

# OUTCOMES DOCUMENT

## Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership Meeting

Zoom LINK:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/81676020103?pwd=cTltdnBPVG5CSEhzRIA5MGNuejRnUT09>

Meeting ID: 816 7602 0103 Passcode: 012345 Phone: 312 626 6799

Thursday, September 24<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:** 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.

**Present/Online:** Judy Z., Mary G., Doug O-P., Kathy S., Dick D., Lee S., Chris G.

### I. Approval of Outcomes Document from August 28<sup>th</sup>, 2020 Board Meeting

Were approved with no changes.

### 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 question about eliminating poison ivy and Lee said to use Garlon 4 Ultra works best unless the leaves have already turned yellow. She also had a question about burr oak growth and herbicide resistance.

Lee: Spoke to groundskeeping personnel at UW Stout about their steam weed killing machine. They said it is slow and they have learned that they still need to come back and treat certain plants with herbicide. Mentioned that the new herbicide TerraVue has been working very well on knotweeds, but this herbicide will have to be used while the leaves are green. 4-Control workers are spraying Japanese knotweed this week at sites in Chippewa & St. Croix Counties.

Judy: Attended the monthly Menomonie Urban Forestry meeting where they reported planting a ginkgo tree at 3rd and Main to replace the tree that died. She inquired about why they chose a ginkgo since it is an Asian tree. Dick Henning said that the ginkgo is on the "best tree list" and is very hardy. They also discussed their plans for the Emerald Ash Borer treatment in the city, which is expensive and requires an injection every couple of years. The woodlot next to her property has a sea of young cork trees leftover from the removal of the mature trees a few years ago, with the plan being to cut and spray the biggest ones before they grow old enough to bear fruit. She learned that a nearby neighbor at Oak Park Circle is treating for oak wilt and continues to find cork tree seedlings in her yard. She phoned Isaac Weix to report the completion of the cork tree removal project at his apartment building on 5th St. Isaac told her he had not heard about the work and had not really noticed any difference when he stopped by recently. Pete Weiss, who manages the property, had been the contact person for the work. This is a great

example of how rental properties need to be handled differently than homeowner projects, since there are usually two parties involved.

Dick: His DNR forester claims there is a balsam fir die-off, and we should let our local foresters know of any potential affected trees. He will be getting 30 hybrid burr/swamp white oak trees planted this fall. Will continue cleaning up areas of buckthorn that were treated last year through a DNR grant. Alerted everyone of a knotweed population less than a quarter mile west of Bloomer on the north side of HWY 40.

Mame: Showed and left a directory publication she had which lists the governmental officials contact info that she thinks will be useful to LCIP members for reaching out to them about invasives in their area. She also, reported information on how to become a citizen-scientist from the Environmental Defense Fund article that Chris will share with members.

Doug: He, AJ and Chris are preparing for the Civic Governance workshop on October 12<sup>th</sup>.

Chris: Worked on cleaning out invasives at Erickson Park, and will be working bush honeysuckle and common buckthorn to finish up along Duncan Creek on September 28<sup>th</sup> from 1 - 4 PM. There is a great wildflower area in Irvine park managed by the Lake Wissota Garden Club that he will visit to give advice on October 8<sup>th</sup>. The leadership in Chippewa Falls seems to be key to the success of this project in that they have very enthusiastic people engaged there. He connected the Blue Ox Music Festival grounds crew with Freshwater Family Farms to get ideas on how to manage large tracts of land. He met with Matt Leinenkugel, and after they decided they were going to cancel their cleanup event, they moved ahead anyway with some of the work that LCIP may be involved with. They offered a \$1,000 donation for the help. He had a new request from a landowner where they had used the wrong chemical and needed help now through the Landowner Chemical Program. He plans to do some drone work with Dave once the cork tree leaves turn yellow for the LCIP DNR grant. He will be going to EC-CVTC on Oct. 8<sup>th</sup> to do a presentation and walkover of their property to the Sustainable Land Use class.

### III. Address Governing Issues

#### - Invasives Monitoring Program update

Chris and other mentors are continuing to work with mentees. He will have an update on the grant when financials come out. Chippewa County had the most activity so far. He is learning that there is no lack of Bohemian knotweed in Eau Claire County. There were 2,500 reports so far this year – 600 more than last year statewide. Menomonie High school students will go thru the training this fall and extra credit will be offered to students who use the training and report invasive species in Dunn County. Once the data is complete it will be gathered off the EDDMaps website and presented to the townships for action.

#### - DNR WMA grant progress report and next steps

Chris will do some drone videos and ground-view walkovers in October. There is a two-year limit on getting the work done. The next push is until December to have small group gatherings to see progress and answer questions. Mame G., Lee S. and Caleb L. will be on the committee with Chris to get these grant deliverables completed. Lee suggested making videos for consumers on how to use herbicides on their property. Videos will be taken of as many happenings out there as possible.

#### - Board member updates

Chris drew up a document on board member requirements/roles. There was time to discuss the document with little input so far. He is asking for more input via phone or email over the next month to finalize the document that all board members can agree on. He suggested promoting students to join the LCIP members as a student board member so that they can use the experience on their resumes. Soliciting for interns was suggested. Chris and other board members will look for local leaders to see if they would be interested in becoming an LCIP board member.

- Fall projects

- o September 28<sup>th</sup> at Erickson Park with the Chippewa Falls middle school, girl scouts
- o Thrive park burning bush event in October
- o UW Stout biology, multiple day project with Keith Gilland will happen at the end of October
- o Menomonie High School grounds event with Biology class with Nathan McMahon

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

Kathy gave the financial report with no comments. Chris ran through the budget spreadsheet. There is a major shortage in funding for 2021 that needs to be addressed. Chris and board members will investigate funding sources of grants, donations and sponsorships to cover the gap to keep LCIP fully funded.

#### IV. Identify Next Steps

- Next meeting is on **Thursday, October 22<sup>nd</sup> from 2 - 4 PM on Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86562436770?pwd=SmwwRGVpdEhDUC96NzhyUnBoOEJyQT09>

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Chris talked about setting up virtual meetings for landowners who can learn about control efforts and other topics if he can. He will try Fridays at 9am. Lee suggested having a selected topic each week with at least one board member present on Zoom.

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

- Meeting score average was (1-5 scale) 4.84

Did we achieve the meeting purpose?

What worked? Covered the entire agenda

What were the gaps? Reports on progress from members not present and lack of recent involvement

Steps to close the gaps? Ask for reports from members not present and 1-1s with members that have been recently silent

Dick-4.9, Mame-4.75, Kathy-4.8, Judy-pass, Lee-4.9, Doug-4.8, Chris-4.9.

Discussed action items for next meeting