Members Present: Pete Strazdas, Chair; Sharon Dever, Vice Chair; Kay Chase, Council Secretary; Tyler Bassett; Mark Frever; Lauri Holmes; John Kreuzer; David Lemberg

Members Excused: Bonnie Alkema, Duane Hampton, Steve Kohler, James Penner, Tom Sauber, Paul Scott, Cybelle Shattuck; Marnie Twynham

Guests: None

I. CALL TO ORDER AND ZOOM ROLL CALL.
- A quorum was present, and Mr. Strazdas called the meeting to order at 7:08 p.m.

II. EDITING AND ADOPTION OF AGENDA FOR MAY 12, 2022.
- There were no changes to the agenda.
- Ms. Holmes, supported by Mr. Frever, moved approval of the agenda as submitted. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

III. EDITING AND APPROVAL OF MINUTES FROM APRIL 14, 2022.
- The following changes were requested: Mr. Hampton and Mr. Kohler should be listed under “present”.
- Mr. Bassett, supported by Mr. Lemberg, moved approval of the Minutes as amended. The motion was approved by unanimous vote.

IV. FINANCIAL REPORT.
      - Mr. Frever reported that most of the charges were for picking up litter, there was not much mowing at that point. Expenses for the Recording Secretary were also noted.

      - Mr. Strazdas referred to the stormwater project. Kieser & Associates presented ideas on how to keep expenses down and maintain the same quality for better value. No action has been taken yet. Mr. Kieser will attend a Council meeting at a later date to discuss details of the plan.
      - It is still possible that the Council might receive funds from the State of Michigan. A decision should be made at some point as to how long the Council should continue to wait for grant money versus accessing other available funds to get the project done.
      - The bids should be requested at the right time of the year to get the best price. The worst time to request bids is when the contractors are already busy. The Council should make a decision in the fall/winter and then the project should be sent out to bid.

V. OLD BUSINESS.
   a. Project Updates and Project Finances.
      i. Storm Water Project.
         - Refer to update under Projects Financial Report.

   ii. Land Management Plan Committee.
      - This is a ten-year plan and includes the storm water treatment plan. There is a subcommittee working with the consultant. Mr. Strazdas suggested that the Council could provide input to the consultant. Also, it might be helpful to have a one or two-page form for each Council member to provide comments, which can be submitted to the consultant by a deadline. The Land Management Plan is important, and it will be helpful to provide detailed information. Filling out the form might help streamline the conversation.
      - Mr. Bassett suggested provided the comments at a time when the consultant is ready to incorporate those details into the plan. The consultant asked the subcommittee to provide comments on the objectives of the plan. The biggest directive is the goals, which are general, they apply to the entire property. The goals should help manage the property for the best ecological benefit.
      - The subcommittee and the consultant are currently looking at objectives for each management unit. Once the objectives are in place, the consultant will focus on the strategies that will be used to reach the objectives.
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- After the subcommittee has those details, the draft plan can be circulated to the Council to request input. The purpose of the subcommittee is to deal with the conceptual ideas, and then the Council can provide more details. Dealing with the beavers is one detail that the Council needs to address since they were not an issue in the past. The subcommittee can develop a form and then work through the plan.
- The Council’s task for the next ten years should be easy, just look at the plan and do the work that has been outlined in the plan. It is important to not get bogged down with details and lose sight of the big items.
- Mr. Strazdas suggested devoting one full meeting to discussing the input forms. The input will help deal with the structure of the plan and keep things orderly.

iii. Ecological Study.
- Orbis will be at the Preserve in about two weeks. Mr. Bassett talked with Mr. Sauber about the plots/grid on the property that were created a few years ago. That information will either be marked in the field or coordinates will be provided to the contractor.

iv. Ecological Maintenance.
- Refer to iii.

v. Garlic Mustard Pull.
- There were about ten participants and they pulled about 15 bags of Garlic Mustard. The area they focused on last year doesn’t have a lot of new Garlic Mustard growth.
- The volunteers will focus on the Parkview area Saturday. They walked through the area the Council decided to leave as is. Hopefully, there will be a larger turnout of volunteers this weekend.
- The morning and afternoon schedule for Saturday will be consolidated into one session in the a.m. since rain is predicted for Saturday afternoon.
- Kudos to Mr. Sauber for collecting the bags of Garlic Mustard from the Preserve.

