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, Jay Emerson, Tim Holysz, Frank Wolf, Duane Hampton, Cam Vossen, Tyler Bassett, David Nesius, Charles Ide, Tom Edmonds, Steve Kohler, Guests Present: Kay Chase (alt. for Tyler Bassett), Lauri Holmes (alt. for David Nesius), Pat Klein, Lynn Pattison, Richard Pattison, Jeff Smith, Philip Micklin, Mark Hoffman

III. Adoption of 14 June 2012 Agenda
   Tom Edmonds motioned to approve the 14 June 2012 agenda. Tim Holysz seconded. All in favor. None opposed.

IV. Approval of 08 March 2012 Meeting Minutes
   Kay Chase noted that the second sentence under “b. Budget” was not complete. Cari will complete the sentence as intended. Tom Edmonds motioned to approve the 08 March 2012 meeting minutes as amended. Tim Holysz seconded. All in favor. None opposed.

V. Old Business
   a. Ecological Management Updates
      Tyler Bassett
      • Frank stated that Wildtype worked on removing invasives last summer and will be finishing with seedling treatment this summer. The land management subcommittee met to discuss their work. The committee is happy with Wildtype and would like to hire them beyond their current contract and solidify a long-term relationship to restore the woodlots.
      • Cari stated that Wildtype recommended that the land management subcommittee meet with them to help the subcommittee refine our goals and prioritize areas for the forest habitat. Wildtype would then develop a budget and timeframe for each part including maintenance, monitoring and other restoration activities.
      • Tyler stated he visited the property to assess the work that Wildtype has done. They have completed the tasks as outlined in their contract, however there are more invasives the committee could have them remove. Tyler recommended that the management subcommittee meet with Wildtype on-site. He also recommended having Wildtype include a monitoring plan within their restoration document.
      • The management committee will meet with Wildtype and present their proposal to the Council at the next meeting.
b. Spillway and NorthEast Trail – Bids
Cari DeLong and Tim Holysz

- Cari distributed copies of the NE trail and spillway construction plans.
- Tim described the urgency for these projects including the major erosion issues that are filling the lakes and streams with sediment. Beginning to work on ADA accessibility by completing the walk from Parkview entrance to the beach was a high priority as well as making it accessible to police and fire.
- Cari described the project as approved at the last Council meeting. WMU bid the project to seven companies and received four bids. The bids were higher than expected. $100,000 was allocated in our budget. The lowest bid was $180,000.
- Tim explained the reason costs have escalated is due to the long travel distance from the staging area to the project. The staging area will most likely be on the asphalt pad in the middle of the property. Crews will have to use smaller equipment and make more trips, driving up labor costs.
- Cari explained there was another consideration to the scope of the project. Concerns regarding the proximity of the turnaround to Highpointe Condos by condo owners had been expressed to Cari. Because of these concerns and potential cost savings, Cari proposed an alternate location for the turnaround. Larry Harris, Tim and Cari decided on another location just south of the pond. An ambulance would be able to turn in and then back up for 250 feet in order to reach the Winchell Entrance.
- Tim added that the project could stop at this alternate location which would reduce project costs. These savings could be used to purchase geotile for stabilization of the turnaround in order to support an ambulance. Native vegetation could be planted in the geotile to blend it into the surrounding area.
- There was general consensus from the Highpointe condo owners in attendance that the alternate location for the turnaround alleviates their concerns.
- Tim, Cari and Larry Harris will be meeting with Hoffman Brothers, the lowest bidder, and presenting any cost saving options to the Council.

VI. New Business

a. Gate for Entry at Asphalt Drive
Cari DeLong

**Motion:** Tom Edmonds moved to appropriate the necessary funds from the Asylum Lake carry over fund to be spent on an entrance gate. David Nesius seconded. All in favor. None opposed.

