



University of Wisconsin-Madison
Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee
Facilities Planning & Management
Preserve Staff Reports – December 15, 2017

DIRECTOR'S REPORT – Gary Brown, Director

I want to thank the committee for another excellent semester and support for the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. Your work is invaluable in keeping the Preserve headed in the right direction and providing guidance on policy decisions and overall management of the Preserve. As we continue to develop our draft work plan and budget for the coming year, I encourage you all to carefully review the draft documents and attend our upcoming stakeholder meeting on January 30, 2018 (5:30 PM, in Room 132 WARF Office Building).

We also continue to work on our future strategic planning initiative and an upcoming update to our 2006 Lakeshore Nature Preserve master plan. In 2018, we hope to finalize the scope, budget and timeline for both of these important projects in helping shape the future of the Preserve. As our shared governance committee, you will be fully engaged in both of those processes. Stay tuned!

PROGRAM MANAGEMENT – Laura Wyatt, Program Manager

Permits since November meeting:

- 2017-54 – CEE578/CEE479 – Willow Creek Civil Engineering capstone

The process of creating our 2018 work plan and annual budgets includes an assortment of meetings with stakeholders and staff, listening, discussing and planning for the year ahead. This is also the time of year when we strategize ways to extend our outreach and cultivate financial support, especially through the traditional annual giving appeal. We need to raise \$70,000 of undesignated fund support to avoid dipping into savings. Our annual appeal format is slightly different this year and I hope it will attract attention in the tidal wave of appeals that arrive at this time of year. Special thanks to Adam Gundlach for his photo skills and Bryn Scriver for her graphic design work on this colorful piece. Look for it in your mailbox.

During the 2017 year, we completed several capital projects made possible through donations from generous donors. Designated gifts cover costs of installation and a minimum of 20% donated to the Stewardship Fund. Projects included:

- Fire Circle #3 improvements - \$50,000 gift from David Baumgartner
- Bench east of fire circle #2 - \$10,000 gift from Grace White, celebrating the lives of Maurice and Grace White
- Bench in Muir Woods - \$10,000 gift from family and friends of Joe and Joan Murray
- Raymer's Cove sign – construction and installation provided by proceeds from the Patricia E. Dugan Endowment Fund created in 2011 for the benefit of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve.

CAPITAL PROJECTS - Rhonda James, Senior Landscape Architect

Capital Projects adjacent to the Preserve:

- The Gymnasium/Natorium Replacement Feasibility Study is nearing completion. FP&M staff will share the developing plans with the committee in the future.
- Nielson Tennis Stadium – Athletics is planning for expansion of the outdoor tennis courts from six to eight and the addition of spectator seating. Lighting of the courts along with a new loudspeaker system is also planned.

- Lot 129/130 consolidation – the feasibility study to determine options/scope/budget is complete and a consultant has been hired to design a new parking lot at the Lot 130 and eliminate Lot 129. Plans will be shared with the committee as they are developed this coming spring.
- City of Madison Water Utility Addition at Well 19 – filtering building, currently scheduled for construction in 2019. Preserve staff will share the draft plans when available from the City of Madison Water Utility next spring.

Capital Projects within the Preserve:

- Raymer’s Cove Sign – has been installed.
- Weed pile improvements at Eagle Heights Gardens – grading and concrete pad work is complete and the gardeners will do further hand grading around the perimeter to assure drainage is working properly.
- Student Memorial on the north edge of Gard Circle – a memorial to students who have passed away during the school year is being placed near the Gard Circle. The memorial includes a plaque on a stone with a simple message. No names are included so it can be used each year in May for a gathering of campus staff and families. Planning to install late this fall.

LAND MANAGEMENT - Adam Gundlach Field Projects Coordinator

- Good Oak Ecological Services:
 - a. Eagle Heights Woods – Initiated invasive brush removal in the West Zone. Brush chipped onsite and staged along the northwest trail segment.
- Prescribed fire:
 - a. November 20 - Quercus Land Stewardship Services conducted a prescribed burn across portions of Biocore prairie.
 - b. November 29 - Collaborated with UW Arboretum staff to conduct prescribed burn at Willow Creek Savanna.
- Picnic Point – Grounds Dept. crew completed hazard tree removals along southeast trail segment at the head of Picnic Point. Preserve staff and volunteers have begun mulching the trail with wood chips generated during removals.
- Bill’s Woods – performed cut-stem treatments in area of dense Norway maple regrowth at utility road split north of the main Picnic Point gate.
- Frautschi Point – volunteers continued to remove invasive brush from a swath between the big oak and 2nd oak in southeast portion of the site. Performed cut-stem treatments to buckthorn resprouts along Lake Mendota Dr.

OUTREACH & VOLUNTEERS – Bryn Scriver, Outreach Specialist

- Our recent drop-in and other volunteer events included:
 - Sunday, November 19, Drop-in and Badger Business and Beyond volunteers, Cut buckthorn at Bill’s Woods, (Medlife, Pre-Dental Society, ABESA, APO, Badgers for Conservation), 54 volunteers
 - Saturday, December 2, Drop-in, cut buckthorn and honeysuckle at Frautschi Point, (MKT, Chancellors Scholars), 23 volunteers
 - Sunday, December 3, Sigma Lambda Beta, cut buckthorn and honeysuckle at Frautschi Point, 10 volunteers
- In 2017, 607 volunteers donated more than 2,970 hours of service to the Preserve. We worked with members of 49 individual student and community groups.
- The Preserve’s new WordPress website went live November 21. Please let us know if you find any broken links.
- Preserve staff announced the Student Engagement Grant by e-mail, on our website, and social media. Deadline for proposals is March 1, 2018. Another round of e-mails will be sent after January 1.
- Developed and distributed #GivingTuesday message by e8-mail and social media to kick off our annual appeal.
- Helped develop annual appeal message for December mailing.

- Advertised Prairie Partners internship opportunity. Deadline for application February 5, 2018.
- Sent out a Save the Date email for the 2nd Stakeholder meeting to be held Tuesday January 30, 2018 at 5:30pm in 132 WARF.

Joan and Joe Murray memorial bench constructed in Muir Woods



UW-Physical Plant team constructing the Murray bench in Muir Woods. Left to right; Zach Haas, Chad Holzhueter (masons), Steve Ohlson (carpenter), Jennifer Kolste, Mike Mulcahy (Grounds). The black locust wood was earlier harvested from the Preserve. The granite pavers were recovered when the Madison trolley line was removed.