I. CALL TO ORDER AND ZOOM ROLL CALL.

- The meeting was called to order at 7:00 p.m.

II. EDITING AND ADOPTION OF SEPTEMBER 10, 2020 AGENDA.

- There were no changes to the Agenda.
- The September Agenda was approved by unanimous voice vote.

III. EDITING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM THE AUGUST 13 2020 MEETING.

- There were no changes to the Minutes.
- The August Minutes were approved by unanimous voice vote.

IV. OLD BUSINESS.

a. Buying Haji Tehrani’s Parcel C.

- Mayor Anderson reported via e-mail that progress is still being made on the property owned by Mr. Tehrani (former Vermeulen Property, adjacent to the Preserve). Mayor Anderson hopes to have more to report at a later date.

b. State of the Preserve.

- Mr. Sauber stated that things have calmed down in the Preserve recently. No one has taken the bungee cord off the gate, and there have been no further reports of someone driving through the Preserve and doing damage. Ms. Huxmann advised that she has replaced the bungee cord twice on the gate at the Drake Rd. parking lot. She just put it back on the gate recently.
- Mr. Hampton drove into the Preserve in late May loaded with a weed trimmer, gas can, garbage bags, and garden tools, trying to eliminate some of the Garlic Mustard plants. He hardly made a dent. The weed trimmer was worthless.

c. Herpetological Study.

- Mr. MacNellis updated the map for the Herpetological study. If someone can manipulate the PDF, it could be posted on the ALPMC website. He suggested using the printer in the physical plant for making copies and scans.
- Mr. Hampton will scan the study and provide pdf copies of it at a later date.

d. Progress at the Preserve and WMU.

- Wildtype was working at the Preserve last week.
- Mr. Frever has an Administrative Assistant again. He is working with his staff to figure out how to get work done with the limited resources that are available at this point. Retirements have affected his staff.

V. PROJECT/SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS.

a. Any applications for using the Preserve?

- A graduate student in anthropology wanted to have a teach-in at the Preserve about systemic racism. Mr. Hampton provided an application and the e-mail address where Mr. Kohler can be reached. He also advised that, if there is a large group of people expected at this event, the applicant will need to arrange for transportation due to limited parking at the Preserve.
- Mr. Frever responded to two inquires on the website regarding kayak use in the Preserve.

b. Signage Committee.

- Ms. Huxmann stated that the new signs are scheduled to be installed in the Preserve on September 11th. The ALPA (Asylum Lake Preservation Association) has scheduled a work day for September 26th to do a clean-up in the Preserve, and they will install the shadow box in the new location by Drake Rd. The shadow box needs some repair and paint before it can be reinstalled.
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- Mr. Sauber is available on the 26th to assist with the clean-up in the Preserve. He would also like to be present when the signs are installed.

c. **ALPA cleaned out the shadow boxes.**
   - Discussion followed regarding the Falk memorial tree, which is located behind the white sign near the Parkview entrance to the Preserve. Ms. Holmes advised that area needs attention.
   - The legs of the shadow box on Parkview will be painted white or yellow to make the box more visible; it is under a tree and not very noticeable. The shadow boxes don't take paint very well because they are made of recycled plastic. The posts/legs are made of treated 4 x 4's so they should take paint. Mr. Scott suggested using white stain; paint might peel.
   - Mr. Hampton gave kudos to the ALPA members for cleaning the spiders etc. out of the shadow boxes. Information will be added about the Preserve being a Kalamazoo treasure. The doors on the shadow boxes might need to be replaced because of the adhesive on the glass. That expense might come out of sign budget.
   - Mr. Frever needs to determine if volunteers can do the work on the shadow boxes or if that work should be done by union workers at WMU.

