I. CALL TO ORDER AND ROLL CALL.
   • Mr. Hampton called the meeting to order at 7 p.m.

II. ADOPTION OF SEPTEMBER 12, 2019 AGENDA.
   • There were no changes to the Agenda.
   • Mr. Strazdas, supported by Ms. Holmes, moved approval of the September 12th Agenda as submitted. With a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

III. EDITING AND APPROVAL OF AUGUST 15, 2019 MEETING MINUTES.
   • Ms. Twynham should be listed as an excused absence.
   • Ms. Holmes, supported by Mr. Manstrom, moved approval of the August 15th Minutes as amended. With a voice vote the motion carried unanimously.

IV. OLD BUSINESS
   a. Replacement of Natural Areas Manager.
      • Mr. Hampton advised that a committee has been reviewing applications for the Natural Areas Manager position. He was hopeful that the position would be filled sooner than the five to six-month estimate stated at the August meeting.

   b. Filing from Tehrani for Planning Commission’s October meeting.
      • Ms. Holmes advised that the Planning Department has not received a rezoning request from Mr. Tehrani for the October Planning Commission meeting and the deadline has passed.
      • It is expected that the Drive and Shine car wash development will happen on the former Vermeulen property at some point. ALPA will continue to provide updates via Facebook and e-mail.

V. Project/Special Committee Reports:
   a. Research and Education Subcommittee.
      • No new applications have been received, but on Newell Brand’s service day on September 23, we might see 30 to 40 people cleaning up the trails in the Preserve. Newell Brands National Design & Ideation center is right behind the Gibbs House, across from the Preserve. Newell is a Fortune 500 Company that owns 100 consumer brands like Sharpie, Rubbermaid, Elmers, Parker, Papermate, X-Acto, Nuk, Graco, Coleman, Marmot, First Alert, Sunbeam, Mr. Coffee, Oster, Ball and many more.
      • Someone from the Asylum Lake Preservation Association supervised the clean-up last year but it looks like the group from Newell is ready to do the clean-up on their own this year.
      • Ms. Holmes and Dave Pollard from ALPA have been in contact with the group from Newell; they walk in the Preserve on their lunch hour. She suggested that the Council could send them a thank you note.
      • Ms. Chase inquired if someone from the ALMPC should have oversight on the clean-up. They are aware they need to contact someone on the Council. Mr. MacNellig will discuss volunteers during the trails segment of the meeting.
The individual from the Geosciences who applied for a drone permit for the Preserve advised Mr. Hampton that he would update his application with the requested details and resend it. The course is not scheduled until January.

b. Trails Subcommittee.

