

OUTCOMES

Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership Partner Meeting

Zoom Link: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85070453033?pwd=VWVIL09KZjg2YzJFdEEwOFo0UVhEZz09>

Meeting ID: 850 7045 3033 Passcode: 012345 Phone: 312-626-6799

Thursday, April 22nd, 2021, 2 – 4 pm

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.

Chris opened the meeting by elaborating on the Civic Governance model. He also cautioned how we need to be mindful of burnout in organizations like LCIP. Discussion then ensued on how to keep levels of enthusiasm high to engage the community effectively.

Meeting Purpose: To give an organizational update, discuss 2021 project statuses, review the financial sustainability, and continue to build up the LCIP region's capacity for invasive species education, outreach and control through partnerships.

Attended: Lauren L., Judy Z., AJ L., Brad L., Keith G., Sharlene, Doug O-P., Chris G.

I. Approval of Outcomes Document from March 25th, 2021 Board Meeting

March outcomes were approved as written.

II. Negotiate Agenda

No changes to the agenda.

III. Individual Check-Ins (5 mins or less)

Lauren: She is leading a Wisconsin Woman Woodland Owner series of 3 events in Dunn county: hike on Red Cedar Trail (Doug & Chris will be guides – 18 are signed up), workshop at Mame Gale's, presentation by Chris, and lastly a workshop at Blue Ox Farm near Wheeler. She will be living in the area now.

Judy: Still working on removing remnant cork trees at her place. Letting her neighbors know what she is doing. Monitoring native shrubs that she has planted in the cork trees place. Raising jack in the pulpits to distribute around.

AJ: He will be doing a 'Clean Boats, Clean Waters' presentation. Will be looking for purple loosestrife. Will be looking at summer staff hires. Also working on Project RED – a field detection project.

Brad: 3M gave out some wildflower seeds, LCIP folders with NR 40 resources and some natural sponges on their in-house only Earth day celebration. 5-Star Dairy is supposed to plow their field adjacent to the established planted prairie so the area can be sprayed and planted with wildflowers this spring. He has transitioned over to the LCIP Treasurer position.

Keith: He had an invasive workday at the Colfax Red Cedar Recreation Area (CRCRA) that involved some college students. Burning many areas now – will be focusing on CRCRA and Dobb's Landing and working with members of the Chippewa Savannas TPE. Will be planning the usual Biology class lab sessions to work on a city of Menomonie site this fall. He is looking forward to the Galloway Creek Restoration project.

Sharlene: She shared her involvement at Lake Wissota as a campground hostess which enables her to monitor invasives.

Doug: Will be anchoring the LCIP table at the Woodland Park Earth Day event. Continuing to plan with IMP committee.

Chris: Last week was the annual state CISMA meeting, where he gave a report on local success in reaching out to local businesses/corporations. Other CISMA's were impressed and wanted to learn more about the LCIP process. Two new CISMA's are developing in the state. He has a new contact from there with connection to River Falls. Town of Union has a conservancy park, and he did a tour and presentation at their town meeting. Out of the town

presentation the Town decided to have a Field Day on May 5th, where they would have a meet-and-greet and then pull garlic mustard. The Town will send an invitation out through their town newsletter. Doug and AJ will help. "Play, Clean, Go" signs arrived from a statewide DNR grant, along with a supply of boot brushes. DNR is also positioning 40-50 boot brush stations at various outdoor sites, of which LCIP will get 4-5 of those to install in their region this summer/fall. The first engagement for the Galloway Creek project took place at City Council, where the City agreed to give an in-kind donation this year and try to match the Gale Family Foundations yearly contribution of \$15k allotted for the project along with another \$5k for staff coordination next year. The first work event out there will be on May 25th from 6:30-8:30 PM that will involve the Menomonie Young Professionals group doing a cleanup. At the City of Menomonie Council meeting, they talked about the introduced nuisance tree ordinance change to add female Amur cork trees at this time that will mirror NR40's rule. The Council will have 3 readings of the proposed ordinance before it is adopted. Next week Landmark Conservancy will use the LCIP trailer equipment to work on Devil's Punchbowl and will donate for the use. CISMAs received its first-time support from the 2022 governor's budget proposal which, if funded, could bring a total of \$540k for the state or around \$36k to LCIP if split evenly each year for support. Golden Sands RC&D Woods and Wildlife Video Series is now posted with complete interviews of Chris and many other professionals and dedicated volunteers that would be extremely helpful for landowners.

IV. Address Governing Issues

- 2021 Projects, Programs updates including Civic Governance (Chris)

A discussion on what events should be commenced and how to hold successful engagement opportunities throughout the region. A decision to play it by ear with the health recommendations and where the most impact could be made with working with and educating others about the value of native plants and the need to slow the spread of invasives.

- April 23rd Visioning Meeting at 3 PM at Lakeside Park (All)

Chris planned this session to sit down in person to discuss how the next year will potentially look like for LCIP. In-person events are seeming to become more acceptable. Reintegration back to more normal schedules will be a main topic along with how the new LCIP Board will engage others and support fiscal needs.

- Invasives Monitoring Program update and next steps (IMP Committee)

2020 site locations have been sent to most of the townships and counties for action. Will have around 23 citizen scientists mapping and monitoring the region. Both in-person and online training sessions are scheduled for early May.

- DNR WMA Woodland Landowner Project update and next steps (WMA Committee)

Woodland invasive species herbicide trials are being monitored on buckthorn, honeysuckle, Amur cork tree, and garlic mustard. Setting up a landowner workshop at the Langworthy Blue Ox Farm just north of Wheeler on June 5th from 9-1. The workshop will include demos on how to effectively use and calibrate herbicide equipment, how forestry mowing works, what is going on with UW Madison Weed Science, using cattle to manage pine plantation undergrowth and much more. Attendance will be limited to 50. Let others know about this event through the flyer and email.

- Board member update (Chris)

Has not had anyone able to commit to becoming an LCIP Board member. Let Chris know if you know any potential leaders looking to help LCIP sustain and increase their capacity.

- Financial report (Brad)

Chris has a verbal commitment from Chippewa County for \$2,900 and from Gale Foundation, \$5,000. Looking for local donations for work/advisement and partnership building. No funding is currently available from counties as their budgets are tight. AIS may have funds available.

V. Identify Next Steps

- **Next meeting is on Thursday, May 27th from 2 - 4 PM on Zoom and in person (RSVP to Chris if attending)**
<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/83281146210?pwd=UG1SYWFFbENYVWh3N2U5OXhYYU1DQT09>
Meeting ID: 832 8114 6210 Passcode: 012345 Phone: 312-626-6799

Will be held in person at the [Dunn County Fish and Game Clubhouse on 1600 Pine Ave, Menomonie.](#)

VI. Evaluate the Meeting and Work Plan Objectives

Meeting score average was (1-5 scale) 4.68.

Did we achieve the meeting purpose? Yes

What worked? Stayed on track with the agenda and had great discussions.

What were the gaps? Some key members did not attend to give their update and contributions to the conversations.

Steps to close the gaps? Connect with those key members to get them to at least give an update if they cannot make it.

Discuss action items for next meeting.

Will plan to meet in-person at the Dunn County Fish and Game Clubhouse in Menomonie.