

OUTCOMES

Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership Board Meeting

LCIP Office, 700 Wolske Bay Rd, Suite #275, Menomonie, WI 54751

Thursday, July 25th, 2019, 2 - 4:30 pm

LCIP Identity Statement: LCIP is a civic non-profit that reaches goals toward invasive species awareness and control efforts by using Civic Governance (CG) to educate and organize the civic infrastructure needed to govern for the common good.

Meeting Purpose: To the LCIP work plan goals through individual check-ins, review the financials and to update everyone on the latest information on invasive species management, locations and events.

Attending: Jim A, Dave W, AJ, Judy, Mame, Brad, Chris

- I. Approval of Outcomes Document from June 27, 2019 Mid-Point Evaluation Meeting

Outcomes were approved by all members with no changes.

- II. Negotiate agenda and individual check-ins strictly tied to LCIP Work Plan (5 mins each)- identify progress in organizing key stakeholders in your jurisdictions and agreed individual action items from the 2019 work plan goals.

Dave: Did some practice drone flights with Chris. Discussed the value using a drone to track invasives and the rules for using such technology. All agreed that tracking cork trees during leaf color-change in the fall was a good use. **Will continue to practice flights with Chris.**

Jim: Spoke about the importance of our relationship with other organizations so we can form more partnerships. **Will try to bring Margaret - the extension agent - to the next LCIP meeting.** Next Wed at 5:00 PM the projects of the UW-Stout R.E.U. (Residence Experience for Undergraduates) will be presented at the Raw Deal. He admired the prairie development going on next to Lucette Brewery by Tim, the owner and encourages everyone to check it out.

Brad: Reported that 3M's tree-cutting budget has been eliminated this year. **Will be working on spotted knapweed. Discussed girdling their buckthorn in the spring. Will get DNR NR 40 publications from Chris to distribute at large annual update meeting with around 300 employees attending.**

Judy: Talked to Keith G. and proposed the idea that UW Stout develop an invasives course in their biology department. Keith was going to investigate it. Visited the Ross's after their cork trees were removed and saw the dramatic change in landscape including major loss of privacy with the trees gone. The Ross's were open to suggestions on native plants and took 4 of her small ninebark shrubs to fill in the openings along the wall. They appreciated having input about what to replant and are on board with encouraging & assisting their Oak Park neighbors to remove cork trees. **The extension office along with Margaret (Extension agent) is doing a video-production of the Community Garden and they might be tapped to do similar with LCIP.** Missed the last Urban Forestry meeting and need to attend the next one to try to engage them more

about invasives in the City of Menomonie. Shared Irvine Park brochure about their native wildflower garden run by the Lake Wissota Garden Club.

AJ: Released purple loosestrife beetles for control project in Chippewa County. Talked about the challenges of controlling the Yellow Iris – a wetland invasive, which is very difficult to dig out by hand since they have rhizomes. Purple Loosestrife removal days are coming up in Eau Claire and also near Durand on August 7 and 21. Working with several interns & volunteers to get his DNR AIS work plan completed.

Mame: Has been cutting burdock flower stems. Had Expert Tree Service at her place to take out more cork trees & buckthorn, including a multi-stemmed buckthorn that might be record-size of 21" diameter. Took information to her neighbor about wild parsnip growing in the ditch at his place and waiting for a response. The gypsy moth people put up a trap to track the populations. Went on a tour with Judy to see the 36 mature trees in the gravel-bed tree nursery at the City of Menomonie collection site. Then went to see the big oak tree that Ross's had told Judy had fallen on a cork tree behind their place (the Isaac Weix & Traun properties behind Woodridge Court) where a lot of large cork trees were identified. The other property at the entrance to Oak Park Circle has several big cork trees as well which Ross's had told Judy they would help facilitate their removal. Will continue pushing for more work to be done on cork trees.

