Agenda:

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

II. Roll Call
   a. Sign-In Roster
      Council Members Present: Cari DeLong, Steve Kohler, Jay Emerson, Tim Holysz, Cal Mastin
                                 (alt. for Mark Hoffman), Frank Wolf, Duane Hampton, Tom Edmonds, Cam Vossen, Chuck Ide,
                                 Tyler Bassett
      Guests Present: None

III. Adoption of 08 September 2011 Agenda
      Tom Edmonds motioned to approve the 08 September 2011 agenda. Cam Vossen seconded. All in favor. None opposed.

IV. Approval of 11 August 2011 Meeting Minutes
      Frank Wolf motioned to approve the 11 August 2011 meeting minutes. Tim Holysz seconded. All in favor. None opposed.

V. Old Business
   a. Budget
      Frank Wolf
      Motion: Frank Wolf motioned to adopt the proposed framework for the strategic budgeting plan. Tom Edmonds seconded. All in favor. None opposed.
      - Frank passed out a sample budget along with a narrative to explain his proposed strategic plan. He suggested that the Council develop a 5 year, formal framework for spending the money generated by the Asylum Lake endowment.
      - He stated that this is a good time to develop a budget since we have a good idea of the goals for the Council and the amount generated by the endowment.
      - He made the point that the Council knows how much is spent for maintenance each year and also has a better idea of how much we could spend on ecological restoration work. The trails committee has set projects with dollar amounts.
      - He proposed that each year the budget should be re-evaluated each September. The Vice Chair should be responsible for presenting the proposed budget each fall. Individuals or committees would provide the Vice Chair with their priorities for projects.
      - The money would not be automatically authorized for the project if it is in the budget. The Council would still have to make a formal proposal to authorize the projects.
• There was general agreement that a budget is needed in order to prioritize projects and plan for the future.
• Cari will set up meetings with the committees to have them identify and prioritize their projects.
• Frank motion to adopt the proposed framework for the strategic budgeting plan. Tom seconded.
• All in favor. None opposed
• Committees will present their priorities at the next Council meeting. The Council will evaluate all projects and decide on a budget.

VI. New Business
   a. Project Balances
      Cari DeLong
      • Cari presented on the projects at Asylum Lake that have left over balances.
      • She would like to continue to use the balances for smaller purchases needed, such as trash
   b. Natural Areas Program Presentation
      Cari DeLong
      Cari presented on her Natural Areas Program under Landscape Services. It was an overview of the program which includes Asylum Lake Preserve.
   c. Pesticide Guidelines for Natural Areas
      Cari DeLong
      • Cari passed out a document outlining a draft of guidelines for the use of pesticides for WMU natural areas, which would include Asylum Lake Preserve.
      • There were no objections to moving forward with this type of policy at Asylum Lake Preserve.

VII. Project/Special Committee Reports
   a. Research/Education Committee
      Cari DeLong
      • Cari reported on one new application submitted and approved by the research and education committee since our last Council meeting.
      • The WMU ROTC program would like to host a training session on Sept 22 from noon to 4:30pm. They will be using the prairie area at the corner of Drake Rd and Parkview Ave. There will be around 100 students and they will not be carrying weapons. They are required to post signage at every entrance that morning to notify visitors.
   b. PR Subcommittee
      Cari DeLong
      • Cari invited Council members to join the PR committee.
      • The committee will be discussion informational signage and the possibility of signage at the entrances welcoming people to the preserve.
   c. Trails Subcommittee
      Tom Edmonds
• Cari commented that the posts for the new hand railing at the Winchell Ave. entrance are in the ground. The railing should be complete by next week.

VIII. Public Comments
• None

IX. Council/Staff Comments
• Duane asked that the construction of bathrooms near the lake be considered on our list of projects for our next Council meeting
• Cari commented that the rain garden next to the new parking lot off of Drake Road will be planted with a WMU class of First Year Experience students on Monday Oct 10 at 3:30pm. Anyone is welcome to attend
• Cari noted that Landscape Services began clearing the shrubs at the Parkview Ave parking lot. They should finish within the next few days.

X. Adjournment
Meeting was adjourned at 8:15pm.