



**University of Wisconsin-Madison
Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee
Friday November 1, 2019
12:00pm-1:30pm
Union South, Landmark Room
Minutes Approved**

Present

Rob Beattie, Gary Brown, Andrew Busker, Morgan Grunow, Sara Hotchkiss, Rhonda James, Karen Oberhauser, Alexis Paus, Steve Sentoff, Joe Webb

Also Present

Ann Burgess (Friends), Adam Gundlach (Preserve), Mari Ann Ménager (Office of Strategic Consulting), Bryn Scriver (Preserve), Laura Wyatt (Preserve)

Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes from September 23, 2019 was made by Busker and seconded by Grunow. The motion was approved with one abstention by Oberhauser.

Public Comment

Ann Burgess said, "Keep up the good work!"

Staff Reports

- 1) Director Report (Gary Brown)
See Preserve Staff Reports – November 1, 2019
- 2) Program Manager Report (Laura Wyatt)
See Preserve Staff Reports – November 1, 2019
- 3) Capital Projects Report (Rhonda James)
See Preserve Staff Reports – November 1, 2019

A new Frautschi Point sign was installed at the Frautschi Point parking lot. The old sign has yet to be removed. The information that is on the old sign is now on a new panel on the kiosk.

Sara Hotchkiss reported that her students who parked in Lot 130 got tickets despite leaving notes that the parking meter was not working. She will work with Transportation to see if they can be forgiven. Wyatt informed Hotchkiss that the Preserve has temporary parking permits that can be used by classes using the Preserve.

- 4) Field Activities Report (Adam Gundlach)
See Preserve Staff Reports – November 1, 2019

Prescribed burns are not likely to happen this fall due to weather.

Oberhauser asked if the Preserve receives seed from Ron Endres. Gundlach confirmed that we did receive some seed from him last year in exchange for *Solidago flexicaulis* seed.

5) Volunteers and Outreach Report (Bryn Scriver)
See Preserve Staff Reports – November 1, 2019

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve report (Steve Sentoff)
See Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve report – November 1, 2019

Education Subcommittee report – Student Engagement Grants (Bryn Scriver)

This is the 7th year the Preserve will offer a competitive grant program for undergraduates or faculty and staff working with undergraduates in the Lakeshore Nature Preserve. The maximum individual award is \$1,000 which can be used on equipment, supplies, or student stipends. The Preserve usually awards between 3 and 5 grants paid for by the interest earned on an endowment created by Professor Robert Goodman and the late Professor Henry Hart. The request for proposals will go out later this month and again in January with a March 1 deadline. Awards are announced by April 1. The education subcommittee includes Morgan Grunow and Alexis Paus. *We need one more member to help us review the proposals in March.* The subcommittee will make award recommendations to the committee at the March meeting. The subcommittee reviewed the 2019 request for proposals and didn't propose any changes. Batzli suggested we post the grant opportunity on the Wisconsin Scholarship Hub.

2019 Work Plan 6-month Status Report (Preserve staff)

See handout: UW-Madison Lakeshore Nature Preserve 2019 Work Plan-Approved, 6-month Status Report-October 2019

Continuation of Mission and Vision Discussion from September Meeting (Gary Brown)
See handout: Lakeshore Nature Preserve Mission Vision Options

Brown used comments and brainstormed words from the last meeting to create suggestions.

Vision statement:

- Replace words “nurturing” and “inspiring”.
- “Nurturing” too touchy feely.
- Only 1st vision statement right length; “To engage and inspire community learning in nature on campus.”
- One of the committee members noted that it would be good to include the word “safeguarding”
- Biodiversity can be safeguarded.
- Keep learning.
- Oberhauser: We want knowledge and action; sometimes people do action without the knowledge, but that may be better than having knowledge but no action?
- The committee liked the word “cultivate”; “Inspire ecological knowledge and actions that protect and cultivate biodiversity.”
- Oberhauser: So much of what we do at the UW Arboretum is protecting and preserving that land.
- Land care is first.
- “To safeguard biodiversity and cultivate /inspire/instill ecological knowledge and actions.”
- “To safeguard biodiversity and cultivate ecological knowledge and community engagement.”
- “To safeguard biodiversity on campus and cultivate lifelong ecological engagement.”
- Three common themes seem to be emerging:
 - 1) Safeguard biodiversity
 - 2) Education
 - 3) Action
- Preserve, learn about, and act on it.
- Brown: should we add “stewardship”?

Mission statement:

- Oberhauser: Use “experiential learning” or “active learning”; The word “inquiry” is losing favor.
- Committee members noted that “Recreational” and “wellness aspects” of Preserve seem to be missing from our mission statement.
- “The Preserve shelters natural resources and our shared cultural heritage by providing a place for the UW-Madison community to support active learning and research, and a place for respite.”
- Brown: should we add “stewardship”?

Preserve staff will continue to work on drafting a mission and vision statement based on the committee’s input and provide a draft for further discussion at the next committee meeting on November 22, 2019.

Introduction of Strategic Plan draft (Gary Brown)

Brown presented the draft strategic plan purpose and goals and discussed the common themes from the focus group discussions and key takeaways from the public survey. He also laid out six strategic priorities, as shown in the draft strategic plan, for review and discussion.

Comments:

Ménager from the Office of Strategic Consulting was impressed by the overall level of engagement in the process. She heard consistent feedback from both the survey and the focus groups, including voicing support for Preserve staff—seeing them doing so much with so little, recognizing the processes that have been put into place, and collaboration and relationships.

Burgess thought that all the things that happen on the ground are missing (i.e. the land stewardship). Brown and Wyatt said that is what we do, and it will be addressed in strategic priorities #5) “continue process improvement initiatives”, and in #6) “update the 2006 facilities master plan”. They added that management/restoration plans will come after the facilities master plan is updated. Burgess wants the strategic plan to be more obvious that stewardship is a priority; she thinks the priority list should say that we are taking care of the land.

Brown added that we need stewardship in the mission and vision statements too.

Beattie asked what services the Preserve is responsible for and what services the Physical Plant is responsible for. Physical plant is an internal partner. He thought under priority #4) “nurture strategic partnerships”, we might want to say “internal and external partners”.

Hotchkiss said she feels what is missing is what do we want the Preserve to do in the world. She thinks the plan feels like how to run things better instead of achieving what’s possible, a bigger, broader mission that has greater impact.

Oberhauser said the plan should be about how we achieve the vision, but the vision still seems to be missing.

Grunow asked if the Preserve considered working with a student intern to help with communications. Preserve staff note this and will consider the potential for having a student intern on the team that would be working on developing a communications plan.

Wyatt said the strategic plan will move us away from being reactionary to being strategic with our actions.

Next steps:

A public information meeting will be held on Tuesday, November 12 from 7:00-9:00pm at the Memorial Union (TITU) to gather public comment on the draft recommendations. The review of the final strategic plan is expected later this fall and winter. The final strategic plan will be shared on the website in early 2020.

Adjournment

A motion was made by Oberhauer and seconded by Beattie to adjourn the meeting. The motion was approved unanimously.

Submitted by Bryn Scriver, Preserve Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator