

OUTCOMES DOCUMENT

Lower Chippewa Invasives Partnership Partner Meeting

Zoom: <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/85777260343?pwd=czc3T1k4R00rajZEZ0Jad3NISmtzUT09>

Meeting ID: 857 7726 0343 Passcode: 012345 Dial: 312 626 6799

Meeting at: LCIP Office at 700 Wolske Bay Rd, Suite 275, Menomonie, WI 54751

Thursday, November 18th, 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.

Meeting Purpose: To learn more about civic partnerships, 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.

At the office: Chris G., Jim A., Dick D., Mame G., Lee S., Sue C., Dave W., Judy Z., Jack Rasmussen (Woodland Leadership Institute – Baldwin area), Kyle Kulow (St. Croix County Sportsman's Alliance which has been around 50+ years – Baldwin area)

On Zoom: Lia L. (Beaver Creek Reserve), Brad L., Doug O-P., Kathy S., Peter Nied (Master Naturalist)

I. Approval of Outcomes Document from October 28th, 2021, Board Meeting

Approved as written.

II. Negotiate Agenda

No changes in the agenda were made.

III. Individual Check-Ins on progress towards meeting LCIP Goals (5 mins)

Kyle: Talked about how Civic Governance (CG) had helped his organization continue to survive. Applying the CG model, he is involved with has helped his organization become more accountable, whereby members will now be held accountable for what they say they will do and are asked to report back at the next meeting. Their organization is mostly older men and they have found the CG leadership model helped them to thrive. It is all about accountability from each stakeholder, not just about attending meetings. CG is also about using a better model for their processes. It is important to develop ongoing partnerships over time, not just fragmented involvement. They have general activities going on each year of which they will be raising money and fostering civic partnerships. He spoke about how there is an equal status amongst the members with not just the officers having control. He spoke about determining a particular individual's affiliation such as, who each one is an agent for.

Jack: CG gives him an opportunity to interact with the public about invasives control. He only collaborates with people in his general area of Baldwin right now. He is recently retired, which afforded him greater time to work on invasives control. He has found that St. Croix Sportsman's Alliance to be greatly beneficial in being able to identify how to proceed and use his prior education and then to pass it on. He has worked with the Willow River State Park on buckthorn control. He has also written a magazine article on how to do management control over time. The Willow River State Park manager has come to some meetings to engage members although is not yet an active partner/citizen. He is also against using rotary mowers, which spread invasive seeds everywhere.

Judy: Has come to appreciate how invasives control is an ongoing very long-term activity. Buckthorn leaves have stayed green well after frosts and even after snowfall when all other leaves have dropped, so it is easy to spot.

Dave: Appreciates how hard it is to get volunteers to work on a project, with an example of volunteers doing an application of barley straw into Lake Menomin, but then no one was there to help remove it.

Sue: Has not been too active now that her time as the host at Lake Wissota Park ended on 10/24 for the season. She is addressing a variety of invasives at her own home now like Oriental bittersweet, common buckthorn, lily of the valley, etc.

Lee: Last month he put on workshops for the Wisconsin Counties Association. One county talked about doing some test herbicide work on the carrot family with Sightview. He mentioned how the counties are not investing in this work, and that when a county position is eliminated that would oversee the work, they should make a dollar investment to LCIP in place of that lost position. It will take persistence going to county and township board meetings to get change.

Mame: No report today. The group acknowledged the Gale Family Foundation for its support of the ongoing Galloway Creek restoration project and general support for LCIP.

Dick: Has been working with Kathy Stahl to plant prairie seeds. He had a walkover with Landmark Conservancy at his place and was given a good grade due to his recent invasive removal. He is doing boxelder tree removal around a barn for a friend.

Jim: Expressed that he wants to bring to LCIP the ability to outreach and educate others about invasives. He is still on the Dunn County board committee of tourism that works with outside agencies. He expressed his gratitude for knowing about all the other efforts of those on the board.

Lauren L.: Was not able to join for the meeting but wanted to mention that she submitted an article to the National Women Owning Woodlands network.

Kathy: Spoke about her involvement in the local chapter of The Prairie Enthusiasts organization and how they interface with LCIP activities. That work has been hard to find others that are excited about prairie restoration coordination and that it has been tough getting members actively involved in hands-on projects. She expressed appreciation for community involvement that has been done in removing invasives on various sites, especially by Dr. Gilland.

Doug: Reported on his work of a few hours at the Galloway Creek project with Chris. He was also working on wrapping up of the IMP (mapping) project.

Lia: Is helping some lake folks with some grants. She attended the fall AIS partnership meeting. She has been working on herbicide education. A local naturalist found another population of common buckthorn on the BCR property. She expressed that Chris's work is being positively acknowledged around the area, especially in Chippewa County.

Brad: Has noticed a bunch of garlic mustard on the 3M property during a walkover. They will be clearing out some black locust and Siberian elm trees in their long-term plan.

Peter: Had a question on whether sheep or goats have been used for clearing buckthorn which Chris addressed on how this method works best on younger buckthorn but not on older trees. The cost is often prohibitive, and the buckthorn will mostly come back from the roots though. He told how the State (DNR) uses nonprofits to do their work and those funds are channeled into these nonprofits which should be part of our strategic plan of being a recipient of these funds. Chris said that, at this time there is no terrestrial-invasives plan or funding and that most funding

goes primarily to aquatics invasive species control and support. LCIP does tap into the few resources available through the State.

Chris: Is working with the CG model to make connections, especially in the Baldwin area. He wants to go beyond projects and programs to now expand LCIP. He went over the list of organizations using Civic Governance throughout the Midwest Active Citizen Initiative (MACI), which includes a variety of different companies/organizations that use this model. He spoke about the importance of partnerships throughout the five-county region. He performed more site visits and presented to UW River Falls on the Galloway project and his career. He is collaborating with a partner in Chippewa Falls on a girl scout project at Camp Nawaka to control black locust trees. The DNR fenced yard is still not a safe place to keep the LCIP trailer so it will reside at Mame's. Lastly, Chris mentioned that he is burning out trying to work on all the projects LCIP commits to. He said that he needs more help through committee's and weekly commitments from members to keep going strong.

IV. Address Governing Issues

- 2021 Year End Review and discussion about 2022 direction (Chris)

The year had lots of unknowns which were challenges. Around 20 people participated in the IMP project this year. LCIP held two successful landowner workshops through the WMA grant project. The Galloway Creek project is an ongoing success, which has included a church, community groups, and three schools involved. He worked multiple times with the Wisconsin Women Woodland Owners group. He worked with a church in Eau Claire and the ongoing Corydon Park project. The Amur cork tree was added to the nuisance plant ordinance (females only) of the Menomonie City Council. He engages in NR-40 Species Assessment Group work. LCIP celebrated their 10-year anniversary on Zoom that brought together 38 people. The LCIP board has transitioned down to a four-member board. The landowner chemical program is ongoing with continued success. He coordinated monthly meetings in all five LCIP counties. He worked with 3M on their ongoing management needs. He collaborated with volunteers to install four boot brush stations in the LCIP region. He held presentations to summer school programs. He followed up with a non-native phragmites population, which was eliminated. He is hoping to build out the organization since the capacity/outreach is growing and a larger organization will be required to serve all the needs. Wild chervil is still an issue and is being addressed by townships and County highway departments. Education about sickle mowing versus rotary mowing is needed to slow the spread of invasive plants. He emphasized how township leadership is important because it determines the amount of successful control that can be done locally. Partnering with BCR on AIS programming continued from AJ to now Lia.

He had a meeting with the current board about future funding with the goal of establishing an endowment for LCIP that would include doing outreach to create financial partnerships with various companies/individuals. One goal is to hire a part-time fiscal manager/ office manager who can take on more of the office work. That process will take a committee to help us through the process. Doug acknowledged the Gale Family Foundation for their ongoing support of LCIP.

- Invasives Monitoring Program year-end report (IMP Committee)

No further updates since last meeting and the end of year event in October.

- DNR WMA Woodland Landowner Project update (WMA Committee)

Chris will be meeting with the Woodland Owners Project committee before the next meeting.

- Galloway Creek Restoration Project update (Chris)

He gave an update and showed pictures of the Galloway Creek restoration project. Two formal workdays happened out there. The city has been hauling away brush from the site and they have built a wood bridge that a skid steer can drive across to haul brush out. There's discussion of burning some of the brush piles this winter if conditions allow. 4-Control, Inc. will be hired to basal bark/stem band the remaining common buckthorn on site. UW Stout students are continuing to meet with Chris on CAPSTONE projects that will be presented on in December. The Stout Natural Areas Club will be on site on December 4th.

- Financial report and Funding Discussion (Brad)

Brad gave his report. There has been an uptick of donations.

V. Identify Next Steps

- Next meeting is on **Thursday, December 16th from 2 - 4 PM** on Zoom and in person at the LCIP Office at 700 Wolske Bay Rd, Suite 275, Menomonie, WI 54751

Zoom:

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/89563560443?pwd=RW9yay9jMDJRQIFDOWo0eHp1UHdGdz09>

Meeting ID: 895 6356 0443 Passcode: 012345 Dial: 312-626-6799

V. Evaluate the Meeting and *Work Plan Objectives*

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

Did we achieve the meeting purpose? Yes

What worked? Covered a lot of material in a brief time. Many generations represented.

What were the gaps? Went over the 4 PM end time.

Steps to close the gaps? Form committees that can report more succinctly. Have a board meeting before the regular meeting to discuss financial and fiscal matters.

Discuss action items for next meeting

Kyle – 5, Jack – 5, Judy – 5, Dave – 5, Sue – 5, Lee – 5, Mame – 5, Dick – 5, Jim – 5, Kathy – caught up with LCIP, Doug – 5, Brad – 5, Peter – enjoyed the conversations, Chris - 5