- The trail maps on the website was put together by Larry Harris and Associates. The Council agreed this is the direction they would like to go but there have been changes. Several observation platforms were proposed for the Preserve but the designs were never finalized.
- Prein and Newhof can provide the Council with an estimate on what they would like to design and the cost of doing that. An accessible trail would be cost prohibitive. The sub-committee suggests calling them enabling trails.
- The white trail shown on the map is the backbone (main) trail used for vehicles and should have a good base to support vehicles. The subcommittee has been focusing on the backbone and then they will look at closing some of the other trails.
- The subcommittee has an estimate for refurbishing one of the trails and making it part of the main trail. The vehicular trail to come in on Parkview and extend to the spillway, but that was cost prohibitive.
- There are five projects, A through E. Section A was done before the spillway was rebuilt. It’s in good shape and there were comments about the stones (22A natural paving material with an asphalt paving sub-base). Over the last 2-3 years it filled in nicely. As the leaves and dog poop deteriorate, they filter in between the rocks.
- All five projects together are estimated to cost about $50,000. Prein and Newhof has already laid out the plan for the location of the trails. Section B needs to be raised so water will shed off and away from the lake and into a detention trench to get cleaned up before it goes into the lake.
- Ms. Holmes mentioned that ALPA had suggested Section A doesn’t need to be resurfaced. ALPA suggested picking up the biggest stones with a brush machine or using a roller. That might cost less and maintain the natural look of that section. There have been fewer complaints as the gravel has sunk into the earth. It would be helpful to try and correct issues without resurfacing the trail.
- The sub-committee talked with Prein and Newhof about taking the center four feet down about three inches and putting stone dust in that area.
- Mr. Kreuzer advised that a landscape break machine would remove stones down to 3/8”. Mr. MacNellis suggested doing 200 feet of the trail to see if that would have the desired effect. The stones might pop up to the top again.
- The Trails Subcommittee had approval for Prein and Newhof to design the trail into a switchback from the Prairie to the main trail off of Drake. Where the Parkview trail goes down the hill, there is a wash out and there are a lot of exposed roots. They will design water bars, which are logs that shed water off the washout. The roots will be covered with something, probably stone or 22A crushed concrete. The largest stones are ½”.
- The entrances could be groomed, the Winchell entrance was groomed. The native plants at that entrance have become a monoculture and that has taken over. It would be helpful to have volunteers do that every couple of years.
- The storm water retention area that takes water from the impervious surface, should be cleaned up. Mr. MacNellis suggested putting wet foot plants in that area. They can survive under water for three to four days. The bacteria and fungus in the soil that the plants support helps break down hydrocarbons. He supported paving those areas but the Management Framework says no paving.
- Other areas also need forbs, grasses and wet foot plants. A couple hours from volunteers would be helpful to get that work done. Mr. MacNellis offered to help organize the volunteer groups.
- Ms. Chase suggested making contact with the conservation stewards’ program. To keep up their certifications they need to do volunteer work for about 40 hours. The master gardeners might be a resource for volunteers and ALPA has a big mailing list.
- Mr. MacNellis suggested burning another area in 2020, adjacent to 2019 burn area. There are a lot of Black Locust trees in the Preserve that could be cut into 6 foot lengths and put on the trail tips on the upside to stop soil from washing across the trails. Six inch trenches would be dug and the logs would be placed in the trenches.
- Ms. Alkema inquired about the dotted white line on the map. Mr. MacNellis advised those are individual projects for which the subcommittee has estimates and design documents. That is part of the emergency road, which is part of the backbone the subcommittee is working on first.
- Four feet is plenty wide for the trail. A lot of the trails need to be closed and that can be done with logs and water bars and brush. That has worked well in Kleinstuck Preserve. There are no recommendations from the subcommittee to the Council yet.
- Mr. Kohler mentioned that Section C is rough and needs to be raised. Mr. MacNellis stated that the subcommittee has a limited budget. They have asked Prein and Newhof to design something for the washout. He would like to control where the water goes; there will be a discussion about that at another time.
- Mr. Hampton mentioned that the area suggested for the 2020 burn area contains infrastructure for the geoscience courses. He suggested not including that area in the next burn. Some of the wells in that area are flush cut and would not be affected but the wells that have well houses would be affected. Mr. MacNellis suggested seeing how the burn area recovers versus how the mowed area recovers.
- Ms. Holmes inquired as to the sequence of the Prein and Newhof plan. Are we going ahead with the grant money? Mr. MacNellis stated that the Trails Subcommittee will make a recommendation and the Council can decide. They might start from the spillway but that is another discussion.
- Mr. Strazdas mentioned that the budget is approved. Segments of the Master Plan will be budgeted. The Council will decide what other initiatives to spend money on, burning, trails, etc. Mr. Hampton suggested that the Budget Subcommittee can help with the spade work.
- Ms. Holmes referred to the year-long study of the storm water flow and that is another cost. She inquired as to when the decision will be made. Mr. Strazdas stated that the budget year runs from July 1 to July 1. He suggested that the committee chairs bring presentations to the Council. A deadline could be set for all the subcommittees to present budgets. A February deadline was suggested. An ad hoc committee could be formed to talk with a consultant and bring a proposal to the Council.
- Ms. Alkema, supported by Ms. Holmes, moved for a January deadline for the subcommittee proposals to be submitted to the Council. Discussion regarding the proposals can take place at the February ALPMC meeting. If the deadline is not met, that subject is dead until the next fiscal year. With a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously.

