AGENDA:

I. Call to Order
Meeting was called to order at 7:00p.m.

II. Roll Call
a. Sign-In Roster
Council Members Present: Paul MacNellis, Duane Hampton, Bob Nagler, Chuck Ide, Cam Vossen, Bill Steinmann, Mark Hoffman, Steve Kohler, Tim Holysz, Tyler Bassett
Guests Present: Cari DeLong (Council Coordinator), Kay Chase (Alt. for KEC)

III. Adoption of 09 October 2008 Agenda
09 October 2008 meeting agenda was approved.

IV. Approval of 14 August 2008 Meeting Minutes
Duane Hampton moved to approve the 14 August 2008 meeting minutes. Bill Steinmann seconded.
All in favor.

V. Old Business

VI. New Business
a. Asylum Lake Management Plans
Cari DeLong
Motion: Paul MacNellis moved to approve the Asylum Lake management plan as amended.
Duane Hampton seconded. All in favor. None opposed.

- Cari reviewed each of the four water habitat management plans with the Council.
- Bob Nagler raised concern that herbicides have been consistently applied to Little Asylum Lake (LAL) by neighbors. He asked if they had University approval.
- Paul responded that whether these neighbors have riparian rights is a debatable subject. Neighbors have been told by WMU that if they want to use herbicides they are allowed as long as they submit DEQ permits. Paul has records of all of these permits.
• Bob stated that treating a lake with herbicides modifies the conditions considerably. The Council should be aware of these activities and pay attention to the riparian border.
• Steve asked what herbicides have been used.
• Paul responded that diquat and 2,4-D have been used in the past but are no longer allowed by WMU. Currently copper chelate, copper sulfate and a few others are used.
• Paul stated that WMU administration has neither confirmed nor disputed the riparian rights of LAL neighbors.
• Bob stated that people living in the Parkwyn Neighborhood have voiced their concern at neighborhood meetings about this issue.
• Chuck suggested that the riparian rights for LAL be checked.
• Duane stated that if it is necessary to make a move in that direction we have resources and people. We need to think about how the Council will manage the lakes and whether that practice is inconsistent with our goals.
• Chuck stated that the Council should inform the administration of their concerns.
• Bob commented that the Council has a responsibility to know what is going on at the lakes. Invasive species and algae control should be included in the management plan.
• Kay commented that it is included in the management plan under the strategy to use best management practices.
• Cari stated that the goal of this management plan is to act as a guideline. From this document, more detailed plans can be written to address each issue. Recently she was asked to prepare a summary for Lake Brownwood Association dealing with specific management strategies for invasive species in their lake. She has done research into the management of invasive species and algae including alternatives to chemical controls. She plans to develop a similar plan for both AL and LAL.
• Chuck added that through her literature search, Cari found that once lakes are treated several times with herbicides then other mechanisms are just as effective at controlling the remaining, smaller populations. Our role as the Council is to keep these issues in the light and educate people as to the alternatives to chemicals. As a group the Council should discuss and make a comprehensive, holistic plan.
• Chuck stated that 0.091ppm is a high level for mercury found in Asylum Lake.
• Bob added that the final conclusion to the mercury sampling was that there was no detection.
• Chuck stated that it seems to be a point source in which a grab sample could miss. He asked for the accuracy of the GPS sampling points.
• Cari will look into this.
• Paul added that the Council could have more sampling done throughout the lakes for chemicals that have been flagged in this study.
• Steve stated that his Freshwater Ecology class could collect samples to be sent out for analysis.
• Duane noted that in the hydraulic mass balance study only 3% of the water loss in LAL was due to evapotranspiration. This is extremely low and unusual.
• Cari will check the water quality study and make sure this is accurate.
- Steve stated that the chemical measurements seem reliable but more sampling needs to be done.
- Tyler noted that Cari was making a chart of metal contaminants and their ecological risk levels to include in the management plan as a comparison.
- Cari noted that she is still currently working on this chart.
- Duane stated that riparian buffer strips on the east side of the lake should be added as a management strategy for reducing nutrient loading.
- The Council agreed this should be added to the management plan.
- Kay suggested that the Council add “work with neighbors” to the management plan.
- Paul added that this management plan is a living document. It is required to be revised every 5 years by the Management Framework document. He asked for comments about this plan.
- Bob stated that interacting with neighborhoods is going to be problematic. Some may not want to be involved. Dynamics of neighborhoods should be considered.
- Paul stated that he is not opposed to attending neighborhood meetings for educational purposes.
- Kay added that the plan should include the genus and species in our description of the prairie seeds planted and note that they are a non-native genotype.
- Tyler stated that now that the management plan is in place the Council should proceed using this as a governing document for decision making. The Council should pick a problem identified by the plan and do the follow-through as described by the management plan.
- Kay added that she has a list of bird species from the Kalamazoo Nature Center that she would like to add as the representative list included in each of our management plans.
- Paul moved that the Council adopt the Asylum Lake Management Plan as amended tonight. Duane Hampton seconded. All in favor. None opposed.