Chris: Had four different site visits with one of them resulting in a donation to LCIP. Worked with Dennis C. on the Stepping Stones garden tour invasive booth. Showed pictures of the Bohemian knotweed on property in Elk Mound where the control methods are not yielding significant results yet. Helped Mame set up a torch for controlling invasives on her property. Worked with Landmark Conservancy on spraying some spotted knapweed on their land easements with Landmark's interns. Viewed a webinar with Dave W. from the Stewardship Network on Japanese Stilt Grass that has been found in Michigan and is moving this way, grows to 3 ft tall and spreads by roots, working on developing a treatment program. Talked about the brand new footbridge/park/fishing pier at Erickson Park in Chippewa Falls. Working on consistent charitable donations through site visits and land management plans. Tour in Putnam and Owen Park by UW-EC brought 52 people to hear a presentation on aquatics and other invasives. Site visit tomorrow in New Haven (Japanese barberry) and one next week at Cordon Park in Eau Claire. Giving a presentation at quarterly Towns association meeting in Fairchild Township of Eau Claire County that many legislators will be attending. Eau Claire Garden Club wants a presentation Oct 14th at 6:30 PM which he will do. Plans to attend the next Urban Forestry meeting on August 21st at 2 PM to keep them aware of the continuing cork tree issue.

Chase: No digital or phone check in

Keith: No digital or phone check in

Doug: Mentioned will be traveling in the NW and be back for the August meeting

Melanie: Mentioned will be out for the meeting and will return in August

III. Address Governing Issues

- Mid-point evaluation review (All)

Chris explained that LCIP is a pilot group trying out civic governance and building a relationship with the Midwest base called the Midwest Active Citizenship Initiative (MACI) that is fostering

civic governance criteria and strategic planning, with the purpose being to build partnerships with other organizations & businesses to organize our communities to active and engaging in governance.

Discussion took place about creating a demonstration project for education purposes on Dunn County property to show different types of plants & trees in conjunction with the Red Cedar Demo Farm. Jim will investigate this and report back.

- Review 2019 LCIP Budget (Chris)

Chris reviewed the budget to show the organization is on track for the year.

- Invasive species discussion meeting event planning (All)

There is an interest in having small committee meetings about invasives in all of the five counties in order to spread a wider awareness and allowing people to talk in depth on control methods and networking opportunities. Had great support from attendees of the recent Eau Claire tour. Chris is asking for people to volunteer to build a planning committee. Please contact Chris if you are wanting to help make those meetings possible.

- Upcoming Events setup – 8/7 & 21 Purple Loosestrife Work Events & 8/28 WI Wetland Event and September Chippewa County event (All)

Chris described the upcoming events LCIP will be working on in August. All people are welcome to attend these events. Contact Chris to sign up!

- Report financials and take requests (Kathy)

Kathy will email Chris and then have Chris email out the June and July month end financial reports during the first week of August.

IV. Identify Next Steps

- Next meeting is on Thursday, August 22nd from 2 – 4:30 PM, LCIP Office, 700 Wolske Bay Rd Suite #275, Menomonie, WI (Monthly Board Meeting)

V. Evaluate the Meeting and *Work Plan Objectives*

- Meeting score average was 4.95

Go over LCIP meeting evaluation:

Did we achieve the meeting purpose? Yes

What worked? A small group to discuss items and check in

What were the gaps? Not having everyone check in

Steps to close the gaps? Reach out to board members and active members to get check ins on progress before the meeting.

LCIP progress evaluation up against the 2019 LCIP Work Plan – January–December (1-4) with 3.0 goal for the June mid-point evaluation and 4.0 the goal for end-point evaluation in December. Jan 2.0, Feb 2.24, April None, May 2.75, June 2.92, July 3.15

Discuss action items for next meeting.

Everyone had at least one yellow highlighted action item to review and work on before the next meeting on August 22nd. Chris will send out Individual Work Plan templates to review and start filling in. Please contact Chris if you have questions.