- Cari proposed to the Council that the entrance gate at the asphalt path off of Parkview Avenue be replaced with the same gates used at the Drake and Parkview parking lots. Currently the gate is unsightly and locked. Replacing it with a new gate that closes, but is not locked would provide researchers and maintenance personnel easier access.
- Tom Edmonds moved to appropriate necessary funds from the carry over fund to the gate. David Nesius seconded. All in favor. None opposed.

b. KCF Investment Options
Cari DeLong

**Motion:** Tom Edmonds move to maintain the 5% spending policy for grantmaking with a review of this spending policy every year. Tyler Bassett seconded. All in favor. None opposed.

- Cari stated that in the past the Kalamazoo Community Foundation (KCF) has only offered a 5% spending policy, which is 5% of the last 20 quarter rolling average of the full value of the fund. Now they are able to offer spending options of 4%, 4.5%, 5%, 5.5% or variable. These
spending options would still be based on the last 20 quarter rolling average of the full value of the fund. Variable is the last year’s spendable amount multiplied by the consumer price index number each year. There is a floor of 4% and a ceiling of 5% for this option. The Council has the choice of choosing their desired spending option amount. If at any time the Council desires to change their option, they are free to do so.

- Cari stated the V.P. of Business and Finance, Jan Van Der Kley had referred to research showing the lower the rate the more the principle grows. Over the years, the lower spending rate ends up providing more spendable dollars in future years. Her recommendation was either a 4% or 4.5% spending option.
- There was discussion regarding this issue. General agreement was reached for keeping the 5% spending policy in order to fund the critical infrastructure improvements and ecological restoration projects currently planned. In the future there will likely be less need for grantmaking funds and the spending policy can be re-assessed.
- Tom Edmonds moved to maintain the 5% spending policy for grantmaking with a review of this spending policy every year. Tyler Bassett seconded. All in favor. None opposed

VII. Project/Special Committee Reports
a. Research/Education Committee
   Cari DeLong
   - Cari reported on applications submitted to the committee and approved since the last Council meeting.
   - The MSU Great Lakes Bioenergy Research team will be continuing their study on the biofuels (switchgrass) in the prairie. They would like to add to the research this summer by sampling for plants in the switchgrass and prairie to ascertain species richness and estimate biomass. They would also like to do a barley yellow dwarf virus study to examine the incidence of plant viruses in native grasses by taking leaf samples from prairie grasses and sampling aphid vectors by using pan traps and sticky traps.
   - The Geosciences Department submitted an application to hold the annual Geosciences Hydrogeology Field Course within the prairie areas of the preserve. They will require mowing support from Landscape Services around the well fields.
   - Cari DeLong submitted an application to host the “No Child Left Inside” program at Asylum Lake the morning of May 1. Third graders from four different schools came to the preserve for educational activities as they did in the prior year.
   - Dr. Gill submitted an application to do research to test whether frogs alter their call structure in response to anthropogenic noise. Sampling will include locating calling frogs between the hours 7pm and midnight to record calls. She will also be looking for a chytrid fungus. In order to do this, she will be capturing with hand nets, and noninvasively sampling frogs by swabbing their skin and measuring their size.

b. PR Subcommittee
   Cari DeLong
   - Cari reported that the PR committee has met and come up with wording and locations for informational signage. The committee has also developed ideas for welcome signs at the three main entrances. These ideas were submitted to the sign shop to be developed into designs. The committee will be presenting their designs to the Council.

c. Trails Subcommittee
   Tom Edmonds
   Refer to “New Business” section.
VIII. Public Comments
- Phil suggested that the Council post signs for fisherman at the major fishing locations on the property. The signs should remind fisherman to pick up their trash and refrain from cutting vegetation.

IX. Council/Staff Comments
- David announced he hosted a Gazelle Sports nature walk through Asylum Lake. There were 24 attendees.
- Kay stated that Michigan has strong provisions for outdoor recreation protection from liability as part of Act 451 of 1994. It states that a land owner is protected from liability unless gross negligence or willful and wanton misconduct can be demonstrated according to the Michigan Compiled Laws 324.73301. She will give this information to Cari.

X. Adjournment
Tom Edmonds moved to adjourn. David Nesius seconded. Meeting was adjourned at 8:32pm.