VII. Project/Special Committee Reports

a. Research/Education Committee
   Cari DeLong

   Cari summarized 2 applications that had been submitted and approved by the R&E Committee since the last Council meeting. WMU’s female cross country team was approved to practice at the property for 2 hours, 3 times a week on existing trails. A WMU Ecology Course was approved to hold 4 labs at the property observing cricket population structure and taking golden rod samples for parasite analysis.

b. Operations Committee
   No report.

c. PR Subcommittee
   No report.
d. Trails Subcommittee
   No report.

e. Construction Subcommittee
   Winchell Entrance Construction Project
   Paul MacNellis

   • Paul gave an update on the Winchell entrance construction project. Documents have
gone out for bid by WMU’s Purchasing Dept. Vice President Rinker wants us to bid
out with prevailing wage which might increase the fees but it is consistent with WMU
practice. There will be a walk-through at the Winchell entrance on October 15th with
contractors. Five local contractors were included; DeVissor, Naylor, DeYoung, S&T,
and Niewoonder. The project was expanded to include removal of piles of concrete
along the path near the entrance. This concrete was put there by WMU to keep
motorbikes out of the property.

   • Bob asked if the Council will get the opportunity to review the bids.

   • Paul responded that yes, the Council will review them. The projected cost from the
architect is $66,000.

   • Mark asked about the timeline for the project.

   • Tim responded that it depends on their construction timeline. He would like to get it
done this fall if possible. If the timeline is long, they will postpone the start date until
spring.

   • Duane suggested that additional signage be placed at the entrance warning of the
dangers, if the project is not completed this fall.

   • Tim added that WMU has to address the safety issues at this entrance for the winter if
the construction project is not completed by then. WMU would do part of the demo
and possibly add a temporary handrail to eliminate the safety concerns.

VIII. Public Comments
   None.

IX. Council/Staff Comments

   • Duane commented that he was happy with the progress made in the last six months.

   • Paul mentioned that he has not heard from KEC, ALPA or Campus Planning as to their
Council seat re-appointments. Ann Paulson has resigned and Paul has not heard back from
Parkview Hills.

   • Kay stated that Tyler was re-appointed as the rep for KEC.

   • Mark stated that he was approved by ALPA to continue.

   • Paul stated that he needs an email confirmation of these.
Paul stated that Vice President Rinker informed him of an issue with Asylum Lake’s endowment fund. The projected income from the endowment is an average of the last 20 quarters. Paul was given the option to receive the usual draw from the fund for this year or leave the money. If we received the usual draw, money would have to be taken from the principle since the market has been low. Paul advised Vice President Rinker to leave the money since the Council has sufficient grantmaking funds.

X. Adjournment
Meeting was adjourned at 8:38p.m.