

Chicago Wilderness

February 2, 2021

Dear Chicago Wilderness Executive Council Members & Guests,

We look forward to seeing you at the First Quarterly Executive Council Meeting:

Wednesday, February 3, 2021 from 1 PM to 3 PM

Join Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/623162292>

Meeting ID: 623 162 292

Password: 511661

One tap mobile +13126266799,,623162292#,,1#,511661# US (Chicago)

The Chicago Wilderness Alliance is an important force for conservation in the region and we look forward to working with all of our alliance members to continue our work to promote, preserve and restore the biodiversity of the region.

The agenda and support materials for the meeting is attached.

Sincerely,

Elizabeth S. Kessler, CW Chair
McHenry County Conservation District

James J. Jerozal, Jr., CW Vice-Chair
Nicor Gas/Corporate Council

Mike Glester, Treasurer
Cardno, Inc.

Nathanael Pilla, Exec. Secretary
Orbis Environmental Consulting

At Large Members of the 2021 Steering Committee

Jerry Adelman, Openlands
Jim Anderson, Lake County Forest Preserves,
Michelle Carr, The Nature Conservancy
Leslie Dorworth, IL-IN Seagrant
Cathy B. Geraghty, Forest Preserves of Cook County
Dave Giordano, Root-Pike Watershed Initiative
Amy Rosenthal, Field Museum
John Rogner, IL Department of Natural Resources
Maggie Soliz, Applied Ecological Services
Daniel Suarez, Audubon Great Lakes
David Shimberg, Riverwoods Preservation Council



Executive Council Meeting

February 3, 2021

AGENDA

- | | | |
|------------|---|--------------------------|
| 1.0 | Introductions & Welcome
<i>Elizabeth S. Kessler, CW Chair</i>
<i>McHenry County Conservation District</i> | 1:00 PM – 1:02 PM |
| 2.0 | Approval of Agenda | 1:03 PM – 1:04 PM |
| 3.0 | Recognition of Outgoing Steering Committee Member-
Alison Paul, The Field Museum | 1:05 PM – 1:10 PM |
| 4.0 | Installation of New Steering Committee Members | 1:10 PM – 1:20 PM |
| 5.0 | Approval of Consent Agenda <ul style="list-style-type: none">• Approval Executive Council Minutes – October 21, 2020• Acceptance of Treasurer’s Report – Q4 – FY 2020• Acceptance of New Members | 1:20 PM – 1:25 PM |
| 6.0 | Presentation of Green Vision Goals

<i>Overview</i>
<i>John Rogner, IDNR</i>

<i>Goal #1 – Healthy Landscapes</i>
<i>Jim Anderson, Lake County Forest Preserves </i>

<i>Goal #2 – Agriculture</i>
<i>Daniel Suarez, Audubon Great Lakes</i>

<i>Goal #3 – Green Infrastructure in Built Spaces</i>
<i>Jim Jerozal, Nicor</i>

<i>Goal #4 – Increase Habitat/Conservation Lands</i>
<i>Cathy Geraghty, Forest Preserves of Cook County</i> | 1:25 PM – 1:50 PM |

Presentation of Green Vision Goals (continued)

Goal #5 – Nature Access and Benefits for People

Amy Rosenthal, The Field Museum

Goal #6 - Climate

Michelle Carr, The Nature Conservancy

Goal #7 – Aquatic Resource

Jerry Adelman, Openlands

- | | | |
|-------------|---|--------------------------|
| 7.0 | Authorization to Negotiate and Finalize Contract and to Approve Funding for Strategic Planning Consultant-Institute for Conservation Leadership
<i>John Rogner, Illinois Department of Natural Resources</i>
<i>Jim Anderson, Lake County Forest Preserves</i> | 1:50 PM – 2:05 PM |
| 8.0 | Presentation on CW Mapping Hub Concept
<i>Mark Bouman and Mark Johnson, Field Museum</i> | 2:05 PM – 2:15 PM |
| 9.0 | Government Relations Community Updates
<i>Susan Donovan and Ellicia Sanchez, TNC</i>
<i>Michelle Uting, Forest Preserves of Cook County</i> | 2:15 PM – 2:20 PM |
| 10.0 | Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Working Group Update
<i>Elizabeth S. Kessler, CW Chair</i> | 2:20 PM – 2:25 PM |
| 11.0 | Livestream Conversation with Carolyn Finney- February 17, 2021. 2-3:30 p.m.
<i>Maria Sadowski, Communication Consultant</i> | 2:25 PM – 2:35 PM |
| 12.0 | Team and Working Group Updates
<i>Jim Jerozal, CW Vice Chair</i> | 2:35 PM – 2:45 PM |
| 13.0 | Chicago Wilderness Coordinator Report
<i>Laura Reilly, CW Coordinator</i> | 2:45 PM – 2:50 PM |
| 14.0 | Announcements | 2:50 PM – 2:55 PM |
| 15.0 | Adjournment | 2:55 PM – 3:00 PM |

