

OUTCOMES

Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership Board Meeting

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

Thursday, June 27th, 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 perform a mid-point evaluation of the LCIP work plan, review the financials and to update everyone on the latest information on invasive species management, locations and events.

Attending: Judy Z., Cassandra L., Jim A., Dick D., Chris G., Kathy S., Dave W., Mame G., AJ L., and Leah L.

Chris announced he wanted to restructure the meeting this time by rearranging the agenda in order to discuss the LCIP Work Plan, so we can better evaluate how well we are doing.

- I. Approval of Outcomes Document from May 23, 2019 Monthly Meeting
- II. Negotiate agenda and individual check-ins strictly tied to LCIP Work Plan that will be discussed in the Mid-Point Evaluation (**5 mins each**)- identify progress in organizing key stakeholders in your jurisdictions and agreed individual action items from the 2019 work plan goals.

Dick: talked about some spraying on his road that had both success and failures.

Kathy: told about her lack of success with Cypress spurge by not using the right herbicide the first time, but now has a better handle on what and when to use certain herbicides.

Chris: had a first meeting with Sarah Grace and did a walkover for her 40 acres which has a lot of invasives including buckthorn and wild chervil. Her property will be a test-case for developing a land management plan for private landowners. Went to the Species Assessment Group session in Steven's Point to start the process of revising NR40. Learned that Mike Putnam is no longer with the DNR. The 2019 Roadside Invasive Vegetation Workshops led by Lee Shambeau has a bus tour including free lunch on July 18th at 9:00 to 3:00 with meet-up at White Birch Inn, 1039 Hwy 64, Bloomer. Showed the new business-card-size stickers/labels created for LCIP to be used on any surface by DNR.

Dave: discussed his work with the drone and its capabilities. He will continue to learn more how to fly them to help LCIP to make some videos and take photos with them.

Mame: showed her short "kill-stick", which she uses to dab chemical on invasives at her property. Expert Tree Service has been taking down trees on her property and she is seeing lots of young rosettes of garlic mustard coming up. So, she wants to use the torch-process on them instead of chemicals. Chris will help her get set up with the torch method.

Judy: visited Kinnickinnic Natives Nursery in River Falls and purchased a bunch of Ninebark shrubs in 4-inch pots at \$4.50 each to replace her bare areas left from invasives. Reported on the tree nursery at the city of Menomonie dump site that has 36 mature trees growing in a gravel bed with water supplied by a local spring, all of them are leafed out and healthy. Recommends others go see this city project. Work is being done across 5th Street at the Ross's with 40 cork trees

removed so far. Dunn County Extension might be willing to create a video-tour with LCIP like the one they are planning to do for the Community Garden – contact Michelle for details.

Jim: drove a busload of students to property at Lamb’s Creek Landing by Jake’s Supper Club to do ecology survey-work and he told how he was able to have some input with them about invasive species. Will be encouraging Margaret Murphy, the new, multiple county, UW-Extension Horticulture Program Director to meet Chris and attend an LCIP meeting soon.

AJ: talked about the plan to visit a boat landing by Jim Falls to clean up Yellow Iris on July 11th with LCIP. Found about 40 colonies of yellow iris on Lake Wissota on private properties that were likely planted by the landowners.

III. Address Governing Issues

- Mid-Point Evaluation, discuss questions from email (All)

Discussion ensued with an open-ended, free-flow exchange of perspectives by all members on the LCIP challenges & successes so far these past few years since engaging with Civic Governance. Chris discussed that LCIP is a Civic Governance (CG) pilot for trying out CG as a new way to govern a local non-profit to engage each member to develop their role, be accountable to the organization and be active citizens within their communities. That allows the organization to reach their goals set in the LCIP work plan and down to each individual, active member’s work plan derived from that. So far in 2019 progress has been incremental as LCIP is now in a higher capacity with Chris as full-time staff to take it to the next level of ownership and use of CG standards, principles and disciplines laid out in the LCIP Governing Document. The purpose of applying the LCIP Governing Document that lays out the entire CG model is to keep a consistent approach to governance that is sustainable because of the way it engages everyone to live out their role and contribute to the common good by using the resources available wisely. CG has cut out the extra events and requests that don’t affect more than one or two people and are not sustainable or impactful. CG has put an emphasis on the larger goal of getting our communities to be active, knowledgeable and willing to help LCIP reach their goals and significantly impact the 5-county area. So, by continuing to dig deeper into the LCIP and individual work plans off the LCIP work plan those over-arching goals can be met and the communities can be organized to overcome the issues that invasive species pose.

