

OUTCOMES DOCUMENT

Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership Meeting

Thursday, December 17th, 2020, 1:30 - 3pm

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 end-point evaluation 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., Kathy S., Mame G., Chase C., AJ L., Douglas O-P., Sherry Jasper, Lauren L., Brad L., and Chris G.

I. Approval of Outcomes Document from November 19th, 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.

Kathy: Commented on college students' willingness to learn about invasives and land management techniques.

Chase: Has been asked to assist with a WI Department of Administration, community development block grant in his area (Pepin County), with a lot of projects focused on the county park that has many invasive species management needs. No progress on finding a new board member from his area.

AJ: performing his end of year planning and preparing for the next season at Beaver Creek Reserve-AIS efforts.

Mame: hosted her first landowner tour for the WMA grant project. Will be working with Lauren and Chris on the WI-Women Woodland Owner Webinar and Tour project in 2021.

Brad: Kathy gave a thankful report about his extensive involvement at the Colfax Red Cedar Preserve and Recreation Area (CRCPRA) workday. He plans to walk through the 3M woodland adjacent to Menomin Park and clean up any invasives there, possibly on Wed., where Chris and/or Doug might be able to help. 3M was able to mow the spotted knapweed located in front of their plant just before it would have seeded. He met with Five-Star Dairy to find out about the crop rotation. 3M hopes to get alfalfa back on the landscape to reduce erosion, increase nitrogen and reduce air pollution.

Sherry Jasper (Chippewa Falls community leader): The girl scout troop 3502 in Chippewa Falls is getting their signage up at Erickson park, and she plans to continue to work with girl scouts on the Erickson Park that is adjacent to Irvine Park and the Chippewa County Ice Age Trail as well as other natural areas. The Lake Wissota Garden Club is also on board more with the park improvements. The 0.8-mile Glen Loch Trail is done and open now in Irvine Park that she helped construct this year.

Judy: No report.

Lauren: One of her goals is to engage the un-engaged women woodland owners. She did a survey where she learned landowners wanted to know how to identify invasives. She will be doing a series of webinars and tours in 2021. One of the presentations this winter will be done by Chris and they will sponsor a meet-and-greet with visits to properties including Mame's.

Doug: He reported that his activities have been limited to preparing for the IMP gathering today.

Chris: Keeping the LCIP website and Facebook pages updated by adding more content as well as a donation page that features a GoFundMe campaign. Met with Chippewa County Land Conservation and Forestry Division (Dan Masterpole & Matt Hansen) with plans to get more landowners involved in the future. Meeting with a mentor that was a former Executive Director at two non-profit organizations.

III. Address Governing Issues

- Endpoint evaluation of 2020 Work Plan and accomplishments

Chris gave an update on the Plan that looked at the goals that were accomplished, started and not completed. These priorities will be used to finalize the 2021 Work Plan that Chris sent to the Board for review. A discussion on the 2021 work plan had a result of doing more follow up after each event and project to make sure the efforts are worth while for the folks engaged. LCIP members and the board reacted quickly and effectively to change goals and meet ever-changing needs 2020 brought.

- Report financials, finalize 2020 LCIP Budget, review proposed 2021 budget and work plan, sustainable funding, and available grants

Kathy gave the financial report. Will likely end the year with around \$98,500 spent with a \$6,500 budget surplus. There was also a discussion on sustainable funding for 2021. All board members agreed to work with Chris to formulate next steps. A final decision on the 2021 budget will come at the January meeting after more discussions occur in the year-end evaluation of Chris.

- Invasives Monitoring Program update and next steps

28 volunteers will be attending the next IMP end of year celebration that was planned and promoted by the IMP committee. Highlights for the year were 52,200 views of the 30 videos created by Chris on individual native and invasive plants along with over 200 reports that were recorded in GLEDN and promoted by Wisconsin First Detector Network. 2021 will be a year of sustaining the current volunteers and expanding to a larger area with more volunteers.

- DNR WMA grant progress report and next steps

Had the first tour on Tuesday on Mame's property with three men from Altoona. The tour lasted two hours and was well received. Will be working with Keith on semester long CAPSTONE research projects with 4 students studying two properties included in the grant. Members were encouraged to promote more tours this winter.

- Board member updates

Still continuing search for new members that will fill the roles needed to sustain LCIP. Chris is modifying a Board Member Role and Responsibility Document that will be used to have a conversation with new potential board members.

- 2021 Native Plant sale discussion

Discussion took place on sources for native plants and possibly transitioning the focus of LCIP to be more inclusive of fostering native plants in place of invasives. A committee to talk

about this program will need to be formed. Keith, Kathy and Chris were all available to be a part of this committee.

IV. Identify Next Steps

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

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83793039099?pwd=M2J4RWVVK3RZMDhwekhLVXVSTHRiQT09> Meeting ID: 837 9303 9099 Passcode: 012345 Phone: 312-626-6799

V. Evaluate the Meeting and *Work Plan Objectives*

Did not evaluate the meeting since the IMP celebration was about to start.