d. **Trails Subcommittee**
   - The Trails Committee met Paul Warnick from O’Boyle, Cowell & Blalock (OCBA) at the Parkview entrance. They looked at the southeast and northwest corners of the Preserve and discussed the proposed modifications to the trails. An e-mail with maps and quotes from OCBA was sent to the Council.
   - The estimate for the northwest trail connector is $12,100; the estimate for the southeast trail is $22,000. Mr. MacNellis stated that this project will go on the shelf with five other projects that have been estimated. The Trails Subcommittee will try to prioritize these projects and make a presentation to the Council. When a project comes up, the Council can discuss it in detail.
   - Neither of these projects would be at the top of the list of projects to be done. The Trails Subcommittee would like to focus on the backbone of the trail and start closing other trails.
   - Mr. Kreuzer inquired as to what is preventing the Council from moving forward with the backbone trail if the priority has been established. Mr. MacNellis stated that projects such as erosion of the southeast trail system and trees with exposed roots should also be considered. The subcommittee has gone over the projects (segments of backbone) with the Council. Somebody needs to say which project takes priority. The trails might take a back seat to storm water issues that were discussed recently.
   - It was suggested that the Trails Subcommittee provide the #1 priority to the Council at the next meeting. The Council can also look at the budget for the second and third priorities. The top priority projects could be included in the budget.
   - Mr. MacNellis stated that the Trails Subcommittee should convene to discuss the sequencing that has to take place to build the trails from Winchell to the spillway to the dock wall and out to Parkview. The Trails Subcommittee will provide the Council with the top five priorities at the next meeting.
   - Mr Kreuzer inquired if it would be possible this fall to put wood chips on the exposed tree roots to prevent damage, as a temporary fix, until that project falls in line. Mr. MacNellis stated that the wood chips might last through the first three or four rains and then they would be gone. The Trails Sub-Committee can provide information and discuss what makes sense with regard to staging.

VI. **NEW BUSINESS.**

a. **Follow-up on Kieser Presentation.**
   - Ms. Holmes read a memo from ALPA to the Council asking them to reconsider the action of the August meeting and proceeding on the Kieser report’s recommended action to remediate the pollution now coming into the lake. She requested any information about the opinion of the WMU Administration about this issue.
   - Mr. Strazdas stated that WMU Administration reviewed this proposal to determine if it is in alignment with the governing documents and the response was yes. Protecting the water quality of the lake is in alignment with the governing documents. There was support from the University to spend that money to protect the water quality, but there are questions as to who will pay for the ongoing maintenance.
   - There are costs to design, administer and install the storm water system. The University has provided authorization to proceed, but will the City of Kalamazoo provide maintenance for the system? There are procedures and money and consultants involved regarding the removal and transportation of sediment. The manifest, insurance, and other companies to be involved would also need to be considered. Will the City of Kalamazoo extract the sediment for free and, if not, what are the costs?
Mr. Strazdas, supported by Ms. Holmes, moved to form a subcommittee and proceed with the first phase of the Kieser and Associates proposal to design a storm water system on the east side of Drake Rd. for the Asylum Lake Preserve. The Council can proceed with a purchase order. The design for the storm water system will be presented to the Council for approval. The Subcommittee will work with the City of Kalamazoo, assist with educating governmental agencies, determine who will do maintenance on the Barracuda sediment traps and determine what the maintenance costs will be. The Subcommittee will educate the Council regarding these details.

Mr. Hampton, supported by Mr. Strazdas and Ms. Holmes, made the following amendment: Kieser and Associates will present a 60% and a 95% complete design to the Council for review and feedback. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

Mr. Kieser advised there would be approximately seven cubic yards of soil from the Drake Road area each year. The currently proposed barracuda trap would be about 50% efficient. The size of the trap would be determined by the space that is available. The trap would need to be cleaned out approximately twice a year. Each clean out would be a couple yards of sediment to be taken out by vacut truck. The sediment gets handled like storm water from a catch basin with heavy metal and would go to a landfill.

Mr. MacNellis suggested that the 60% drawings would include seven of the seventeen tasks on the proposal. Mr. Strazdas stated that the Subcommittee can determine the costs and apprise the Council. The costs should be known before Kieser & Associates is finished with the 60% design.