Next Meeting: April 21, 2021, 9:30 AM – 11:30 PM

Zoom Meeting <https://us02web.zoom.us/j/623162292>

Meeting ID: 623 162 292

Password: 511661

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Chicago Wilderness

2021 Steering Committee

TITLE	FIRST NAME	LAST NAME	AGENCY
Chair	Elizabeth	Kessler	McHenry County Conservation District
Vice-Chair	James	Jerozal	Nicor Gas
Treasurer	Mike	Glester	Cardno
Executive Secretary	Nathanael	Pilla	Orbis Environmental Consulting
At-Large	Amy	Rosenthal	Field Museum
At-Large	Daniel	Suarez	Audubon Great Lakes
At-Large	Cathy	Geraghty	Forest Preserve District of Cook County
At-Large	John	Rogner	Illinois Department of Natural Resources
At-Large	Leslie	Dorworth	IL/IN Seagrant
At-Large	Jerry	Adelmann	Openlands
At-Large	Michelle	Carr	The Nature Conservancy
At-Large	Dave	Shimberg	Riverwoods Preservation Council
At-Large	Jim	Anderson	Lake County Forest Preserves
At-Large	Dave	Giordano	Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network
At-Large	Maggie	Soliz	Applied Ecological Services

Timeline

- Officers and Steering Committee Members will be installed at the Executive Council Meeting in January and outgoing At-large Member, Alison Paul, will be recognized for her years of service to the Alliance.



Chicago Wilderness Executive Council Zoom Conference Call

October 21, 2020 9:30am Central

MINUTES

Present:

Jerry Adelman , Openlands	Jeff Mengler , Hey and Associates, Inc.
Jim Anderson , Lake County Forest Preserve District	Karen Ann Miller , Kane County Development Department
Susan Ask , Animalia Project	Alan Molumby , University of Illinois - Chicago
Donna Prepejchal , LWVLMR	Debra Moskovits , Field Museum
Thomas J. Benson , Illinois Natural History Survey	Greg Mueller , Chicago Botanic Garden
Beth Beyer , The Technology Alliance	Jason Navota , Chicago Metropolitan Agency for Planning
Paul Botts , Wetlands Initiative	Alison Paul , The Field Museum
Mark Bouman , The Field Museum	Ted Penesis , Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Jack Brunner , Tetra Tech	Nathanael J. Pilla , Orbis Environmental Consulting
Carolyn Campbell , McHenry County Conservation District	Sara Race , ComEd
Michelle Carr , The Nature Conservancy	Naureen Rana , Chicago Park District
Nicole Cavender , Morton Arboretum	Laura Reilly , Chicago Wilderness
Corrine Daniels , Applied Ecological Services	John Rogner , Illinois Department of Natural Resources
Jack Darin , Sierra Club – Illinois Chapter	Amy Rosenthal , The Field Museum
Leslie Dorworth , IL-IN Sea Grant	Cassi Saari , Chicago Park's District & Illinois Native Plant Society
Cherie L. Fisher , USDA Forest Service	Maria Sadowski , Communications Consultant
Adam Flickinger , Friends of the Chicago River	Wayne Schimpff , Boy Scouts – Caretaker of the Environmental International
Cathy Geraghty , Forest Preserve District of Cook County	Ralph Schultz , Forest Preserve District of Will County
Mike Glester , Cardno	David Shimberg , Riverwoods Preservation Council
Drew Hart , United States Forest Service	Tom Slowinski , V3 Companies
Jim Herkert , Illinois Audubon Society	Doug Stotz , Field Museum
James J. Jerozal, Jr. , Nicor Gas	Jerry Strub , GZA GeoEnvironmental
Marybeth Johnson , Lincoln Park Zoo	Daniel Suarez , Audubon Great Lakes
Mark Johnston , Field Museum	Casey Sullivan , Argonne National Laboratory
Rebecca Judd , Gaylord & Dorothy Donnelley Foundation	Jaclyn Wegner , Shedd Aquarium
Elizabeth S. Kessler , McHenry County Conservation District	Ylanda Wilhite , The Field Museum
Kris Krouse , Shirley Heinze Land Trust	
John Legge , The Nature Conservancy - Illinois	
Susan Lenz , Barrington Area Conservation Trust	

I. Call to Order and Welcome

Chair Elizabeth Kessler called the meeting to order at 9:34 AM central time thanking those that have joined for participating. She asked all that are on the call to enter name and affiliation in the chat box (see zoom chat log).