Moving forward, LCIP decided to dig deeper and be more active in achieving the work plan goals through having each active member do a weekly check-in with their work plan, monthly check-ins with Chris to see where everybody is at, monthly concise individual check-ins at the board meetings and having 1-1’s with key stakeholders in the area to continue to leverage resources to accomplish the work plan goals.

September 18th will be the next group event for LCIP active members and BOD to attend a workshop that will explain the larger scale of Civic Organizing and Civic Governance with other fellow pilots from around the state and MN. There will also be more information given by the founder of Civic Organizing, Inc. that will fill in the gaps everyone might have. This workshop will allow the more interested members to go on with Chris to become involved with the Interstate Civic Organizing Agency and continue the path towards becoming a civic lead organizer.

An endpoint evaluation will be conducted in November or December to see progress for the year and hopefully be a (4) evaluation rating. Contact Chris for more details about this.

- Intern support request \$250 (Chris & Kathy)

The request for \$250 for intern-support was made by Chris and Kathy and was approved unanimously.

- Review 2019 LCIP Budget (Chris)

Chris went through the updated budget and found LCIP is on track and below projections.

- Board of Director discussion (All)

Chris started a discussion about the new by-laws stating that there should be seven board directors and that there was only currently six. Dave Whiteley, due to his attendance, growing knowledge of invasives and organizational skills was nominated and voted in as the seventh board director. Congratulations Dave!

- Invasive species management updates through a separate meeting discussion (All)

Chris introduced the idea of arranging additional meetings around the LCIP jurisdiction for LCIP members and the community to be "community discussion meetings" for the purpose of drawing in new members and for continuously sharing the LCIP knowledge. A requirement would be that at least one member of LCIP would attend the meetings to guide discussions. Suggested names included "LCIP Shares" or "Community Sharing on invasive species and Engagement for Remediation." Send Chris ideas for names of these new events. The idea was well received. Chris and the fellow BOD will work on coordinating the upcoming meetings/discussion events. The monthly board meetings would then be more focused to business and work plan check-ins. This new schedule would maximize people's time and allow more defined meeting purposes and accomplishments.

- Upcoming Events setup - 7/24 Putnam Park Tour & 8/28 WI Wetland Association request, etc. (All)

The IPAW event on June 13th had a positive review with the venue (Lucette Brewing Co.) working out well and the bus tour going smoothly. Will plan a similar event with Chippewa County LCD in September.

Chris discussed the Putman Park tour with the Friends of Putnam Park, UW EC and Beaver Creek Reserve partners. Chris and AJ will lead the tour to discover 18 terrestrial and many AIS in the area. Watch for a flyer coming out to promote it. AJ and Daria (UWEC) will help coordinate and advertise for it.

Wis. Wetlands Assoc. has an event south of Durand for landowners that have Wetland Reserve Program (WRP - USDA) projects on their land on August 28th. The event will discuss successes and failures, invasive species management and a field tour. Chris will talk about invasives.

- Report financials and take requests (Kathy)

IV. Identify Next Steps

- Next meeting is on **Thursday, July 25th** from 2 - 4:30 PM, LCIP Office, 700 Wolske Bay Rd Suite #275, Menomonie, WI (Monthly meeting)

V. Evaluate the Meeting and *Work Plan Objectives*

- Meeting score average was **3.82**

Go over LCIP meeting evaluation:

Did we achieve the meeting purpose? Achieved the purpose and had successful review of 2019

What worked? Some commented this was one of the best meetings ever. Had great discussions about process and progress of LCIP being a non-profit organization that uses resources wisely and effectively.

What were the gaps? Lack of check-ins from BOD and active members to see progress

Steps to close the gaps? Communicate closer to BOD and members not attending and dig deeper into the work plans to get all of the goals worked on to create consistent progress.

*LCIP progress evaluation up against the LCIP Work Plan (1-4) Jan 2.0, Feb 2.24, April None, May 2.75, **June 2.92** (goal was 3.0)*

Discuss action items for next meeting. Everyone had some action items to work on and their work plans to review and act on by next meeting.