

**Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee**  
**Thursday May 12, 2016**  
**10-11:30AM**  
**Memorial Union – Festival Room**  
**Approved Minutes**

**Present**

David Drake, Gisela Kutzbach, Jacob Hahn, Sara Hotchkiss, Rhonda James, Donna Paulnock, Anne Pearce, Phil Townsend, Alan Turnquist, Mattie Urrutia

**Also Present**

Kris Ackerbauer (FPM), Ann Burgess (Friends), Adam Gundlach (Preserve), Bryn Scriver (Preserve), Suzy Will-Wolf (Friends), Laura Wyatt (Preserve)

**Minutes**

A motion to approve the minutes from April 15, 2016 was made by David Drake and seconded by Mattie Urrutia. The motion was approved unanimously.

**Staff Reports**

1. Director Report (Laura Wyatt for Gary Brown)  
*See Preserve Staff Reports – May 12, 2016*
2. Program Manager Report (Laura Wyatt)  
*See Preserve Staff Reports – May 12, 2016*  
We are looking for a summer employee to replace our Field Technician, Rowyn Noe, who left for a teaching job. Wyatt will send out the position announcement to Committee members.
3. Capital Projects Report (Rhonda James)  
*See Preserve Staff Reports – May 12, 2016*
4. Field Activities Report (Adam Gundlach)  
*See Preserve Staff Reports – May 12, 2016*
5. Volunteers and Outreach Report (Bryn Scriver)  
*See Preserve Staff Reports – May 12, 2016*

**Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve report (Gisela Kutzbach)**

Gisela Kutzbach replaces Will Waller as the newly appointed President of the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. Her term will last 1 year.

*See the Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve Report for the Preserve Committee meeting May 12, 2016*

**Second review of draft policy proposal regarding slacklining and hammocks in the Preserve (Laura Wyatt)**

Rope swings were added to the policy. We also added “posts” to the policy to prevent the use of posts (to attach a slackline for example) that could negatively impact underground archeological resources.

A motion to approve the policy was made by Drake and seconded by Urrutia.

Discussion:

- Turnquist said he likes seeing people enjoying the Preserve in their hammocks. He understands the need for a policy but he's glad that it likely won't be heavily enforced.
- Drake suggested revisiting the policy in a year or two so that it can be amended in case people find a loophole.
- Ann Burgess likes how the policy explains the reason behind the policy instead of just saying, "Don't do this."
- Wyatt said the policy will be posted on our website and on the informational kiosks in the Preserve.

The motion carried unanimously.

**Committee input regarding the 2015 Campus Master Plan (Phil Townsend)**

We had a discussion in March 2016 regarding the Campus Master Plan and how it interfaces with the Preserve. Members were asked to send comments to Townsend who incorporated them into a document. This document was intended to be short and provide guidelines. It will be a record for the Preserve Committee and will be submitted to the Master Plan Committee through Gary Brown.

*See Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee – Comments on Master Plan May 12, 2016*

James wanted clarification on "With removal of parking or traffic on Observatory Hill, rerouting of foot and bicycle traffic to central campus should be considered." Urrutia wanted to see that area become a pedestrian area. James said the Master Plan removes parking from Observatory Hill but through traffic will remain because it was unfeasible not to have a secondary thoroughfare on campus. Phil edited the document to clarify that regardless of the option chosen for Observatory Hill we want to see limited human disturbance in natural areas and ensure pedestrian and bike access.

Previous alternative plans showed a reconfiguration of the shoreline in University Bay but that option has been taken off the table.

Hotchkiss made a motion to accept the document and Hahn seconded it. The motion carried unanimously.

Wyatt expressed thanks to Phil Townsend and Jacob Hahn for their investment of time and support and guidance to the Preserve. This is the last meeting for both of them.

**Adjournment**

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

Submitted by Bryn Scriver, Preserve Outreach Specialist

**University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee  
Facilities Planning & Management  
Preserve Staff Reports –May 12, 2016**

DIRECTOR’S REPORT – Gary Brown, Lakeshore Nature Preserve Director

The Preserve continues to explode with spring ephemerals and the trees are leafing out rapidly now with all the needed rain and warmer weather. That also means we have been having a lot of volunteer events in the Preserve and gearing up for our summer field work. We’ve completed our 2015 Annual Report which will be included in your meeting materials for your use and review. We also continue to work on the comprehensive Campus Master Plan Update process. Over the summer, we will be meeting with the City of Madison Planning staff to start organizing our review process with them and begin introducing our draft plans to various city committees and commissions. Please watch our master plan website at: [www.masterplan.wisc.edu](http://www.masterplan.wisc.edu) for further information. Thanks again for all your support over the past academic year. We look forward to reporting all our exciting summer work accomplishments in the fall when you return.