II. Approval of Agenda

Jim Anderson motions to accept the agenda and meeting format, seconded by Ralph Shultz. No further discussion. All ayes. Approved.

III. Approval of Consent Agenda

Approval of Executive Council Minutes – 7/15/20

Acceptance of Treasurer's Report – 3rd Quarter

Approval of Fiscal Year 2021 budget with adjusted increase of JEDI funds from reserves.

Otherwise, no changes in the budget from the July draft.

Acceptance of New Members.

- Technology Alliance
- Gateway to the Great Outdoors
- Turnstone Strategies. Jerry Adelman motioned to move the consent agenda, seconded by Daniel Suarez. No further discussion. All ayes. Motion to move consent agenda items approved.

IV. Green Vision Update

Jerry Adelman updated the participants on the Green Vision sharing that there have been over 30 individuals involved in the discussion toward drafting the goal. The discussions have been facilitated by Stacey Meyers, Openlands, in communication with Jim Anderson with the draft expected to be review ready in the end of October. Jerry Adelman shared the collective process of the teams in their ability to be collaborative and inclusive reaching not just for the goal, but for its operational success through Chicago Wilderness Alliance.

Daniel Suarez framed the Green Vision as a long process that has been unfolding in that there are 7 goals broken up in different categories. Some of these categories represent fundamental shifts in the kind of work CW has done taking on. He pointed out that the new goals help us reach an audience that we all know intuitively are part of the environmental community but have not been a part of the CW (i.e. the agricultural goal).

Goal 5 Update: Nature Access and Benefits for People

Alison Paul added that there are opportunities to join the conversation midstream sharing a link with all of the slides (see zoom chat). She updated the Alliance that the Field Museum has been working on people's access to nature. Human health, better quality of life for Everybody! CW has a strong background in reaching people especially children. However, our new focus is not just about kids or climate action but as we work with the Education Committee, our work can expand to all people. See slides on Goal 5. She added that around 100 stakeholders were invited to discuss the formation of the goal with over 50 attending to identify what should be done. These stakeholders helped

formulate the building blocks of what the goal should be by building metrics and a simple goal that can be attainable. Environmental justice, community connections, and creating greenspace without green gentrification were discussed. Slides can be found on this link: <https://documentcloud.adobe.com/link/review?uri=urn%3Aaid%3Acds%3AUS%3A9e95addf-1a75-4ec5-a23c-77b287a64e7b#pageNum=11>

V. Climate Resilience and Survey

Michelle Carr and Doug Stotz discussed climate in Chicago and what that goal would look like with the focus on inclusion as well as something that is aspirational and audacious. Michelle Carr discussed the key points which fall under climate including adaptation, mitigation, social justice, awareness, and education. Doug Stotz discussed many of the past successes that CW has had in its work developing the Action Plan for Nature and the Biodiversity Recovery Plan Climate Update that was led by Abigail Derby Lewis. He asked the CW to fill out a 5-10 minute survey that was emailed to all members on the role and importance with a request to have it filled out by October 30, 2020. This inventory will help guide the process.

Jim Anderson brought up that there are increasing goals on formulating stewardship, such as the Morton Arboretum's "Chicago Regional Tree Initiative". He added that Lydia Scott, Morton Arboretum, is developing an invasive species board. Jim Anderson requested that all CW members that received a survey for invasive species please fill it out. This will help CW do an accountability on where we have had an impact on the landscape for land managers (savanna, woodland, prairie, wetland, etc.).

Jim Jerozal, Jr., added that the Corporate Council is starting to build momentum on how to look at municipalities, other corporate councils, and right-of-way's.

VI. Chicago Wilderness Café –Mapping

Mark Bouman and Mark Johnston discussed the direction of Mapping and Metrics framing it around the important maps that CW has created such as the Atlas to Biodiversity, and the great mapping products/projects that have come since including the Green Infrastructure work on the county scale that indicates social indicators. They presented the need for CW to get caught up where we left off with the last iteration of the Green Infrastructure Vision with the new data, community data, and inputs on platforms. The mapping piece can support this in an integrating role with each of the goal teams. The main question is "how can we render that cartographically as a visual expression of the Alliance?"

They will discuss this and more on the Café on October 29th from 12-1pm central. A focus on using ESRI's "hub" software which is an interactive map design that allows for decision support and work with collaboration (i.e., CW) within Cities and organizations, between departments, and for the public.

See slides for more information such as key goal metrics (i.e., increasing habitat).

VII. Green Vision – Pilot Projects

John Rogner updated the EC on the Green Vision pilot project direction. He began with a brief history of the CW and how they functioned historically, following it up with a here-and-now call for pilot projects which could incite regional funders to contribute to the success of the goals. To those funders, CW is the voice in the Chicago area regarding the environmental issues. It is a powerful thing when we can get many organizations together with a voice of unity. What they have suggested that they need is a set of project ideas that we think would move us toward our goals which are aggressive and audacious in some ways.