VI. NEW BUSINESS

a. Vote on the two revised governing documents.
- A three quarter vote (11 members) of the Council is required for the changes to be approved. There were ten Council members present at the September meeting. A copy of the proposed documents will be presented at the next meeting for a vote.
- Ms. Chase referred to page 2, about 2/3 down the page, and inquired as to the date the Provost approved the protocol. Mr. MacNellis stated that he has a copy of the document and he will look for the date.
- She also noted that Ms. Shattuck is the 4th at-large person in the revised document, which has not been approved yet. If the Natural Areas Manager is considered as non-voting, ex-officio, Facilities Management still has a seat and they can appoint a representative to the Council.
- Mr. Hampton stated that Ms. Shattuck took Ms. Larsen’s place. Ms. Larsen held the Facilities Management seat. The Vice-President will appoint a fourth at-large member when the revised Management Framework is approved.
- Ms. Chase inquired as to why it should be mandatory to have another at-large appointment. Discussion followed as to whether or not Facilities Management lost a vote on the Council. Mr. Hampton stated that when the revised document is approved, the Council will have the Natural Areas Manager as a voting member.
- Mr. MacNellis stated that Mr. Keto represented the physical plant but he quit and now they can appoint a new person. If that is the case, Ms. Chase asked why it is necessary for the Vice President to appoint another at large person. If the physical plant can still appoint a representative, that would cause an imbalance on the Council.
- Mr. MacNellis advised that the Natural Areas Manager was a support person for the Council, that person didn’t have a vote. Mr. Keto was also appointed from the Physical Plant and, in that role, he had a vote, he served two roles. The seat belongs to Facilities Management and it’s still there, they need to name another person to take that seat.
- Ms. Strazdas stated that the Council voted to make the Natural Areas Manager position ex officio, thus not a voting member of the Council.
- Page 4 of the document refers to the WMU Natural Areas Manager as an ex-officio, non-voting. Mr. Hampton was not in favor of adding a voting member. Mr. Frever represents the Vice-President for Business and Finance.
b. Shall the Council engage Kieser & Associates for a year-long study for flows into Asylum Lake.

- What should the Council do to fulfill its stewardship to the lakes. Where is the storm water coming in that’s killing the lakes? Some of the issues are seasonal, including storm water run-off, snow melt, etc. How much of the storm water is coming from the former K-Mart parking lot across the street, how much is coming from U.S. 131, Stadium Dr., etc.
- Mr. Kohler has been gathering data but he has not been measuring water inputs. He suggested having an input-output model and measuring some parameters in the lake. Some of the parameters, such as chloride, are already being measured.
- It will be important to determine if the concentrations in the lake are changing. If you know what the inputs are, that might be helpful in determining the source of the contaminants. It would also be helpful to determine the outputs. Mr. Kohler already has data. He questioned if the Kieser & Associates study would provide any new information.
- Mr. Hampton stated that his hydrology class studies Mono Lake. In order to understand what’s going on in that lake, you need to understand how much is leaving by evaporation and measure what’s flowing in and what’s in storage, which includes tufa towers due to supersaturation. You can’t monitor just part of the total balance, you need to monitor each of the elements. Mr. Kohler stated that one year of monitoring won’t tell you much. Monitoring needs to be done over a 20 to 30 year time period and that takes a lot of money.
- Ms. Holmes referred to the quote in the report from ALPA to the Council, based on the letter from Mark Kieser, “Storm water treatment is key as pollutant loading from other properties continues to flow into the lake every time it rains or snow melts. Aquatic vegetation and water quality monitoring is important to at least track conditions absent other corrective action.”
- Given these observations, the ALPA board requests that a map be drawn by Kieser & Associates of the water that is entering the lake, where it is coming from and how it is conveyed (run-off, culverts, etc.) ALPA is also requesting a proposal for remediating this situation. Storm water continues to flow into Asylum Lake, partly due to the MDOT U.S. 131 storm water project that didn’t work out as expected.
- Studies of the contents of the lake are useful in seeing the damage but they haven’t led to remediation. Some of the storm water is coming from private property and the Council is limited as to what they can do about that. If a determination can be made as to the sources of storm water running into the lake, it might be possible to at least ameliorate the situation.
- Mr. MacNellis has 400 pages of engineering drawings regarding the U.S. 131/Stadium Drive project. He suggested giving them to someone who has more knowledge about that type of project. He would like to know how that storm water system was engineered.
- The back pages of the Kieser and Associates storm water report from 2008 has recommendations that are still valid today. It was suggested that Mr. Kohler could provide new data from the lake; Kieser & Associates doesn’t need to do that.
- The Kieser & Associates report from 2008 tells where the storm water is coming from but the BTR2 and the Costco storm water retention areas need to be added in to that data. It was suggested that Kieser & Associates could provide those updates.
- Mr. Kreuzer suggested that maybe this would be part of the conservation declaration. Maybe engineering students can help assess the proposals that already exist and suggest how to remediate storm water flowing into Asylum Lake and come up with a plan of action.
- The Council had a grant to implement suggestions in the Kieser & Associates report. MDOT said they would take care of the storm water and put in the clover leaves (highway ramps), which they did but the storm water from the former K-Mart parking lot still flows into Asylum Lake. Approximately one hundred feet of Drake Road and all of Stadium Drive that used to flow into the lake supposedly flows into the clover leaves.
- Mr. Strazdas suggested the following action items: #1. Review the 2008 recommendations from Keiser & Associates., which are on the Asylum Lake website. #2. Don’t keep asking someone to test the water again. There is already a lot of existing data taken over time. Maybe a graduate student could assist Mr. Kohler with assembling the data in chronological order and then it could be presented to the Council. #3. Hire Kieser & Associates to research the changes from 2008 to 2019 to determine where the storm water is coming from and then present those changes to the Council. #4. Review the changes in recommendations from 2008 to 2019. Based on those differences, determine what the costs will be and if the Council should proceed.
There were recommendations in the 2008 report as to how the storm water might be diverted in other ways. The Kieser & Associates staff didn’t have just one solution, there were options presented.

