

APPENDIX A

To: Friends of Pheasant Branch Board of Directors
From: Stacey Marion, Adaptive Restoration LLC
Date: December 14, 2017
Re: City of Middleton Conservancy Lands Plan Five-Year Update Comments

On December 11, 2017 myself (Stacey Marion [Adaptive Restoration LLC]), and Ben Yahr (Resolution Studio LLC) attended a Friends of Pheasant Branch Board of Directors meeting to discuss City of Middleton's Conservancy Lands Plan Five-Year Update. We gave a 15-minute introductory presentation, followed by a 15-minute question and discussion period. The intent of the meeting was to introduce the project and project objectives, invite stakeholder input, and discuss a plan for receiving input from the Friends of Pheasant Branch Board and Committees. While discussing potential follow-up actions, some feedback relevant to the Plan was shared. Comments are listed below.

This document was reviewed by Pam Shannon and John Daly December 12-14, 2017.

Meeting details

December 11, 2017
Kromrey Middle School

Meeting attendance:
BOARD MEMBERS PRESENT:

John Daly, Board Vice-President and Chair, Accessibility Committee Ad Hoc
Pam Shannon, Board Secretary
Jim Bachhuber
Stefanie Brouwer, Chair, Watershed Committee
Ron Biendseil, Chair, Governance Committee
Herb Garn
Margaret Lewis, Chair, Development and Marketing Committee
Dagny Myrah
Lois Sater
Forrest Weesner, Co-chair, Restoration and Management Committee
Deb Weitzel, Chair, Education Committee

GUESTS PRESENT:

Rob Schubert, Dane County; Park Coordinator-Restoration and Management
Janet Kane, Co-chair, Restoration and Management Committee
Paul Slota, Member, Restoration and Management Committee
Stacey Marion, Adaptive Restoration
Ben Yahr, Resolution Studio

Comments received from the Friends of Pheasant Branch Board and guests

The following comments and questions were received at the meeting. The name(s) or number of commenters with like statements is listed in parentheses.

Comments regarding the public input process:

- *A number of attendees expressed concern over the Conservancy Lands Plan Five-Year Update project tight timeline and the ability to provide meaningful input in that timeframe - (Jim Bachhuber and John Daly, with view shared by everyone on board)*
- *Suggestion to hold a second public meeting - (Stefanie Brouwer, with others in agreement)*
- *Discussion about best methods of follow-up discussion, whether meetings or submitting written feedback - (multiple)*
- *The Board intends to form a working group representing the various Board committees and interests to solicit and organize input to be presented on the plan - (John Daly)*
- *Concern about our ability to get input from underserved populations (e.g. elderly, persons with limited mobility, persons with dementia) - (John Daly)*
- *Question about our distribution methods for requesting public input - (Stefanie Brouwer suggested that the FOPB website could be a venue)*
- *Question regarding public comment period on the Plan once it is drafted - (Herb Garn)*

Comments and questions regarding the scope of the Plan:

- *Question about scope of plan and scope of input requested. Asked if prior plans were a good reference for understanding the scope and formatting of the upcoming Plan - (Forrest Weesner)*
- *Question about whether the Plan seeks input regarding such issues as vegetation management and burn schedule - (Jim Bachhuber)*
- *Question asking how well the Plan would align with Dane County Park's latest five-year plan, referring to the 2018-2023 Dane County Parks and Open Space Plan - (Stefanie Brouwer)*
- *Suggestion that when re-doing maps, expand them out to include non-Middleton Conservancy areas such as Pope Farm and Wisdom Prairie in order to consider opportunities for creating conservancy corridors - (Paul Slota, with others in agreement)*

Comments related to accessibility issues within Pheasant Branch Conservancy:

- *Interest in providing feedback related to accessibility was expressed – (John Daly). [Comment: John Daly chairs the Accessibility Ad Hoc Committee, whose members include Matt Amundson (City of Middleton Director of Public Lands, Recreation, and Forestry) and Rhea Stangel-Maier (Dane County Parks)]*
- *Comment that having accurate maps with accessibility information is very important to making the Conservancy more user-friendly to the groups the Accessibility Committee is concerned about (e.g. elderly, persons with limited mobility, persons with dementia) - (John Daly)*
- *Comment made about increasing number of benches along trails to improve accessibility – (John Daly)*
- *Comment received about sharing two UW-Madison Urban and Regional Planning reports that were prepared for the Accessibility Committee – (John Daly)*

Comments related to Pheasant Branch Conservancy facilities:

- *Comment made in opposition of paving trails in the Conservancy – (Margaret Lewis)*
- *Comment made about slippery boardwalks – (Margaret Lewis)*
- *Question asking if physical maps (signage) in Pheasant Branch Conservancy would be replaced or enhanced – (Forrest Weesner)*