Jim Anderson added that there is potential and a need for an invasive species advisory board in the greater Chicago wilderness. From there he discussed the revisioning of the Green Infrastructure Plan by starting with feasibility studies and language that is needed to express the goals. He also discussed the potential for a possible project in determining the mitigation of carbon credits on an acre-by-acre basis for a means to reduce a company's carbon footprint, so those companies know what they get back for their carbon footprint. He closed his presentation with the point that there is a "barrel of projects" to do.

Jerry Adelman added that in addition to thinking creatively on the horizon, it is important to illustrate concretely with funders that we are already doing work that represents these goals. He also made a call for those that are doing projects related to the goals to please share them with the Alliance.

VIII. Nominations & Recruitment – Approval of Slate

Lynda Lancaster and Daniel Suarez led the nominations and recruitment team. Lynda was unable to join so Daniel presented on the process of nominating the new Steering Committee members through the 2.0 phase of the Chicago Wilderness. Although there were many nominations, only three were chosen through a thorough vetting process whereupon they identified gaps, paying attention to diversity through race, gender, and geography. The three identified were Amy Rosenthal (The Field Museum), David Giordano (Root-Pike Watershed Initiative Network, Inc.), and Maggie Soliz (Applied Ecological Services).

Daniel Suarez motions to accept the 2020 nomination slate for the Steering Committee beginning January 2021 by all names listed on screen, seconded by Jim Anderson. No further discussion. All ayes. Approved

IX. Justice, Equality, Diversity, and Inclusion Consultant

Elizabeth Kessler discussed the results of the Request for Proposals regarding the JEDI consultant. The committee received 5 proposals by the deadline of October 8, 2020. Carina Ruiz (Audubon Society) will assist Elizabeth Kessler in setting up a working group that works with the Steering Committee in recommending a consultant. Elizabeth asked the Executive Council to grant the Steering Committee the authorization to select the consultant in tandem with the working group to begin the process (up to \$15,000) in 2021. Jerry Adelman motion to accept the request put forth by Elizabeth, Jack Brunner seconded. No further discussion. All ayes. Approved.

X. Restoration (EERP) Program – 2021 Site Accreditations

Ralph Schultz highlighted the Excellence in Ecological Restoration Program for 2021. It is being planned and updates should be released by the end of the year. He mentioned that there are a couple items that need to be taken up with regard to reestablishing the commission. Everyone in the commission is willing to serve again into 2021 so the call for applications will occur in January through March of 2021 with no fieldwork until May, June, or July with the Executive Council making the final selections in October of 2021.

XI. Team and Working Group Updates

Jim Jerozal, Jr. opened the floor up for committees to update the Executive Council.

- Cherie Fischer mentioned that the first round of awards for the Dr. George B. Rabb Force of Nature Award is expected to start publicity in June, nominations open July 12th - September 10th, mid-review by early October, the award set by October's 2021 Executive Council meeting, and awarded in November of 2021.
- Jim Jerozal, Jr. updated the council on the work of the Corporate Council in that they are meeting and engaged on the Green Goal #3 Economy. Corporate Council Meeting is November 12th at 1:00pm central.

XII. Chicago Wilderness Coordinator Report

Laura Reilly updated the council on the next steps of engaging new partners and new leaders with a focus on the committees and teams (See slide).

She mentioned that partner renewals begin November 1, 2020.

Laura Reilly also discussed the topic of "facilitating connections" in that the more partners we have, the quicker we can achieve the goals set forth by the Chicago Wilderness.

XIII. Announcements

A thanks to Jerry Adelman from Openlands for extending the invitation to Chicago Wilderness Alliance members to their virtual extravaganza and congratulations to Debra Moskovits for receiving the "2020 Conservation Leadership Award".

Mark Bouman updated the council on the Calumet Heritage Area whereupon the sitting Congressman introduce the legislation to make it happen let it pass as he retires. However, all three candidates said they would support it if elected.

Jerry Adelman added that Illinois Senator Dick Durbin's proposed 21st Century Civilian Conservation Corps would have significant impact on the Chicago Wilderness. It is not going anywhere as freestanding legislature. He mentioned that John Rogner had a big part in shaping it and asked the council to call Sen. Durbin and thank him for his leadership on this.

XIV. Adjournment

Elizabeth Kessler thanked everyone for their time and work and asked for a motion to adjourn.

Jim Anderson motions to adjourn, Alison Paul seconded. No further discussion. Meeting adjourned at 11:06am central.