- Mr. Strazdas suggested getting a proposal from Mr. Keiser next week and then inviting him to the next meeting to discuss a proposal. The Council can take action at that point. The proposal would be to discuss changes from 2008 and additional recommendations if there are any.

- **Mr. Strazdas, supported by Mr. Manstrom, moved to request a proposal from Kieser & Associates for the changes that have taken place since the original 2008 report regarding the input of storm water into Asylum Lake. The Council can vote on the proposal at the next meeting. With a voice vote, the motion carried unanimously**

- Mr. Strazdas will contact Mark Kieser. It was suggested that Mr. Kieser make a short presentation at the next Council meeting regarding the changes, along with a proposal for what Kieser & Associates can do for the Council.

d. **ALPA Report.**

- Mr. Kreuzer advised that there will be a community educational forum on October 10th from 6:30 p.m. to 9 p.m. at the library of the Maple Street School, with regard to protecting our lakes and streams during construction.

- There will be booths set up and there will be presentations by the following speakers: Sarah Pearson, Janelle Holmes, Pat Crowley, Bob McNutt and Mark Cavanaugh. Pete Kushner will do the introductions.

d. **Beavers have plugged the culvert between Asylum Lake and Little Asylum Lake. The lake is getting high but is only trickling into the stream that connects to Little Asylum Lake. Should we install a grate on the upstream side of the culvert to help avoid clogging? We will have to maintain whatever we do or don’t do.**

- Susan Andress advised WMU staff that beavers are plugging the culvert between little and big Asylum Lakes. There has been discussion about putting up grating but beavers could still plug the grating.

- **Mr. MacNellis suggested building a beaver deceiver. Beavers are attracted to the sound of running water. Hog fencing with a grate would be used to create running water to attract the beavers to a specific area. A pipe would be added 50 feet out into the lake and the water would be directed into the culvert. The beavers would dam up the area around the beaver deceiver, but the water would still flow. The beaver deceivers are inexpensive, and it might be possible to get volunteers to help, or a contractor could construct it.**

- Ms. Holmes mentioned that Susan Andress’ husband helped clear out the area the beavers had blocked and three days later the beavers plugged it again. A Natural Areas Manager could follow up with this issue.

- Mr. Hampton suggested impaneling a group of three people to put together a plan for a beaver deceiver. Ms. Twynham and Mr. MacNellis volunteered to serve on the subcommittee.

e. **Next meeting – 7 p.m., Thursday, November 14th at a location to be determined.**

- The Council will not meet in October. Mr. Manstrom will advise if the Hornet Suite is available for the November meeting.

- Mr. Hampton will put together a doodle poll to determine availability of Council members for a special meeting to vote on the governing documents. The special meeting will be held in a public location and should only take about 15 minutes.

- It was decided that the University Roadhouse would be a good location for the special meeting. Most of the Council members are available to meet at 5:00 p.m. on a Tuesday or Wednesday.

f. **Agenda items for next meeting: signs committee, Wildtype report and proposal, Natural Areas Manager hiring progress, progress reports on herpetologic study and plant inventory, writing RFP for planned burns contractor.**

VII. **COUNCIL/STAFF COMMENTS**

- None

VIII. **ADJOURNMENT.**

- The meeting adjourned at 9 p.m.