

Minutes

Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership Monthly Meeting

Dunn County Ag Center Conference Room, 390 Red Cedar Street, Menomonie, WI

Wednesday, July 15, 2015, 2-4:30 PM

Present : Nik Anderson, Liz Osborne, John Sippl, Ted Ludwig, Jim Anderson, Chris Gaetzke, Kathy Stahl

- I. Approval of Minutes- June 17, 2015, approved
- II. Negotiate agenda and individual check-in (**5 mins each**)- identify progress in organizing new key stakeholders in your jurisdictions and individual action items

Jim is on Dunn County Board of Supervisors and would like others to learn more about invasive plants. He commented about the tour Chris Gaetzke gave him of non-native invasive plants to be found in the Menomonie area. Jim noted that he learned a lot from the tour.

Chase has written a letter to the BOD of the Koch pipeline in his district where the pipeline has significant uncontrolled invasive plants. Since Chase's previous efforts to address the issue with the Koch Company have not been effective, going to the BOD seemed the next step. If that doesn't work, it was suggested contacting the town government and private landowners who deal with the pipeline to contact the company. Also do a media blitz about the company not working with the Land Conservation Department regarding invasives.

Chris met with 3M, Krista James from the UW Stout and 2 employees. UW Stout is interested in doing capstone projects on invasives , forest and prairie. Student would do inventory, mgt plan, and work days. They will get back to Chris about this. 3M has to get so many points for environmental projects. They established prairie in 2010 and want to get invasive mgt going. They are looking for guidance from LCIP and UW-Stout.

Members have participated in the AIS survey. Found J.K., reed canary grass, purple loostrife and curly leaf pondweed.

Ted went to J.K. site in Elk Mound noting that nothing has come back since spraying. The other site of the lake, Ted has surveyed by boat. **Ted will spray in August and will do 2 land sites.**

For Lake Altoona, Lee has recommended Milestone on plans after August. Hard to do.

III. Discussion Items

- Civic Governance discussion and review (All)

August workshop coming up on 26th in the evening at the Baldwin Ag Center started at 6 p.m. Registration is not required. Chris noted this has been an effective model with other organizations.

- 2015 LCIP projects list review (All)

No news on E.C. Parks projects. 3M project is ongoing. Chase will do the J.K. project.

Nik along with 15 high school aged kids cleaned buckthorn at Birch Creek SNA. Nik noted that 4 or 5 of the Workforce staff worked hard while didn't do much. Even at that a lot got pulled. 3 different leaders but supervisor for group wasn't there. Discussed emphasizing the importance of having supervisors present.

Need a Volunteer Coordinator so we don't have to spend so much coordination time to plan a special event.

Urban Forestry workshop is September 17th. Chris will participate in this event. Tony Summers did 3 different treatments on Lake Menomin Park buckthorn populations. UW-Extension and WDNR are working more with cities.

We've been asked to participate in the Master Gardeners' regional conference next year.

John mentioned the possibility of a capstone project where studying how effective our projects have been. John will present this idea to Krista to see if they are interested. It will include criteria monitoring and how to assess effectiveness of our efforts.

Projects would be a way to showcase private, corporate and municipal collaboration and how they work together on a project. Obtain outdoor signage to public to recognize what is the problem and to know what we are doing. Lake Menomin Park would be a way to showcase overtime. Dunn County Fish & Game would be another opportunity as is Birch Creek. Mame Gale's would be an opportunity to show that people can do this on their properties, too. Issue is where we want to do the project. **Jim Anderson will help with this project to explore possibilities and come back to LCIP with ideas.** Perhaps we could get Leader Telegram to do an article on this.

- Wild Chervil WDNR Early Detection Grant and status (Kathy and Chris) \$1,000 fund available to be divided between 300 door hangers, which have been purchased and remainder for 4-Control spraying wild chervil in Dunn and Chippewa Counties. Discussed how best to prioritize herbicide usage. Spoke of spraying fringes and working in and spraying around special habitats.

Dunn County mowed some wild chervil areas before seeds were set. Chippewa County mowed narrow strip after plants seeded out. LCIP sprayed farmer's land who had originally reported wild chervil.

- 501c3 update, By-Laws, officers and financials (Kathy and Ted) Application has been made for state tax exempt number.

By laws and following changes will be written and voted on at the next LCIP meeting.

The following changes to the by laws draft were discussed:

Article I. 3. Our purpose will be educating citizens about invasive species and their control and sharing up to date information about invasive species control with LCIP partners.

Article II. Organization

II.1. LCIP will use Civic Governance to guide its organization framework.

2. LCIP will operate as a non-profit incorporated organization.

Article III. Administration

Board of Directors can be up to a total of 6

Add number 2 to work two under item 4

Item 6 should be plural

Indicate where Steering Committee comes from. Add as appointed by Board of Directors.

Election of officers will be held in first quarter of alternate years.

Board of Directors may hold their positions for maximum of 3 terms

May combine secretary and treasurer positions although we prefer to keep them separate.

Secretary responsibility add record keeping.

Change annual meeting to annual meetings.

Paragraph 5 add unexcused absences from more than 2 steering committee meetings in any fiscal year will be removed upon approval by Board of Directors.

- Media updates (Kathy)

Discussed next month's L-T and Dunn News article on invasives. Black Locust and Japanese Barberry are possible topics. With the fall coming up, an article appealing to the importance of sports people not spreading seeds.

Perhaps get an article in Wisconsin Outdoors News that would go statewide. Include picture of woods free of invasives and picture filled with invasives and how that impacts wildlife habitat.

- Next meeting will be August 20th from 2-4:30 PM (All)

IV. Grant Report (Chris, Chase & Kathy)

-Weed Management Area-Private Forest Grant Program extension and new

Kathy check on next available private forest grant application. Our past grant period is reportedly expanded although the final extension date has not been received.

V. Other (All)

- July 2015 meeting score was **4.603**

Comments: The meeting was started late. Need more clarity where we're going and move onto getting officers elected.