

**Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee**  
**Wednesday December 9, 2015**  
**8:00-9:30AM**  
**Union South - Landmark Room**  
**Approved MINUTES**

**Present:**

Jacob Hahn, Sara Hotchkiss, Rhonda James, Ekaterina Mullendore, Donna Paulnock, Anne Pearce, Phil Townsend, Will Waller

**Also Present:**

Ann Burgess (Friends), Peter Fisher (Friends), Adam Gundlach (Preserve), Bryn Scriver (Preserve), Laura Wyatt (Preserve)

**Minutes**

We did not have quorum for the start of the meeting and decided to save the approval of the November meeting minutes for the next meeting.

**Staff Reports**

1. Director Report (Laura Wyatt)

*See Preserve Staff Reports –December 9, 2015*

2. Program Manager Report (Laura Wyatt)

*See Preserve Staff Reports –December 9, 2015*

3. Capital Projects Report (Rhonda James)

*See Preserve Staff Reports –December 9, 2015*

4. Field Activities Report (Adam Gundlach)

*See Preserve Staff Reports –December 9, 2015*

5. Volunteers and Outreach Report (Bryn Scriver)

*See Preserve Staff Reports –December 9, 2015*

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

Waller thanked the Preserve staff for their presentation at the December Friends Board meeting. He got positive feedback from board members and would like to make an end-of-the-year report from Preserve staff a permanent December meeting agenda item. Waller also got several requests that a similar presentation be made at the Friends Annual Meeting this April. He suggested an 8-10 minute presentation on what was done and implications for the 2016 season. Waller thinks it

would be useful for the broader Friends membership to have a touch point with Preserve staff—about one-third or 90-100 members attend the Annual Meeting.

Waller presented a letter from the Friends Board to the Preserve Committee that outlines their position on the west campus Master Plan concepts. According to Waller, Gary Brown, Director of the Preserve and Director of Campus Planning and Landscape Architecture (who is directing the Campus Master planning process), had asked for a unified group response from the Friends. The letter will be published in the Friends newsletter (which mails this week), as well as, mailed to Friends Board members and Gary Brown.

Peter Fisher volunteered to be a facilitator for the Friends' group response to the Master Plan concepts. He said there were some positive responses to Master Plan concepts but the negatives outweighed the positives so they wanted to share those. He added that the Master Plan asks more questions than it answers.

Waller complimented Brown on responding to each individual email he received from the Friends. He believes that Brown is genuinely seeking to balance as many opinions as he can, because he knows that he will better off if he gets more responses.

Wyatt and James thanked the Friends for their input and emphasized that this is a natural part of the master plan process.

Wyatt strongly encouraged everyone to attend the Draft Preliminary Master Plan Presentation on Feb. 24, 2016 from 7-9pm at Gordon Dining and Event Center (770 W. Dayton St.).

Waller asked if the Preserve Committee was going to review the Master Plan and offer their thoughts. Townsend thinks it would be appropriate for the voting members of the Preserve Committee to give feedback. For the next meeting Phil will ask Brown to not just give a description of where we are in the master plan process, but also to outline some areas of controversy/hotter topics. The Preserve Committee can have a discussion and provide a response.

Townsend added that we need to be thinking long-term for the Preserve Master Plan which Wyatt said would start no sooner than 2017.

### **2016 Draft Work Plan and Budget Review**

Wyatt outlined the additions to the 2016 Work Plan. Under Land Management Objectives: Implementation actions are specified for Eagle Heights Woods—a major project for 2016. We want to establish an MOU with the UW Grounds Department to outline the services they routinely provide the Preserve (traditionally valued at \$60,000) and a process for review and requests. A recent donation will allow us to create a team of volunteers to focus on manual control of herbaceous weeds and a seasonal staff person to help us carry out this initiative.

Under Capital Project Support: Implementation actions are specified for Eagle Heights Woods—a major project for 2016. Proceeds from the Dugan fund will allow us to install a kiosk at the entrance to Picnic Point like those at Frautschi Point and the east end of the Lakeshore Path. Fire

circles 1, 3, 4 and 5 will be reviewed in terms of controlling erosion and improving views and seating.

Wyatt also outlined increases in the Operating Budget which are coming from gifts. The projected expenses for 2015 for the vegetation management contractor are \$36,000 when we originally budgeted \$15,000. This is due to the Eagle Heights Woods project supported by the Friends. The sign budget is increasing to accommodate a new kiosk at Picnic Point. We are adding \$22,500 to support hourly staff for the herbaceous weed control project.

As of the end of November UW Grounds has contributed \$46,000 in services to the Preserve.

### **Meeting Time for Next Semester**

Wyatt email members to ask what times do not work to meet.

### **Adjournment**

No motion was made to adjourn.

Submitted by Bryn Scriver, Preserve Outreach Specialist