Mr. Bovid was in favor of the Kieser & Associates plan and their work regarding water treatment at the Preserve. He inquired if the Council has an obligation to look into whether or not there are other ways to address the storm water sedimentation issues and if a second opinion is needed. Mr. Hampton stated that the Council can seek a second opinion or go with the Kieser & Associates proposal. They proposed two treatment plans and the Council is discussing the less expensive one.

Mr. Kreuzer mentioned the potential degradation of the Asylum Lake Preserve from the car wash Mr. Tehrani is proposing for his property north of the Preserve. He was not aware of an alternative to remediate potential runoff. Delaying the Kieser & Associates proposal could result in an increase in costs due to potential erosion issues. Mr. Kreuzer suggested that the Council move forward with the proposal as quickly as possible.

Some of the construction would be in the City of Kalamazoo right of way. Maybe the City would be willing to pick up the tab from a public relations standpoint. A private contractor would charge between $1,000 to $4,000 per year to clean sediment out of the barracuda traps.

Mr. Strazdas stated that the university will administer the contract. The dollar volume for the Kieser & Associates proposal is within the requirements to allow a single-source provider (it is not necessary to contact other contractors). Kieser & Associates met all the requirements and the Council would like to move this project along. He thanked Mr. Bovid for bringing up a valid question.

Mr. Kieser clarified that the motion would be authorizing preconstruction tasks, including potential costs and options to clean out the barracuda trap. There should be conversations with the City of Kalamazoo to make sure the construction of the proposed storm water system is not treading on critical resources. The 60% plan would include a site survey. The 60% design process is built around making sure the construction is out of the wetland and not impacting endangered species.

Mr. Strazdas stated that the Council needs to set a dollar limit. He requested that Mr. Kieser identify the key elements of the proposal and provide a total dollar amount to task seven. Mr. Kieser stated the following requirements: 1. Project coordination with the City of Kalamazoo and presentations to other stakeholders. 2. Wetland delineation. 3. Review site reports on vegetation and other species documentation. 4. Review options and costs for clean out of Barracuda trap. The early stage costs for Kieser & Associates (Items 1 – 4) would be $8,370. The total project cost would be approximately $45,000. Tasks 1-7 (60 %) would cost approximately $18,000.

Mr. Strazdas moved to amend the motion to allocate $20,000 to get through task seven of the Kieser & Associates proposal. There were nine votes in favor and the motion was approved.

The Subcommittee will include Mr. Frever, Mr. Kreuzer, Mr. Strazdas, Mr. Hampton, and Mr. Bovid. It was suggested that Mr. Kohler could be involved with the education process, and that Ms. Morton-Thompson could provide her expertise regarding water to the subcommittee.

Construction could begin on the Kieser & Associates proposal in June, after the spring rains. Any obstacles should be identified so the project can move forward as soon as possible.

Discussion followed with regard to the possibility of getting grant money to help with the cost of this project. The 319 grants have been helpful in the past for storm water projects, but those funds have been shifted elsewhere.

• Mr. Bassett is the Chair of the Subcommittee that will review updates to the Management Plan. He was too busy during the summer to review the work that Mr. MacNellis did on the Plan. He will work on it over the winter. Mr. Kreuzer stated that he will work with the subcommittee and provide assistance as needed.
• Mr. Bassett will contact Mr. Kohler to inquire if he would be willing to serve on the subcommittee.
• It was suggested that this subcommittee should provide an update at the January meeting.

VII. NEXT ONLINE MEETING – OCTOBER 8TH?
• The Council members were in favor of meeting on October 8th.

VIII. COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS.
• Mr. Sauber stated that a concerned person sent an e-mail about squatters on Asylum Lake property. He called the police and was advised that the squatters are on private property. The property owner would have to submit a complaint and request assistance from the Public Safety Department.
• The squatters have been in that location for a couple of years; they have tents set up and it looks like a village. They are on Mr. Tehrani’s property, not far from the north path on the Asylum Lake property.
• Mr. Bovid offered to contact the property owner’s attorney and make him aware of the issue.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS.
• None

X. ADJOURNMENT.
• The meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.