Next Meeting: January 20, 2021, 9:30am-11:30pm central time

Zoom meeting

<https://us02web.zoom.us/j/623162292>

Meeting ID: 623 162 292

Password: 511661

One tap mobile

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(Chicago)

CHICAGO WILDERNESS ALLIANCE

STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES and NET ASSETS
October 31, 2020

Assets

Cash and Investments	\$	298,254.05
Total Assets	\$	<u>298,254.05</u>

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$	-
Other Liabilities	\$	-
Total Liabilities	\$	<u>-</u>

Net Assets

Net Assets at Beginning of Period	\$	313,999.16
Change in Net Assets	\$	<u>(15,745.11)</u>
Total Net Assets	\$	<u>298,254.05</u>

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$	<u>298,254.05</u>
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STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the period ending August 31, 2020

Revenue

Membership Dues	\$	500.00
Donations	\$	10.00
Program - EERP	\$	-
Program - Conservation Congress	\$	-
Interest Earned	\$	<u>-</u>
Total Revenue		\$ 510.00

Expenses

Friends of the Forest Preserves	\$	15.30
Blue Pay/Other Transaction Fees	\$	35.52
Payroll/Employment Expenses	\$	8,010.04
Insurance	\$	-
Operational Expenses	\$	3,580.37
Program	\$	<u>4,613.88</u>
Total Expenses		\$ <u>16,255.11</u>

Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$	<u>(15,745.11)</u>
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Chicago Wilderness Alliance Fiscal Year is January 1 to December 31

CHICAGO WILDERNESS ALLIANCE

STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES and NET ASSETS
November 30, 2020

Assets

Cash and Investments	\$	311,302.56
Total Assets	\$	<u>311,302.56</u>

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$	-
Other Liabilities	\$	-
Total Liabilities	\$	<u>-</u>

Net Assets

Net Assets at Beginning of Period	\$	298,254.05
Change in Net Assets	\$	<u>13,048.51</u>
Total Net Assets	\$	<u>311,302.56</u>

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$	<u>311,302.56</u>
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STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the period ending November 30, 2020

Revenue

Membership Dues	\$	20,675.00
Donations	\$	35.00
Program - EERP	\$	-
Program - Conservation Congress	\$	(50.00)
Interest Earned	\$	<u>-</u>
Total Revenue		\$ 20,660.00

Expenses

Friends of the Forest Preserves	\$	619.80
Blue Pay/Other Transaction Fees	\$	62.29
Payroll/Employment Expenses	\$	5,663.28
Insurance	\$	-
Operational Expenses	\$	1,016.12
Program	\$	<u>250.00</u>
Total Expenses		\$ <u>7,611.49</u>

Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$	<u>13,048.51</u>
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Chicago Wilderness Alliance Fiscal Year is January 1 to December 31

CHICAGO WILDERNESS ALLIANCE

STATEMENT OF ASSETS, LIABILITIES and NET ASSETS
December 31, 2020

Assets

Cash and Investments	\$	329,760.77
Total Assets	\$	<u>329,760.77</u>

Liabilities

Accounts Payable	\$	-
Other Liabilities	\$	-
Total Liabilities	\$	<u>-</u>

Net Assets

Net Assets at Beginning of Period	\$	311,302.56
Change in Net Assets	\$	<u>18,458.21</u>
Total Net Assets	\$	<u>329,760.77</u>

Total Liabilities and Net Assets	\$	<u>329,760.77</u>
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STATEMENT OF ACTIVITIES

For the period ending December 31, 2020

Revenue

Membership Dues	\$	25,250.00
Donations	\$	1,050.00
Program - EERP	\$	-
Program - Conservation Congress	\$	-
Interest Earned	\$	<u>-</u>
Total Revenue		\$ 26,300.00

Expenses

Friends of the Forest Preserves	\$	789.00
Blue Pay/Other Transaction Fees	\$	729.54
Payroll/Employment Expenses	\$	5,098.30
Insurance	\$	-
Operational Expenses	\$	1,224.95
Program	\$	<u>-</u>
Total Expenses		\$ <u>7,841.79</u>

Net Surplus/(Deficit)	\$	<u>18,458.21</u>
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Chicago Wilderness Alliance Fiscal Year is January 1 to December 31