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT – Laura Wyatt, Program Manager

I am pleased to announce that we have hired Anne Pearce for our gift-funded summer position focusing on invasive weed control, including the establishment of a plant mapping and monitoring program and volunteer program enhancement. Anne starts Monday, May 16.

We say farewell to Rowyn Noe, our seasonal Gardener, who has been with the Preserve since 2012. Rowyn has accepted a position working in the education field in Janesville. We thank Rowyn for her years of serve to the Preserve and wish her good luck with her new endeavor.

The last four weeks have been especially busy with end of semester project reviews and meetings coupled with a prolific growing season with garlic mustard populations appearing heavier than normal.

Project titles for new permits include:

- Plan Pathology 300 sample collection
- ARMY ROTC Badger Blitz
- Developing a general model to predict foliar traits from reflectance spectra
- Army ROTC Lab Exercises
- Acoustic Bat Monitoring

CAPITAL PROJECTS - Rhonda James, Senior Landscape Architect

West Campus Stormwater: contractor continues maintenance, Preserve to assume management in fall 2016.

Haight Road Reconstruction: design continues, 100% review of construction documents is ongoing. Construction will begin later in 2016.

Housing Storage Shed and Recycling lot: design continues, 100% review of construction documents is ongoing. Construction will begin later in 2016.

Near West Recreation Fields: the draft Environmental Impact Assessment public meeting was held and design continues. Construction is expected to begin later in 2016.

## LAND MANAGEMENT - Adam Gundlach - Field Projects Coordinator

### Eagle Heights Woods Project:

1. A large group of Army ROTC cadets volunteered their services to spread wood chips (left from winter brush clearing) on trails. A few piles still remain, but the cadets worked hard to complex.
2. Vegetation surveys in the Southern Zone begin this week. Thanks to Suzy Will-Wolf, Glenda Denniston and Anne Burgess for offering their services again this year in carrying out the surveys.

### Field Work

1. Prescribed burn attempted in Eagle Heights Woods on April 13. The burn unit included portions of the Indian Mounds unit that did not burn in fall 2015, and areas recently cleared of invasive brush in the Central unit. After attempting ignition through about half of the intended unit, fire operations were suspended with the hope of returning the following day under conditions more conducive to fire spread. Unfortunately, the DNR Fire Danger Rating (a public outreach tool hold over from Smokey Bear) was raised to "High" the following day, and Madison Fire Department restrictions prevented further burning.
2. Engineers for Sustainable World shoreline stabilization project – worked with a group of nine student volunteers to install Envirolok bags along a section of shoreline near Chamberlain House where erosion was beginning to cut into the edge of the Temin Lakeshore Path. Plugs of native grasses, sedges, and forbs were planted into the matrix of Envirolok bags and surrounding slope. Check out <https://www.facebook.com/Lakeshore.Nature.Preserve> for pictures of install work.
3. Good Oak Ecological Services performed herbicide applications to garlic mustard (GM) across portions of the base of Picnic Point and the western half of Bill's Woods.
4. Volunteers and staff have been busy pulling GM in other areas of the Preserve with greater understory diversity.
5. Various volunteer planting efforts in different areas of the Preserve.

### Prairie Partners Internship Program

1. Met on Friday April 29 at the Madison Audubon office for the intern orientation meeting, where representatives from the partner organizations and the five interns selected for the crew are introduced to discuss logistics of the summer field season.
2. First work day in the Preserve is Thursday May 26, and the crew will be working in the Preserve every Thursday through August 11.

## OUTREACH & VOLUNTEERS – Bryn Scriver, Outreach Specialist

Volunteers were busy in the Preserve in April and early May. Volunteers planted herbaceous plants, collected trash, pulled garlic mustard and chipped trails in Muir Woods; pulled garlic mustard in East Bill's Woods; planted trees at the entrance to Picnic Point; chipped trails at Eagle Heights Woods; and planted areas along the Lakeshore Path. We have 2 more volunteer work parties this month with the Friends of the Preserve -- May 14 to pull garlic mustard and May 22 to plant wildflowers at Frautschi Point.

We are continuing to update the website and planning for a late summer launch.