

OUTCOMES DOCUMENT

Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership Meeting

Thursday, November 19th, 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 financial sustainability, and build up the LCIP region's capacity for invasive species education, outreach and control through partnerships.

Present/Online: Judy Z., Chase C., AJ L., Jim A., Brad L., and Chris G.

I. Approval of Outcomes Document from October 22nd, 2020 Board Meeting

Outcomes were approved as written.

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.

Mame (verbal check-in): She is involved with a creating regional women-woodland-owner events with Lauren L. and Chris G. They will do some webinars and tours to ID trees and plants of both native and invasive.

Lauren (verbal check-in): Will be working on the women woodland-owners project that starts in January with a webinar that Chris will assist with.

Doug (verbal check-in): was not able to attend but is continuing to support the IMP committee.

Dick: was not able to connect.

Lee (verbal check-in): Attended the UMISC conference and gave a workshop on invasive management that made a case for the need for governments to invest/partner with CISMAs.

Jim: Has been driving students on bus to visit natural areas. He is on the county planning and resources development committee which is working on barnyard runoff among other things. Dan Prestebak is retiring from Dunn County Land and Water with a replacement for his position soon. He praised the group along with other such groups for the work they do to help the county.

Kathy: (sent an email) was not able to attend due to other needs. I suggested that everyone come to today's meeting with an idea for fund raising. Here is one that is a takeoff of what you are already doing: a) Have a donation drive somewhat like WPR does with everyone on the LCIP list serve. Advertise that you and Doug will do a residential yard consults as a prize for donations above \$75. For the next three donations above \$100, we will give them each Doug Tallamy's newest book. For the donations above \$35, we will give 3 packets of native seeds of their choice from Prairie Moon Nursery (example). Perhaps we can get donations from Tallamy and from Prairie Moon, but it does not matter if we do not as there will still be a significant bonus.

Judy: Menomonie Urban Forestry Board meeting was cancelled. Will keep an eye out for City Council meetings that pertain to invasives.

AJ: He has been working on prepping research for live presentations. Went to UMISC. All his proposals went in to support many counties in the area with AIS projects. Beaver Creek may be temporarily closing for the holidays.

Chase: He got Lee to get involved with the Japanese knotweed issue with the Pepin County Housing Authority in Durand. Looking at wild parsnip control. Has not come up with any fundraising ideas or potential board members yet.

Brad: Lake levels are down to historic levels and asked AJ about how that affects invasives. They took down the Chippewa Flowage about 6 feet. He tried to get some spotted knapweed spraying done at the 3M campus, but it did not happen due to various reasons. It has been a tough year for projects. Chris noticed the area had been mowed down low which helps to lessen seed production. 3M is rotating crops such as corn, alfalfa with Five Star Dairy. Talked about the shelterbelt maintenance, which now have a lot of invasives.

Keith (online check-in): Completed seven labs that removed woody invasives along Crescent Road (Cedar Rama Park), which has improved the view of the lake. This project will continue into 2021.

Chris: Had two presentations at UMISC which both had many questions and follow up emails. There were over 900 people online with 218 presentations at the conference. 5 different countries and many states were represented. Learned that elderberries are good competitors against common buckthorn. Learned how to make ordinance appeal from a Door County example. Canada talked about bio-control programs using insects successfully. Attended an online Bio-control summit with Mame. Worked with a landowner in Eau Claire that used the landowner chemical program. Had the last Erickson Park cleanup with the Chippewa Falls middle school girl scouts, has a strong connection with the Park's manager there now. Continuing to work on the Civic Governance Case Study, which will be shared with all in January or February. Chris will be off Monday and Tuesday next week.

III. Address Governing Issues

- Invasives Monitoring Program update

Making plans for the IMP Dec year-end get-together and social hour, having a speaker on December 17th from 3-5 PM. Had 172 reports this year. Looking forward to expanding. This program should be a good incubator for finding new LCIP members and board members.

- DNR WMA grant progress report and next steps

Chris described the next steps for the program which includes private tours of the properties before any more management work continues. Then there will be an Invasive Control Workshop in June 2021. The committee meets monthly to keep things moving along.

- Board member updates

All current board members and active members are seeking out other community leaders to be the next board members to keep the organization strong and growing. Chris has been talking with a few people that show interest.

- 2021 Native Plant sale discussion

Discussion about having red elderberry shrubs and whether to continue the sale of native plants. Kathy is on board and ready to assemble a committee to then order plants. There was no

opposition, just a desire to make sure the plants are local eco-type, and the program does not cost LCIP more than \$300.

- Fall projects and setup for December endpoint evaluation

Supporting an afternoon workday on December 5th for the Colfax Red Cedar Preserve and Recreation Area near Colfax. The rest of the control projects are done for the year. Planning for 2021 has begun. Preparing for the 2020 endpoint evaluation at the next meeting where the group will evaluate progress, issues and next steps.

- Report financials, review 2020 LCIP Budget, 2021 funding, and take any financial requests

Kathy sent a financial report that Chris displayed for all to review. Discussion on fundraising pursued that demonstrated everyone was on board with helping to find the remaining 30 - 35% funding shortfall for 2021. Chris suggested they form a committee to keep this need moving along. No one signed up at the meeting. Chris also mentioned he will try to have an end of year donation drive to raise funds for next year. The proposed 2021 budget and work plan will be sent to board members before the next monthly meeting.

IV. Identify Next Steps

- Next meeting is on **Thursday, December 17th from 1:30 - 3 PM on Zoom**

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/86256774986?pwd=WEc3eTZkZjFFNFxdlFKSGZhNzdVUT09>

Meeting ID: 862 5677 4986 Passcode: 012345 Phone: 312 626 6799

IMP Year End Event will be from 3 - 5 PM on Zoom after this meeting

NOTE THE DECEMBER MEETING STARTS AT 1:30 PM, NOT THE USUAL 2 PM.

V. Evaluate the Meeting and *Work Plan Objectives*

- Meeting score average was (1-5 scale) **4.97**

Brad 5.0, Jim 5.0, AJ 5.0, Chase 4.95, Judy pass, Chris 4.9

Did we achieve the meeting purpose? Yes

What worked? Dialogue on every topic

What were the gaps? Not having more members at the meeting to discuss topics and go more in-depth

Steps to close the gaps? Get a check-in from all members that normally attend ahead of time

Discuss action items for next meeting: All present members were going to look for board members and fundraising options.