CHICAGO WILDERNESS STATEMENT OF CASH FLOW AS OF JUNE 30, 2020

2020 BUDGET																				
	AS OF	QTR 1 SUM As of	QTR 2 SUM As of	QTR 3 SUM As of	QTR 4 SUM As of	JANUARY	QTR 1 FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	QTR 2 MAY	JUNE	JULY	QTR 3 AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	QTR 4 NOVEMBER	DECEMBER			
REVENUE		\$ 157,463.63	\$ 173,319.52	\$ 187,299.52	\$ 234,769.52	\$ 100,045.00	\$ 33,883.63	\$ 23,535.00	\$ 102.26	\$ 14,668.63	\$ 1,085.00	\$ 12,785.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 1,110.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 20,660.00	\$ 26,300.00	\$ 234,769.52	YTD REVENUE	
EXPENSE		\$ 32,688.39	\$ 59,213.05	\$ 78,662.11	\$ 110,370.50	\$ 14,480.28	\$ 9,180.39	\$ 9,027.72	\$ 4,789.19	\$ 12,122.63	\$ 9,612.84	\$ 5,744.00	\$ 7,506.65	\$ 6,198.41	\$ 16,255.11	\$ 7,611.49	\$ 7,841.79	\$ 110,370.50	YTD EXPENDITURES	
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		\$ 124,775.24	\$ 114,106.47	\$ 108,637.41	\$ 124,399.02	\$ 85,564.72	\$ 24,703.24	\$ 14,507.28	\$ (4,686.93)	\$ 2,546.00	\$ (8,527.84)	\$ 7,041.00	\$ (7,421.65)	\$ (5,088.41)	\$ (15,745.11)	\$ 13,048.51	\$ 18,458.21	\$ 124,399.02	YTD NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)	
NET ASSETS		\$205,361.75	\$330,136.99	\$319,468.22	\$313,999.16	\$ 329,760.77	\$290,926.47	\$315,629.71	\$330,136.99	\$325,450.06	\$327,996.06	\$319,468.22	\$326,509.22	\$319,087.57	\$313,999.16	\$298,254.05	\$311,302.56	\$329,760.77	\$329,760.77	YTD NET ASSETS
	AS OF	QTR 1 JANUARY	QTR 1 FEBRUARY	MARCH	APRIL	QTR 2 MAY	JUNE	JULY	QTR 3 AUGUST	SEPTEMBER	OCTOBER	QTR 4 NOVEMBER	DECEMBER							
2020 ACTUAL																				
Membership		\$ 61,365.00	\$ 76,265.00	\$ 90,185.00	\$ 136,610.00	\$ 37,150.00	\$ 21,500.00	\$ 2,715.00	\$ 50.00	\$ 13,700.00	\$ 1,150.00	\$ 12,745.00	\$ 75.00	\$ 1,100.00	\$ 500.00	\$ 20,675.00	\$ 25,250.00	\$ 136,610.00		
Donation		\$ 51,538.63	\$ 51,694.52	\$ 51,944.52	\$ 53,039.52	\$ 51,510.00	\$ 18.63	\$ 10.00	\$ 77.26	\$ 18.63	\$ 60.00	\$ 230.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ 35.00	\$ 1,050.00	\$ 53,039.52		
Conservation Congress		\$ 42,560.00	\$ 43,360.00	\$ 43,170.00	\$ 43,120.00	\$ 10,385.00	\$ 12,365.00	\$ 19,810.00	\$ (25.00)	\$ 950.00	\$ (125.00)	\$ (190.00)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ (50.00)	\$ -	\$ 43,120.00		
EERP		\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 2,000.00	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ 1,000.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,000.00		
Force of Nature		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
TOTAL REVENUE		\$ 157,463.63	\$ 173,319.52	\$ 187,299.52	\$ 234,769.52	\$ 100,045.00	\$ 33,883.63	\$ 23,535.00	\$ 102.26	\$ 14,668.63	\$ 1,085.00	\$ 12,785.00	\$ 85.00	\$ 1,110.00	\$ 510.00	\$ 20,660.00	\$ 26,300.00	\$ 234,769.52		
EXPENSES																				
FISCAL SPONSOR																				
Friends of the Forest Preserves		\$ 4,723.91	\$ 5,199.59	\$ 5,618.99	\$ 7,043.09	\$ 3,001.35	\$ 1,016.51	\$ 706.05	\$ 3.07	\$ 440.06	\$ 32.55	\$ 383.55	\$ 2.55	\$ 33.30	\$ 15.30	\$ 619.80	\$ 789.00	\$ 7,043.09		
TOTAL FISCAL SPONSOR		\$ 4,723.91	\$ 5,199.59	\$ 5,618.99	\$ 7,043.09	\$ 3,001.35	\$ 1,016.51	\$ 706.05	\$ 3.07	\$ 440.06	\$ 32.55	\$ 383.55	\$ 2.55	\$ 33.30	\$ 15.30	\$ 619.80	\$ 789.00	\$ 7,043.09		
INSURANCE																				
Insurance D/O		\$ -	\$ 1,585.00	\$ 1,585.00	\$ 1,585.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,585.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,585.00		
TOTAL INSURANCE		\$ -	\$ 1,585.00	\$ 1,585.00	\$ 1,585.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,585.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,585.00		
OFFICE																				
State of Illinois - Annual Filing		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10.00	\$ 10.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 10.00		
Blue Pay		\$ 1,719.79	\$ 2,058.14	\$ 2,209.46	\$ 3,035.25	\$ 918.96	\$ 423.67	\$ 377.16	\$ 35.26	\$ 262.76	\$ 40.33	\$ 80.98	\$ 35.06	\$ 35.28	\$ 35.00	\$ 61.77	\$ 729.02	\$ 3,035.25		
PayPal		\$ 1.56	\$ 3.12	\$ 4.68	\$ 6.24	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.52	\$ 0.52	\$ 6.24		
