



**University of Wisconsin-Madison
Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee
Wednesday, May 12, 2021
1:00-2:30pm
Remote WebEx meeting
Notes**

Present

Janet Batzli, Rob Beattie, Tom Bryan, Gary Brown, Sara Hotchkiss, Rhonda James, Karen Oberhauser

Also Present

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

Minutes

No quorum: action on meeting minutes from April 5, 2021 will be tabled until the September meeting.

Staff Reports

1) Director (Gary Brown)
See Preserve Staff Reports – May 12, 2021

2) Program Manager (Laura Wyatt)
See Preserve Staff Reports – May 12, 2021

Five watercrafts were found at Willow Beach without a permit from Outdoor UW. The process for watercraft removal can be found here: <https://policy.wisc.edu/library/UW-6051>

Visitors entering at the Preserve's Picnic Point entrance during the month of April = 15,352

Batzli thinks we should clarify this is the *number of visits* not the *number of visitors*. Wyatt said the counter records the number of bodies which pass by it. It doesn't know how many individual, unique people or how many times one individual goes back and forth.

3) Capital Projects (Rhonda James)
See Preserve Staff Reports – May 12, 2021

4) Field Activities (Adam Gundlach)
See Preserve Staff Reports – May 12, 2021

5) Volunteer and Outreach (Bryn Scriver)
See Preserve Staff Reports – May 12, 2021

Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve report (Tom Bryan)
See Friends Preserve Staff Reports – May 12, 2021

Agroecology Living Laboratory (ALL) in Eagle Heights Community Garden (Tom Bryan – Program Coordinator GreenHouse Living Community)

Research interest and need for the 1-acre CALS research station site in the Preserve had dwindled. The space is still administered by CALS but after talking to many stakeholders and with some consulting

assistance from Agroecology 702 students the area has transitioned to a place for student programming. Part of Tom's role on campus is to oversee this area. It fits in with his duties as the GreenHouse Learning Community Coordinator and his role on campus, generally, to serve students who are interested in food systems and sustainability. The area is now called the Mutual Aid Garden, mainly as an emergency food response to COVID-19 as students broke ground in spring 2020. Starting this year, the focus will shift away from mainly providing food. The garden is a collaboration between students and community gardeners. The main student players are F.H. King Students for Sustainable Agriculture, Agroecology graduate students, GreenHouse Learning Community Students, and students in Wunk Sheek.

Tom sees part of his job as removing barriers for students—infrastructure, knowledge, land access barriers—so he offered to have students in a class he teaches in GreenHouse raise transplants for students who don't have access to a greenhouse. He also sees his role as providing guidance and organization for the site.

A list of projects in the garden include: an agroecology student chestnut tree nursery, a pollination exclusion project on heirloom collards with in-situ vernalization where seeds are returned to Seed Savers, graduate-student-led participatory potato breeding, a perennial hedgerow, in talks with UW Dining Services to serve food grown on campus, broccoli breeding program, and a Goldman lab graduate student weed exclusion techniques project.

Tom is looking to recruit student groups, graduate students, research laboratories, undergraduate students, and registered student organizations to use the space. He is also looking to have the space tied into the new organic agriculture certificate and the agricultural ecosystems major.

Master Plan Update (Rhonda James – Senior Landscape Architect)

We are currently working with system administration to hire a consultant. Consultants have to submit their qualifications by June 2. Then a selection committee decides who is the best match for the Preserve. The start date for the project will be September.

The consultant will lead the Master Planning process and Rhonda will be the UW project manager with Preserve staff and the Preserve Committee being very involved in the process.

There is interest in some sort of collaborative mapping exercise so we can think about the teaching benefits of the different ecosystems in the Preserve. It seems we need to arrive at some sort of vision for the landscape—at 10 years and 100 years from now. There was a suggestion to reach out over the summer to faculty and staff to say that we will be working on the Preserve Master Plan in the fall to give folks some time to think about it over the summer.

Adjournment

Submitted by Bryn Scriver, Preserve Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator