



**University of Wisconsin-Madison
Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee
Thursday April 19, 2018
9:30-11:00am
Union South, Traditions Meeting Room
APPROVED Minutes**

Present

Janet Batzli, Jacqueline Beaulieu, Sara Hotchkiss, Abby Kotecki, Glen Stanosz, Alan Turnquist

Also Present

Kris Ackerbauer (FP&M), Ann Burgess (Friends), Kennedy Gilchrist (Friends), Adam Gundlach (Preserve), Rhonda James (Campus Planning and Landscape Architecture), Emily Jorgensen (Preserve), Rachel Schneider (Student Engagement Grant recipient), Bryn Scriver (Preserve), Steve Sentoff (Friends), Ben Winesett (Preserve), Laura Wyatt (Preserve), Members of the Hittinger Lab

Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from March 15, 2018 was made by Beaulieu and seconded by Turnquist. The motion was approved unanimously.

Public Comment

None

2017 Student Engagement Grant presentation – Measuring Patterns of Seasonal Diversity of Yeasts in the Lakeshore Nature Preserve – Rachel Schneider

Schneider is working on a Biochemistry degree and Environmental Studies certificate. She is part of the Hittinger Lab. Her research funded by the Student Engagement Grant is part of the Wild YEAST program—an undergraduate research driven program to isolate wild yeast from the environment.

She sampled woodlands, wetlands, and prairie by collecting soils in the field. The samples come from the top centimeter of soil. The samples are taken back to the lab where they are enriched with media and isolated. Then they are compared to a database to see if there's a match.

She predicted a drop in species counts in winter months based on survivability, but her research showed a spike in woodland species in winter. She found three species that were prevalent in all three ecosystems which were present year-round leading her to believe these strains may be more robust and able to handle different environments than other species.

Martin Jarzyna, a previous recipient of a Preserve Student Engagement Grant, and also from the Hittinger Lab, is currently working on describing a novel yeast species that he found in the Preserve. The lab has 93 potential new *Saccharomycotina* yeast species, and they still have hundreds of samples to sequence and identify collected from the Preserve.

Schneider thanked the Preserve Committee for the grant which allowed her a wonderful first field experience and helped her gain valuable skills to support her educational pursuits here at UW-Madison.

The Hittinger lab wants to sample for another year to have 3 years total data for their research.

Staff Reports

1. Director Report (Laura Wyatt for Gary Brown)

See Preserve Staff Reports – April 19, 2018

2. Program Manager Report (Laura Wyatt)

See Preserve Staff Reports – April 19, 2018

3. Capital Projects Report (Rhonda James)

See Preserve Staff Reports – April 19, 2018 and below.

Upgrades to Willow Creek will not be a part of the proposed Natatorium project but it is a part of the 2015 Campus Master Plan which shows useable, destination spaces at the edge of the creek. Batzli is interested in having access to the creek for students to do water sampling safely.

Batzli asked again about B-Cycle access at the entrance to Picnic Point. James said B-Cycle is sponsored on campus through UW Health and Transportation Services. The current contract does not allow for adding any more stations at this time. Currently anyone can ride a B-Cycle to the entrance at Picnic Point and lock the bike to a rack. The first ½ hour is free; then users pay \$3 per each subsequent 30 minutes. James does not know when the current contract ends.

Kotecki said a lot of freshman don't bring bikes to campus their first year because they feel intimidated. She thinks maybe B-cycle will help them get used to biking on campus.

Batzli would like to keep the addition of a B-cycle station at the entrance to Picnic Point on the agenda. She said lots of people could take advantage of the program to get people to the Preserve.

James also noted that an ice shove at the tip of Picnic Point has dislodged the wall cap at the bottom of the steps near picnic site #6. Repairs will be made as soon as the ice has melted.

4. Field Activities Report (Adam Gundlach)

See Preserve Staff Reports – April 19, 2018

5. Volunteers and Outreach Report (Bryn Scriver)

See Preserve Staff Reports – April 19, 2018

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve report (Steve Sentoff for Gisela Kutzbach)

See Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve report – April 19, 2018

Sara Hotchkiss thanked Gisela Kutzbach (not present) for her work as the Friends Board President, and thanked Steve Sentoff for delivering the Friends report in her absence. Doris Dubielzig is the incoming Friends Board President. Hotchkiss also thanked Jeremy Sanford and Abby Kotecki, student representatives who are rotating off the committee, for their service.

A motion was made by Batzli and seconded by Beaulieu to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Adjournment

Submitted by Bryn Scriver, Preserve Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator