

OUTCOMES

Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership Meeting

Online through Zoom Thursday, April 23rd, 2020, 2 - 4pm

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 discuss needs and progress of the 2020 LCIP work plan, review the financials, and build up the LCIP region's capacity for invasive species education, outreach, and control through partnerships.

Attending: Kathy S., Doug O-P., Jim A., Richard D., Judy Z., AJ L., Brad L., Chris G.

- I. Approval of Outcomes Document from March 26, 2020 Board Meeting
- II. Negotiate agenda and individual check-ins only tied to LCIP Work Plan Goals not listed on the agenda (**5 mins each**)- identify progress in organizing key stakeholders in your jurisdictions and agreed individual action items.

Jim reported on the Dunn County board meetings which are happening by zoom. He is now on the Planning Resources and Development committee which oversees the Environmental Services Department of Dunn County.

Kathy reported that the native plant sale is over, and she is working on the invasive monitoring program with a committee.

AJ had a meeting on the projects in the Wisconsin AIS world where there is ongoing uncertainty about upcoming projects. Since May 26th is the day that interns at Beaver Creek would have started working, there will likely be a push-back on that until the State opens. He is looking at doing smaller group projects if allowed.

Judy reported that the mature Amur cork trees along the 5th Street wall still have berries. She encouraged movement on removing the smaller cork trees at the Wiex apartment before they leaf out. She also hopes that the apartment owners in the Woodridge Court cul de sac will be willing to fund the removal of these trees. The large trees along the wall will require removal by a professional service, and perhaps the City of Menomonie will remove them since they could pose a hazard if they fall into the street. The reading of the City of Menomonie Amur cork tree ordinance revision has been delayed. Hopes to get a college student that is willing to do study on invasive species survival and growth.

Brad has an intern with whom he will be working on environmental projects, among other things. This is a part-time intern that he will work with on their campus projects.

Doug was on the yearly statewide CISMA phone meeting, where they reported on the current situation related to the shutdown. A recording of the meeting is available. A request from WDNR was to send in invasive species plant vouchers to the herbarium in Madison so they can obtain records. He has been working on his own Civic Governance work plan and discovering how it works, which is helping him to set priorities.

Chris has been working on grant applications. Yesterday, he finished the DNR Private Forestry grant. He has been working on the Payroll Protection Plan (PPP) through the SBA. He is finishing up the 3M Eco grant application. Three landowner walkovers have been requested through Facebook. He is going

down to a property for a survey near the Trempealeau County line. He has been working with the City of Menomonie on the removal of black locust trees around the city which will be used by the local wood-turners. He finished up an article for the Natural Resource magazine about our local LCIP activities. 300-1,500 people view the Facebook videos posted online. He wants to do some drone work as vegetation emerges. The weekly LCIP check-in meetings have not been active and may be discontinued.

III. Address Governing Issues

- Review and implement 2020 Work Plan and mission in our current state

Doug posed the question on how to move forward with our work plan with all the restrictions in place. Chris offered the use of the zoom app for any meetings anyone would like to have.

Many of the upcoming events have been canceled in the past month and will not take place for a while. Kathy suggested this might be a good time to encourage people to work outside on different projects. YourVolunteers.com is a place that could be used to encourage some outdoor work. Judy noticed that the Red Cedar trail had small signs posted of groups that were maintaining sections of the trail and once again, said she thinks that areas with invasives could be "adopted" for control purposes. Chris will call Stupek's in Eau Claire to find out what they are doing with the City park projects they lead.

There was discussion on the annual meeting and whether to do it on Zoom. Doug described his view of other CISMA's versus our activity and that we are more active than most. Judy believes LCIP can serve as a model for others. LCIP is working on maintaining relationships with townships and counties to help them with control of invasives. LCIP will have a mid-point evaluation in June and end-point evaluation in December to review and adjust the LCIP Work Plan to be achievable and active.

- Review 2020 Native Tree and Shrub Sale status

All the plants are sold and will be picked up at two evenings as plants arrive.

- LCIP Share mtgs/events and citizen monitoring program planning update

The committee has been working on putting together a volunteer manual/binder and flyer. Advertising will begin in May for an initial training on June 11th from 2 - 5 PM on Zoom.

- Report financials, review 2020 LCIP Budget and take any financial requests

Funding is moving forward. It is not a good time to approach donors. Kathy reported on the current state of LCIP.

IV. Identify Next Steps

- Next meeting is on **Thursday, May 28th from 2 - 4 PM on Zoom**

Annual Meeting will be the focus

V. Evaluate the Meeting and *Work Plan Objectives*

- Meeting score average was (1-5 scale) 4.57

Did we achieve the meeting purpose? Yes

What worked? Interaction with participants

What were the gaps? Not everyone able to connect with Zoom. Tired with many online meetings these days

Steps to close the gaps? Work with key members before the next meeting to be able to participate in the meeting.

Discussed action items for next meeting