



**University of Wisconsin-Madison  
Lakeshore Nature Preserve Committee  
Friday September 17, 2021  
Noon – 1:30 pm  
Remote WebEx meeting  
Minutes APPROVED**

**Present**

David Bart, Janet Batzli, Rob Beattie, Kathy Cramer, Kelly Ignatoski, Rhonda James, Will Vuyk, Ryan Zavodnik

**Also Present**

Ann Burgess (Friends), Adam Gundlach (Preserve), Sara Hotchkiss (former Preserve Committee chair), Roma Lenehan (Friends), Bryn Scriver (Preserve), Laura Wyatt (Preserve), Suzy Will-Wolf (Friends)

**Minutes**

The minutes from the April 5, 2021 meeting were approved by consent. There was no quorum for the May 12, 2021 meeting; notes are available.

**Review of committee charge mission and vision; introductions and welcome to new members**

Beattie emphasized that the Committee advises FP&M leadership on the direction of the Preserve and works closely with staff but is not a formal shared governance committee. He also announced that the Preserve staff team won the 2021 Facilities Planning & Management Teamwork Award. To watch the video award presentation (cued to the teamwork award) go to: <https://go.wisc.edu/fpm-award-lake>.

**Friends of the Lakeshore Nature Preserve report** (Will Vuyk for Tom Bryan)

- David Liebl Report about materials storage in Preserve and associated truck traffic
  - This is of concern to the Friends Board; we will be working with David.
- Friends Newsletter released
- Resumption of in-person field trips
- The Friends are very interested in being involved in the master planning process

**Committee calendar including master plan and subcommittee organization** (Laura Wyatt)

Highlights:

September 28, 5:00PM to 6:30PM—Stakeholder public meeting (remote); staff will present their 6-month status report and take comments, suggestions for the upcoming year for work plan purposes.

November 1—deadline for project proposals; a process for community members/stakeholders to suggest proposals that may involve construction or staff resources; proposal form is available on the [Preserve website](#)

- Planning & Implementation subcommittee meets to review 2022 project proposals prior to November Preserve Committee meeting

December Preserve Committee meeting—staff present draft workplan and budget for Committee input

January—Stakeholder public meeting; staff present draft workplan and budget for public input

February—Preserve Committee review and vote on workplan and budget

March 1—deadline for Student Engagement Grant proposals

- Sept-Oct: consider changes to Request for Proposals, timeline and outreach efforts; report actions to the Preserve Committee in October
- Oct-Feb: (All Committee members) assist with outreach to inform students and faculty of student engagement grant program
- Feb: review grant proposals and rank applicants and report recommendations to the Preserve Committee at the March meeting for action

Communications Subcommittee—Last year we completed a strategic plan and a communications plan. These new tools will support getting our messages out to our various stakeholder groups. Subcommittee members will advise and support Preserve staff with outreach efforts as needed.

Master Plan—All Committee members will be engaged in activities and meetings to support the update of the 2006 Preserve Master Plan. There will be additional committee work for those who have time and interest.

Wyatt will send email regarding interest and availability for subcommittee members to assist in the Master Plan process.

**Master Plan - introduction and planning goals, discuss guiding principles, introduce interactive map idea** (Rhonda James)

The Master Planning process is expected to take about 9 months. There will be 3 public meetings and the Preserve Committee will get updates at their regularly scheduled meetings.

The Friends of the Preserve gave a generous donation to help fund the master planning process.

James showed photos of the Picnic Point project (Ebling Circle) that came out of the 2006 Master Plan—from eroding slopes covered in invasive shrubs and dilapidated benches, to the current class sized gathering space and prairie plantings with views of the lake and downtown.

Project scope:

- Update 2006 Master Plan
- Important to include stakeholders: via public meeting sessions, a project email address, a project page on the Preserve website, and possibly through an interactive map.
- Establish a planning framework
- Site inventory and analysis
- Needs/issues and opportunities
- Recommendations for land management and facilities
- Respect as Ho-Chunk ancestral lands
- Identify ecosystem services and health benefits and value to UW-Madison
- Signage
- Prioritized capital improvements
- Develop draft and final draft master plan for public review

There is a core team working on the Master Plan including: a UW system planner, Rhonda James as project manager; the Preserve staff; the consultants from SmithGroup and Urban Assets, and key stakeholders including the Preserve Committee and the Friends. James will be providing updates at every

Preserve Committee meeting. Wyatt and James will provide updates at monthly Friends Board meetings. The Friends will be represented by Tom Bryan who is the liaison to the Preserve Committee and possibly another person who will attend Preserve Committee meetings. There will also be outreach and special engagement with the Ho-Chunk and a campus Native Nations placemaking group.

James asked the Preserve Committee members what they would like to see come out of the Master Planning Process.

Answers:

- Promote the Preserve as something that's integral to the rest of the university. It's a core feature of UW-Madison campus and is integral to the mission of the university.
- Would like to see a shared vision of what we're working towards in terms of ecosystems and justifying those ecosystems in terms of education and wellness.
- The Preserve, like the UW Arboretum, is one of those rare spots on campus that people who are not technically part of campus community can feel welcome in. We should recognize and celebrate that since there are so many other parts of campus where people don't feel welcome.

James asked members to continue to think about what they want to see come out of the master planning process and send her an email.

## **Staff Reports**

1) Director (Laura Wyatt for Gary Brown)  
*See Preserve Staff Reports – September 17, 2021*

Wyatt said the Preserve needs to raise between \$70,000 and \$100,000 annually for ecological restoration work in the Preserve. The Master Plan will cost more than \$100,000 paid from gift funds. The Friends have given \$30,000 towards those cost of the Master Plan.

Picnic Point fire circles are still closed, and hours remain sunrise to sunset.

2) Program Manager (Laura Wyatt)  
*See Preserve Staff Reports – September 17, 2021*

3) Capital Projects (Rhonda James)  
*See Preserve Staff Reports – September 17, 2021*

4) Field Activities (Adam Gundlach)  
*See Preserve Staff Reports – September 17, 2021*

5) Volunteer and Outreach (Bryn Scriver)  
*See Preserve Staff Reports – September 17, 2021*

## **Adjournment**

A motion was made by Cramer to adjourn the meeting and seconded by Beattie. The motion passed.

Submitted by Bryn Scriver, Preserve Volunteer and Outreach Coordinator