

Central Wisconsin Invasives Partnership (CWIP) CISMA Meeting
January 17th, 2019
1:30pm - 4:00pm
Portage County Public Library Prairie Room
Stevens Point, WI

Attendees: Joshua Beneš (Golden Sands RC&D Council) Eric Olson (UW-Extension Lakes), Amy Thorstenson (Golden Sands RC&D Council), Patrick Nehring (UW-Extension Waushara County), Bob Freckmann (UWSP - herbarium, NCCT), Janet Smith (North Central Conservancy Trust), Reesa Evans (Self-employed), Kason Morley (Adams County LC&D), Sam Peterson (Adams County LC&D), Ken Schroeder (UW-Extension Portage County).

Online Attendees: Natalie Dutack (River Alliance of Wisconsin), Brock Woods (Wisconsin DNR), Paul Skawinski (UW-Extension Lakes); Randy Poelma (Ho-Chunk); Pete Arntsen (Prairie Enthusiasts).

Welcome and introductions:

Those present introduced themselves both online and in-person. Beneš gave a short status update for CWIP:

- CWIP has received a small amount of funds from the DNR's WMA grant to startup a Cooperative Invasive Species Management Area (CISMA) in central Wisconsin.
- There have been 4 CWIP meetings to date.
- CWIP has defined a project area including Wood, Portage, Waushara, Adams, Juneau, and Marquette Counties.
- CWIP has identified some partners within CWIP and are working on identifying more.
- CWIP has started to consider how to form its organizational structure and what members would have voting abilities.
- CWIP is just now starting to focus in on specific initiatives.

Defining roles of individuals within the CISMA group:

The group decided to use the terms "Members" as voting members of CWIP and "Partners" as everyone else that is involved or collaborating with CWIP. Currently, there are a few partners interested in being members including:

- Joshua Benes - Golden Sands RC&D
- Eric Olson - UW-Extension Lakes
- Natalie Dutack - River Alliance of Wisconsin
- Janet Smith - North Central Conservancy Trust

The group decided to table officially assigning the first group of members until next meeting. The group indicated that they were more interested in getting more individuals on as members during the first round, including someone from IPAW, delegates from counties, etc. Benes will

write another email to the group specifically geared toward inquiring about who wants to be a member of CWIP.

Evans pointed out that there is a legal definition of a “partnership”. Benes said that he will do research on this definition and report back next meeting.

Discussion about Initiative Groups that are Forming:

Right-of-way & Roadside Invasives Management

- Interested Individuals
 - Joshua Benes - Golden Sands RC&D
 - Hans Schabel - Retired UWSP College of NR
 - Don Kissinger - Wisconsin DNR
 - Megan Mickelson - Wisconsin DNR
 - Randy Poelma - Ho-Chunk Nation
 - Anna Cisar - Golden Sands RC&D
- Should look into getting a State Department of Transportation individual involved. Smith pointed mentioned the name Alyssa Barrette.
- Should look into getting someone involved from American Transmission Co. (ATC).
- Patrick Kotlowski - Adams County Highway Department
- Should look into getting various town and highway departments involved.
- Schroeder pointed out that there will be roadside vegetation workshops through the University of Wisconsin-Extension and 4-Control in Portage County (in addition to some others throughout the state). Dates are not selected yet, but they will likely be in July 2019. For info and/or to register visit go.wisc.edu/26tw7x or email Leo Roth at NLROTH2@wisc.edu

FERC Licencing and Dam Operations

- Interested Individuals
 - Joshua Benes - Golden Sands RC&D
 - Eric Olson - UW Extension Lakes
 - Chris Hamerla - Golden Sands RC&D
- Should look into getting county-owned dams involved, even though they are not required for FERC licences (Friendship Dam).
- We reviewed the 10 current dams in the 6 county area on the Wisconsin River and when their licences are currently due for renewal. It was noted that most of the dams currently only need to focus on Purple Loosestrife.

Wisconsin River Invasives Management

- Interested Individuals
 - Joshua Benes - Golden Sands RC&D
 - Eric Olson - UW Extension Lakes
 - Natalie Dutack - River Alliance of Wisconsin
 - Paul Skawinski - UW-Extension Lakes / Wild Ones
 - Chris Hamerla - Golden Sands RC&D

Anna Cisar - Golden Sands RC&D

Megan Mickelson - Wisconsin DNR

- Should look into getting individuals from PACRS, Army Corp of Engineers, Drainage Districts (that are county appointed but independent), and the Wisconsin River Power Company.
- River Alliance would play a role working with local groups on AIS monitoring programs and events for WI River and other waterbodies; would look at hosting trainings and utilizing our Project RED and Snapshot Day programs. We also could help with outreach and volunteer recruitment for long term invasive species monitoring and management programs, cross-promotion of partner events, AIS Sign and wash station installs etc.

