



STATE OF WISCONSIN

# Natural Areas Preservation Council

P.O. BOX 7921 · MADISON · WISCONSIN · 53707



**Natural Areas Preservation Council Meeting**  
**University of Wisconsin Arboretum**  
**1207 Seminole Highway**  
**Madison, Wisconsin**

**7 March 2013**  
**1:00 p.m.**

## **MINUTES**

(Subject to Council approval)

**Present:** Michael Strigel (Chair), Thomas Eddy, James Bennett, Owen Boyle, Dennis Yockers, Evelyn Howell  
**By telephone:** Susan Borkin, Erin Crain, Patrick Robinson  
**Absent:** Joy Zedler, James Perry.  
**Staff:** Thomas Meyer, Matt Zine, Randy Hoffman

### **A. Minutes of previous NAPC meetings**

#### **1. Minutes of December 5, 2012**

Bennett moved (Yockers seconded) that the minutes of the December 5, 2012 meeting be approved as distributed. The motion carried.

### **B. Adoption of agenda**

The following agenda items were deferred to a future meeting:

- E.1.d. Criteria for setting policy priorities
- F.1.b. SNA Volunteer Steward Program
- F.1.d. BER marketing
- F.1.e. SNA designations

Howell moved (Eddy seconded) that the agenda be adopted as amended. The motion carried.

### **C. Announcements**

- Yockers – is leading a trip to Costa Rica in January 2014. He will email details.
- Bennett – The Natural Resources Foundation is sponsoring 122 field trips this year, many to SNAs.
- Boyle – The Citizen-Based Monitoring conference is scheduled for April 5-6, 2013 in Wisconsin Rapids.
- Eddy – The Botanical Club of Wisconsin has organized Botany Blitzes for June 22 (Straight Lake Tamarack Fen) and August 10 (Yellow River Oxbows SNA). See the BCW website for more information.
- Boyle – the RFP for CBM partnership program grants is now out. Projects up to \$5000 are eligible. Focus on SNAs is one of the scoring criteria.

### **D. Report on previous action items**

#### **1. Meeting with DNR administration**

Strigel and Crain met to follow up on an earlier meeting with DNR administration. They discussed the University of Wisconsin System appointments to the council and the SNA gap analysis. They intend to meet quarterly.

### **E. Action items**

- #### **1. Council administrative matters**
- ##### **a. Appointments**

Terms of all four council members appointed by the UW-System expired July 1, 2012. Bennett and Robinson have agreed to seek reappointment. Howell and Zedler will step down from the council and serve as Active Emeritus members. The council discussed the skill sets that would benefit the board and should be sought in the two UW appointees replacing Howell and Zedler. The names of several candidates were discussed, including Ken Bradbury of the WGNHS and Sharon Dunwoody, recently retired from UW-Madison. Strigel asked that by March 21 council members submit the names of additional candidates to him. These will be shared with the full council by email and a “vote” on which names to forward to the UW-System be held by email. Strigel stressed that any candidates contacted be made aware of the commitment expected of them.

Yockers reminded the council that he is retiring and moving out of state. His council term expires July 1, 2013. He suggested the chair contact DPI (his appointing agency) and ask that it 1) appoint him to a one-year interim term until the council and DPI can determine an appropriate replacement or 2) reappoint him to a full three-year term. He mentioned that Victoria Rydberg is the formal environmental education consultant attached to DPI and holds the position that would most logically sit on the council. Yockers also suggested that Eddy may be a good DPI appointee (requiring a switch of appointing authority from WASAL) given his long experience teaching science in the public schools.

Strigel noted that this is the last meeting for three council members: Yockers, Zedler, and Howell. He moved (Eddy seconded) that the council formally thank the members for their outstanding service to the board and the people of the state. The motion carried.

**b. Nomination process**

Strigel asserted that appointing agencies are taking notice of the council, its work, and the process it uses to recruit members. He suggested that counselors continue to feel free to recommend potential new council members to fill vacancies. The chair will compile a candidate list, approach the appointing agency with the names of recommended candidates, and ask it to either approve the appointments or propose other candidates for NAPC’s consideration. Bennett and Strigel agreed to amend the Operation Procedures to reflect this nomination process.

**c. Active Emeritus status**

Strigel met with UW appointees Howell and Zedler to discuss the concept of an “Active Emeritus” status for council members that would like to leave the council but remain involved in its work. Yockers made a motion, seconded by Eddy, that the council establish an Active Emeritus program for departing council members and that Howell and Zedler be involved in its creation. The process should be formalized and incorporated into the Operation Procedures and include the provision that AE status will be conferred automatically to departing members. The motion carried.

**d. Criteria for setting policy priorities**

Deferred.

**2. Future council meetings**

The next meeting of the council is scheduled for June 19, 2013 at a place to be determined.

**F. Information items**

**1. SNA Program information and issues**

**a. SNA gap analysis**

Hoffman led a technical discussion of the process used to identify gaps in the community types targeted for protection in the SNA System. He described the procedure used in the analysis and fielded questions from the council. Due to limited time for discussion, the council was encouraged to forward further questions and comments to Boyle, who will act as liaison to the SNA Program on this issue. See attached materials.

**b. SNA Volunteer Stewardship Program**

Deferred.

**c. BER restructuring**

Crain briefed the council on the realignment of the Bureau of Endangered Resources, in which the SNA Program resides. This exercise is being fast-tracked given that both of the bureau's section chief positions are now vacant. A realignment team is examining the current mission of the bureau, how that mission might evolve over the next 10-15 years, and the kind of bureau structure that will best support it. The team operates with a commitment from department administration that there will, in fact, continue to be a separate DNR bureau responsible for protection of natural areas and rare and non-game species. The team is assembling input from within DNR and from partner programs and constituent groups -- including NAPC -- through formal interviews. Strigel stated his appreciation to the department for inviting the council to be involved in this effort.

**d. BER marketing**

Deferred.

**e. SNA designations**

Deferred.

The meeting was adjourned at 4:00 on a motion by Eddy, seconded by Boyle.

Inquiries regarding these minutes or the Natural Areas Preservation Council may be directed to:  
Thomas Meyer, State Natural Areas Program, Bureau of Natural Heritage Conservation, Wisconsin Department of Natural Resources  
Box 7921, Madison, WI 53707 phone: (608)266-0394 email: thomas.meyer@wisconsin.gov