Other E-Commerce		\$ 0.25	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ 1.00	\$ -	\$ 0.25	\$ -	\$ 0.50	\$ 0.25	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1.00		
Web Domain		\$ -	\$ -	\$ 159.96	\$ 159.96	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 159.96	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 159.96		
Formsite & Zoom		\$ 149.90	\$ 289.90	\$ 649.90	\$ 1,440.97	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 149.90	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 140.00	\$ 180.00	\$ 180.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 191.12	\$ 599.95	\$ 1,440.97		
Your Membership.com		\$ -	\$ 6,819.76	\$ 7,866.61	\$ 11,446.98	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 3,409.88	\$ 3,409.88	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 1,046.85	\$ 3,580.37	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 11,446.98		
TOTAL OFFICE		\$ 1,871.50	\$ 9,171.92	\$ 10,901.61	\$ 16,100.40	\$ 919.48	\$ 424.44	\$ 527.58	\$ 3,446.16	\$ 3,673.41	\$ 180.85	\$ 421.46	\$ 215.58	\$ 1,092.65	\$ 3,615.89	\$ 253.41	\$ 1,329.49	\$ 16,100.40		
CONTRACTOR																				
CW Coordinator		\$ 14,483.23	\$ 33,037.78	\$ 47,587.75	\$ 66,359.37	\$ 3,804.35	\$ 5,339.44	\$ 5,339.44	\$ 5,205.95	\$ 8,009.16	\$ 5,339.44	\$ 4,938.99	\$ 4,538.52	\$ 5,072.46	\$ 8,010.04	\$ 5,663.28	\$ 5,098.30	\$ 66,359.37		
TOTAL CONTRACTOR		\$ 14,483.23	\$ 33,037.78	\$ 47,587.75	\$ 66,359.37	\$ 3,804.35	\$ 5,339.44	\$ 5,339.44	\$ 5,205.95	\$ 8,009.16	\$ 5,339.44	\$ 4,938.99	\$ 4,538.52	\$ 5,072.46	\$ 8,010.04	\$ 5,663.28	\$ 5,098.30	\$ 66,359.37		
PROGRAM																				
Conservation Congress		\$ 8,959.75	\$ 2,478.76	\$ 2,478.76	\$ 2,478.76	\$ 6,755.10	\$ -	\$ 2,204.65	\$ (6,480.99)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 2,478.76		
EERP		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,613.88	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,613.88	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,613.88		
Force of Nature		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
TOTAL PROGRAM		\$ 8,959.75	\$ 2,478.76	\$ 2,478.76	\$ 7,092.64	\$ 6,755.10	\$ -	\$ 2,204.65	\$ (6,480.99)	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 4,613.88	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 7,092.64		
MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS																				
Member Appreciation		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
Consultant		\$ 2,725.00	\$ 7,815.00	\$ 10,565.00	\$ 12,015.00	\$ -	\$ 2,725.00	\$ -	\$ 2,615.00	\$ -	\$ 2,475.00	\$ -	\$ 2,750.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 825.00	\$ 625.00	\$ 12,015.00		
Print Collateral/Logo/Branding		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
TOTAL MARKETING & COMMUNICATIONS		\$ 2,725.00	\$ 7,815.00	\$ 10,565.00	\$ 12,015.00	\$ -	\$ 2,725.00	\$ -	\$ 2,615.00	\$ -	\$ 2,475.00	\$ -	\$ 2,750.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 825.00	\$ 625.00	\$ 12,015.00		
VISIONING																				
Visioning		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
TOTAL VISIONING		\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -		
PROGRAM																				
Program Grants		\$ (75.00)	\$ (75.00)	\$ (75.00)	\$ 175.00	\$ -	\$ (325.00)	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 175.00		
TOTAL PROGRAM		\$ (75.00)	\$ (75.00)	\$ (75.00)	\$ 175.00	\$ -	\$ (325.00)	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ -	\$ 250.00	\$ -	\$ 175.00		
TOTAL EXPENSES		\$ 32,688.39	\$ 59,213.05	\$ 78,662.11	\$ 110,370.50	\$ 14,480.28	\$ 9,180.39	\$ 9,027.72	\$ 4,789.19	\$ 12,122.63	\$ 9,612.84	\$ 5,744.00	\$ 7,506.65	\$ 6,198.41	\$ 16,255.11	\$ 7,611.49	\$ 7,841.79	\$ 110,370.50		
NET SURPLUS/(DEFICIT)		\$ 124,775.24	\$ 114,106.47	\$ 108,637.41	\$ 124,399.02	\$ 85,564.72	\$ 24,703.24	\$ 14,507.28	\$ (4,686.93)	\$ 2,546.00	\$ (8,527.84)	\$ 7,041.00	\$ (7,421.65)	\$ (5,088.41)	\$ (15,745.11)	\$ 13,048.51	\$ 18,458.21	\$ 124,399.02		
NET ASSETS		\$205,361.75	\$330,136.99	\$319,468.22	\$313,999.16	\$ 329,760.77	\$290,926.47	\$315,629.71	\$330,136.99	\$325,450.06	\$327,996.06	\$319,468.22	\$326,509.22	\$319,087.57	\$313,999.16	\$298,254.05	\$311,302.56	\$329,760.77	\$329,760.77	YTD NET ASSETS