Mapping & Monitoring

- Interested Individuals
 - Joshua Benes - Golden Sands RC&D
 - Natalie Dutack - River Alliance of Wisconsin
 - Doug Miskowiak - UW Stevens Point
 - Chris Hamerla - Golden Sands RC&D
 - Anna Cisar - Golden Sands RC&D
 - Randy Poelma - Ho-Chunk Nation
 - Megan Mickelson - Wisconsin DNR
- Should look into getting individuals from IPAW, State Geocaching Groups, Natural Heritage Inventory.

Education & Outreach through hands-on workshops

- Interested Individuals
 - Joshua Benes - Golden Sands RC&D
 - Eric Olson - UW Extension Lakes
 - Natalie Dutack - River Alliance of Wisconsin
 - Chris Hamerla - Golden Sands RC&D
 - Anna Cisar - Golden Sands RC&D
 - Paul Skawinski - UW-Extension Lakes / Wild Ones
 - Hans Schabel - Retired UWSP College of NR
 - Don Kissinger - Wisconsin DNR
 - Erin McFarlane - UW- Extension Lakes
 - Patrick Nehring - UW Extension Waushara County
 - Janet Smith - North Central Conservancy Trust
 - Megan Mickelson - Wisconsin DNR
- Should look into getting individuals within IPAW
- Connect with Mark Renz with UW Madison. He has been working on a Wild Parsnip education/outreach project.

Volunteer, Citizen, and Landowner Coordination.

- Interested Individuals
 - Joshua Benes - Golden Sands RC&D
 - Eric Olson - UW Extension Lakes
 - Hans Schabel - Retired UWSP College of NR

Dick Hansen (Landowner)

Janet Smith - North Central Conservancy Trust

Megan Mickelson - Wisconsin DNR

- Brendan Woodall, US Fish and Wildlife Service, would likely be interested to participate.
- Should get County Conservationists or LCD staff involved. They have a good network to landowners and citizen groups in their counties.

Drafting Mission Statement, Forming our Governance Structure, Writing our Strategic Plan

- Interested Individuals
 - Joshua Benes - Golden Sands RC&D
 - Eric Olson - UW Extension Lakes
 - Patrick Nehring - UW Extension Waushara County
- Reesa Evans volunteered to join this group.
- Brock Woods mentioned that Kelly Kearns may already have a document that CWIP could build off of. Woods is going to reach out to Kelly to see if she can pass that onto Benes.

Terrestrial invasives CWIP will focus on when providing educational opportunities to the public, road crews, and volunteers

After some discussion, the group agreed to focus on three different invasives based on if we are working with private landowners or around right-of-ways or roadsides:

Private landowners: Focus on Garlic Mustard, Buckthorn, and Spotted Knapweed

Roadcrews/ROW: Focus on Phragmites, Wild Parsnip, and Spotted Knapweed

Pick a date for Terrestrial Invasive Species Workshop on Dick Hansen's property

After reviewing the invasives that Dick Hansen has on his property (Buckthorn, Reed Canary Grass, Yellow Hawk-Weed, Garlic Mustard, Amur Maple) the group decided that a fall event would be the most appropriate. We agreed that Saturday, September 21st would be the date with Saturday, September 28th as the rain date.

Logo

The group liked the proposed logo, but advocated for brighter colors along with some other minor changes. Benes wrote down suggestions and said that he would make some changes.

Tentative Timeline

Benes went over the tentative timeline on rolling out a promotional campaign for CWIP. Benes plans to have a logo complete by the end of January. By the end of February, he hopes to have a draft of a website, promotional materials, and to create a Facebook Page. There will be another CWIP meeting in March to review drafts. By the end of March, he will finalize website, promotional materials, and Facebook page so that they are all ready for the Oshkosh State CISMA meeting in the beginning of April.

Grant Opportunities

There was discussion about what the themes should be the focus for the GLRI CWMA grant and DNR WMA grant.

- There was a consensus that we should have some funds allocated toward control / first responders. (On-site time)
- Could focus on School Groups?
- Could tie in the Society of Ecological Restoration at UWSP?

Benes encouraged any partners that want to be involved in the process and/or write letters of support to contact him via email so he can be sure to keep them in the loop:

joshua.benes@goldensandsrwd.org

Partner Roles:

We briefly went over partner roles defined by various partners at previous meetings. Pete Artensen introduced himself to the group and said that he has been involved with the Prairie Enthusiasts, Wild Ones, and his local Land and Water committee. He said that he is mostly interested in volunteer efforts within the CISMA group.

Next Meeting:

Benes will send around a Doodle poll to see what location and date work the best for those who want to attend. It will be sometime in March.