

## OUTCOMES

### Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership Annual Meeting

Online through Zoom LINK <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89880682142> Meeting ID: 898 8068 2142

Thursday, June 25<sup>th</sup>, 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:** Perform mid-point evaluation 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:** Emma Z. (BCR Intern), Mame G., Doug O-P., Lauren D. (UW-Ext), Kathy S., Jim A., Dick D., Lindsey K. (Landmark Conservancy ED), Judy Z., AJ L., Kyle B. (Dunn Cty NR Intern)

Introductions were made for new attendees to meet everyone.

I. Approval of Outcomes Document from May 28, 2020 Annual Board Meeting

No changes to the outcomes and approved.

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.

Kathy: Had a call from a citizen in Chippewa County who was concerned about the lack of spraying/control of roadside invasives. Lee was contacted and gave some input on how different jurisdictions are, or are not, working on invasives. Dick said there appears to be more wild chervil than ever. Dick commented that he has not had success treating wild chervil with what he was given. Chris suggested a meeting be scheduled to discuss wild parsnip and wild chervil control that seems to be slipping. **A committee was formed and will meet before the next board meeting.**

AJ: **Looking at trout streams with the interns (Emma, etc.) to determine if there is any need for invasive control this summer. He is doing some outreach work in Chippewa County and trying to find ways to keep people engaged. He visited the area where they pulled invasive yellow iris last year and discovered that none had come back, so that was a big success.**

Jim: No report this month.

Brad: **3M Menomonie had 4-Control, Inc. look at their spotted knapweed and he is getting them to schedule the herbicide spraying soon.**

Lauren: **Working with her mentees on the IMP program.**

Emma: **Performing Clean boats, Clean waters surveys at boat landings for Beaver Creek Reserve.**

Lindsey: Is interested in getting their landowners more engaged in invasives control. Landmark has applied for and hopes to improve the steps at Devil's Punchbowl and connect that area in with the Red Cedar State trail system. They hope to seed an endowment for that site. **They are hoping to build a stronger bridge with LCIP.** Jim spoke about the value and beauty of that natural area.

Judy: While tending her dozens of ninebark shrubs, she discovered a colony of native wildflowers (pink pyrola) blooming in an area of her yard that had been overgrown with buckthorn and Amur cork trees. She thought they had been wiped out by spraying and mowing, but not so. Reports that her ninebarks are doing very well and is excited about switching from invasives to natives as well as being amazed that nature can survive all our onslaughts.

Mame: Attended a Menomonie city council planning commission where they want to put in a planned development by the Galloway Apartments. **She testified there to her concern about the condition of the creek bed that is overgrown with many invasive plants.** The audience responded with nods, but no real comments, so she felt she made some possible headway. Doug inquired if the drone were or could be used over the creek, but it would be hard due to tree overgrowth. There used to be a Friends of Galloway Creek group at Stout. Chris wants to keep open the possibility of funding a cleanup of Galloway.

Kyle: Went out with Chris to do video presentations on educating citizens about invasives. The videos are being posted on Facebook are getting many views and comments.

Chris: Performed one site visit on the headwaters of Birch Creek. He is working with Kyle right now to complete the video work. He is working with TMLIA, which is discussing how to regroup their efforts. Hard copies of the Wisconsin Natural Resources Magazine article are available in the office of which LCIP is featured in. He reported that eight out of ten Amur cork trees girdled at the Wiex property are showing signs of dying. He did a visit with Mame about the DNR grant (\$15,000 landowner forestry grant). **Setting up the Invasives Monitoring Program (IMP) is a major focus right now.**

### III. Address Governing Issues

- Perform mid-point evaluation of the 2020 Work Plan, revisit governing document and mission statement

Went over the 2020 Work Plan in detail. Discussed the changes into the future regarding meeting with groups, which has mostly stopped. The Girl Scouts in Chippewa Falls want to establish a butterfly garden in the park and Chris met with them, also with the city park's manager, and the Chippewa Rod & Gun Club President. Kathy suggested greater use of the Zoom platform for group work with face-to-face events transitioned to Zoom. Jim reflected on the previous successful Sheridan Township, LCIP Share meeting and would like to see a follow-up with them about any progress and would like to replicate this model with other townships this fall. Lauren suggested getting a venue that is twice the size needed to allow for social distancing. **There was discussion about how to produce more articles for news publications and Chris suggested that Kyle might be able to do work on this.** Chris's landowner visits have been well received, with 90% giving a donation to LCIP.

Kathy brought up the overuse of and inappropriate use of herbicides and how to manage or educate about this. More judicious use of herbicides can help alleviate the public's concerns. Lauren said she could be more involved in the future. Drone use was discussed regarding where it might be most effective. Chris discussed the use of outdoor education sites, with signs being placed near trees to describe the concern and then giving a location on the website or Facebook page where an interested party could see a problem plant.

The 2020 work plan was highlighted in different colors to indicate the items completed, in progress, cannot be completed in current situation and new goals established.

- Invasive monitoring program planning update

The IMP program was discussed with how to maximize its use out into the community, including possibly implementing in school curriculums. Next advanced training is on August 11<sup>th</sup> from 2 - 5 PM on Zoom. The IMP committee will meet to finalize agenda and content at least twice before the event. The first meeting will be on 7/7/20 at 10:30 AM on Zoom. So far there has been only positive feedback on the program. Mentors will work with mentees to get mapping soon.

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

DNR granted \$15,000 to do outreach on forested lands with LCIP being one of only five organizations in the state to succeed in receiving this grant. PPP loan is wrapping up and submission for forgiveness will happen in late summer. Financials are solid for the time being.

#### IV. Identify Next Steps

- **Next meeting is on Thursday, July 23<sup>rd</sup> from 2 - 4 PM on Zoom**  
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83485744758> Meeting ID: 834 8574 4758

On Tues., June 30 at 3:00, anyone interested in discussing the wild chervil and parsnip work will meet on Zoom.

#### V. Evaluate the Meeting and *Work Plan Objectives*

- Meeting score average was (1-5 scale) **4.8**, May was 4.75

Did we achieve the meeting purpose? Yes

What worked? Group input on the work plan and check ins

What were the gaps? Less input that hoped for the mid-point evaluation

Steps to close the gaps? Have 1-1 conversations with key attendees to gather more input to shape a successful 2020 work plan. Kathy, Doug, AJ and Chris will do that.

Discuss action items for next meeting

Jim - 4.7, AJ - 4.8, Dick - 4.71, Mame - 4.8 - we should publicize landowner site visits and get plants videotaped from early-growth to late season maturity, Brad - pass, Emma - 5.0, Lauren - 5.0, Kathy - 4.6 wanted more group participation, Judy - pass, Lindsey - 4.632 will follow up with e-newsletter story of LCIP, Kyle - 4.7, Doug - 4.8, Chris - 4.9.