vii. Replace Dead Memorial Tree.
- Mr. Strazdas provided kudos to Mr. Bassett and Mr. Sauber for getting the tree replaced. If there are excess dollars, they will go back into the general account.
- Ms. Chase stated for the record that the original tree had been planted in honor of Arthur Falk. A second tree, in a separate location, will be planted in honor of Pat Klein.
- Mr. Frever advised that someone from his staff will visit the newly planted trees twice a week to make sure they are watered. The staff members will have a water tank or gator bags, if needed.

viii. Sign Committee.
- No report.

ix. Trails Management Committee.
- Mr. MacNellis was not present to provide an update. He indicated previously that he will continue to work with the consultant to finish the trail design, and then he will make a recommendation to the Council about the priorities for the trails.

x. Water Quality Testing with WMU Class.
- Mr. Kohler was not present to provide a report.

xi. Land and Boundary Mark Survey.
- The survey has been completed. There are metal rods in the ground with orange tape. The locations of the rods have been added to the GPS system. Kudos to the Council for making this happen.
- Mr. Kreuzer inquired if there were any discrepancies regarding the north boundary. Mr. Strazdas stated that the old fence that was installed years ago was accurate.
- Ms. Holmes inquired if the markers near the Winchell entrance, by Highpointe Drive, are part of the survey. She noticed a stake with a pink tie around it. Mr. Strazdas advised that there is a metal rod with a wooden stake next to it at every turn in the property.
b. Beaver Deceiver Update.
- Mr. Frever reported that Mr. Sauber volunteered some time last weekend and cleared the way for a lot of water flow. He is still following through with Mr. MacNellis and the contractor.
- Ms. Holmes reported that the water flow was fast after Mr. Sauber and Mr. Holmes cleared the cage. The real problem is that the pipe is stopped up with sludge and silt. Hopefully, that job will get done in the next month or so to make the flow more consistent and reliable. For now, the lake level has gone down considerably, and you can see the icehouse foundation, which had been under water for a while.
- Mr. Strazdas advised that WMU has a contractor with a vac. He suggested spending a few dollars to get the job done.

c. Parking on Winchell Ave.
- The Oakland Drive Winchell Neighborhood Association (ODWNA) asked for two more weeks to look at a survey that was done by the city of the neighborhood.
- ALPA wrote a memo to the ODWNA board stating that ALPA (Asylum Lake Preservation Association) would inform Dennis Randolf, and the general public, that ALPA approves and supports the City’s proposal for parking at the Winchell entrance to the Preserve.
- The proposal from Dennis Randolf, City of Kalamazoo Traffic Engineer, has space for 12 cars to park on the south side of Winchell Avenue, in two-hour increments from 6 a.m. to 9 p.m. ALPA received negative feedback from people who had to pay parking tickets.
- Pete Kushner, President of the ODWNA, said they are waiting for review of the Winchell Avenue survey. Once the board has reviewed the results, they will be in a better position to assess the proposal.
- At the end of this week, Mark Hoffman, Mr. Kreuzer and Ms. Holmes will try to set up a meeting with Mr. Randolph regarding how to move this proposal forward. They have not received further communication from the ODWNA.
- Mr. Kreuzer commented that when we talk about a Management Plan, we have to look at the standpoint that this is a bigger issue than Asylum Lake. It points to the direction our institutions our community and the city will take regarding green spaces and the importance they have in the community.
- It sometimes appears that this is an ALPA and ODWNA issue, but it is much larger than that. The ALPA and the ODWNA just initiated the conversation. If we deny access to the Preserve, what are we really telling people?
- Mr. Strazdas mentioned that people can write to the City Commission and the Traffic Engineer about this issue.

- Ms. Shattuck will share what her students have done at the next meeting.

VI. NEW BUSINESS.
a. Application for Preserve Use.
- No applications.

VII. NEXT ONLINE MEETING.
- The next online meeting is scheduled for June 9, 2022.

VIII. COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS.
- Ms. Chase mentioned that the last set of Minutes referred to OCBA working on the parking lot. She inquired if the Council has talked about expanding parking lots.
- Mr. MacNellis would be able to provide clarification, but he was not present at the meeting. He is working with OCBA (O’Boyle Cowell Blalock and Associates) about plans for the trails.
- Mr. Strazdas gave kudos to Mr. Bassett for his work on the Management Plan.

IX. PUBLIC COMMENTS.
- None

X. ADJOURNMENT.
- The meeting adjourned at 7:50 p.m.