston (Friends of Preserve), Daniel Einstein (Preserve staff), Rhonda James (FPM), Roma Lenehan (Friends of Preserve), Richard McCoy (Friends of Preserve).

### **Introductions**

Ray welcomed returning and new committee members, followed by brief introductions of all present.

#### **Minutes**

The minutes from the March 27 and April 26, 2007 Committee meeting were unanimously approved. The agendas and minutes are archived at the Preserve Library webpage under "Committee Documents/Agendas and Minutes": <a href="http://lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu/preserve-library/preserve\_library.htm">http://lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu/preserve-library/preserve\_library.htm</a>

#### **Public Comment Period**

The Friends group has published a new Preserve brochure, with an updated map.

## **Action Item**

Daniel presented a plan to guide the future development and placement of commemorative benches in the Preserve. With brief amendments the Commemorative Benches Plan was adopted unanimously. The plan is now posted on the Preserve webpage under "Committee Documents/Approved Policies" <a href="http://www.lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu/preserve-library/preserve library.htm">http://www.lakeshorepreserve.wisc.edu/preserve-library/preserve library.htm</a>

## **Discussion/Updates**

Cathie provided an overview of field work accomplished during the summer 2007 season.

<u>Work projects.</u> Lot 34 flume removal, water infiltration demonstration and invasive plant removal; invasive plant removal and view openings at Picnic Point entry; invasive plant removal and soil stabilization at Indian burial mound at Picnic Point; restoration of trails leading to soil pits; native plant installation at Muir Woods; garden plot relocation at Eagle Heights Gardens; relocation of walking path at Raymer's Cove; removal of undesirable trees and brush at University Houses Gardens; extension of prairie habitat near Biocore; loop trail in Bill's Woods; daylighting of mature oaks and management planning at Willow Creek Woods.

<u>Volunteer and student involvement.</u> Many hands helped restore and interpret the Preserve including: Friends of the Preserve, Audubon interns (sponsored by the Friends), soils department staff, student staff, grounds department staff and many community volunteers.

Janine acknowledged the highly successful fundraising effort led by the Friends of the Preserve to raise gifts for the Stewardship Fund in recognition of Bill Cronon's tenure as former chair of the committee. She expressed optimism that fundraising efforts will continue to be successful.

Daniel presented a brief update on the Robert E. Gard Storyteller's Circle at Muir Knoll. The UW Foundation in conjunction with the Robert E. Gard Foundation has accepted a \$385,000 proposal for improvements at Muir Knoll including: a limestone seating area to accommodate approximately 38 people, the removal of the cistern, installation of stone steps from Muir Knoll to the Lakeshore Path, landscaping, and an endowment contribution for long-term maintenance of the site.

**Submitted by Daniel Einstein**