Chicago Wilderness

New Partners Recommended by the Partnership Committee and voting on by Executive Council Members in advance of the meeting by separate electronic ballot.

Chicago Wilderness Executive Council Meeting, Wednesday, February 3, 2021

NEW PARTNERS

Name	Type of Partner
Sarett Nature Center	General
Elgin Roofing	Corporate
Evangelista Floral & Landscape Studio	General
League of Women Voters Chicago	General
All Seasons Tree Service of Elgin	General

- 1) **Sarett Nature Center**
 - a) **Representative to Chicago Wilderness:** Nate Fuller
 - b) **Mission/Goal of Organization:** Provide quality environmental education to the community.
 - c) **Collaborate in conservation education and restoration efforts in the region.**
- 2) **Elgin Roofing Company**
 - a) **Representative to Chicago Wilderness:** Jim Baker
 - b) **Mission/Goal of Organization:** We are committed to providing high quality roofing services to individuals and businesses throughout Elgin, as well as the greater Chicago area.
 - c) **We are passionate about the conservation and maintenance of forested areas throughout the Chicago area**
- 3) **Evangelists Floral and Landscape Studio**
 - a) **Representative to Chicago Wilderness:** Wanda Evangelista
 - b) **Mission/ Goal of Organization:** Cultivate natural for residential spaces
- 4) **League of Women Voters Chicago**
 - a) **Representative to Chicago Wilderness:** K.M. Sandrick
 - b) **Mission/ Goal of Organization:** Chicago citizen engagement, advocacy, and education
- 5) **All Season Tree Service of Elgin**
 - a) **Representative to Chicago Wilderness:** Juan Gabriel
 - b) **Mission:** Caring for trees and their health.

GREEN VISION COLLECTIVE GOALS

Draft January 27, 2021

Goal # 1: Healthy Landscapes

Background: In the Chicago Wilderness Region there are 500,000 acres of protection open space. Within this open space members of the alliance have been concerned with the conservation of biodiversity at all levels-natural communities, species, genes, large landscape and small remnant natural areas. These healthy landscapes provide habitat for 237 listed plant species and 114 listed animal species in one of the largest urban areas in North American. A major goal of the Green Vision is to increase management of healthy landscapes to preserve the biodiversity and the ecosystem benefits provided by healthy functioning landscapes

The Goal: The first goal is within the 7.7 million acres in Chicago Wilderness there will be 500,000 acres of healthy landscapes and we will increase the number of acres under management by 7% by 2025.

Coordination:

- **Lead Organization(s)/CW Committees: Science and Natural Resource Management**
- **Supporting Organizations/Committees:**
- **Primary Point Person: Jim Anderson**
- **Steering Committee Most Accountable Person: Jim Anderson**

Key Sub-Goals:

Given this goal we would like to survey organizations managing land in the CW region about where we are at in 2020. The survey questions look to identify the number of acres currently under management by community type and then ask what is the restoration potential of lands owned by community type that are not under management.

To endorse the use of effective restoration and management techniques

Increase the implementation of controlled prescribed burns to the landscape

Continue efforts focusing on improving Oak Ecosystems and Urban Tree Canopy through the Chicago Regional Tree Initiative

Reform a Cooperative Weed Management Area for both invasive plants and animal species

Restore the hydrological function of Chicago Wilderness' rivers, streams, wetlands, ephemeral ponds, lakes, and groundwater recharge and discharge areas.

Restore the historical composition of our natural communities by improving and enlarging habitat for native plants and animals to ensure the long-term regional viability of native species. Focus on Chicago Wilderness Priority Species and Plants of Concerns.

Increase the availability of native species, by increasing seed collection, propagation of native plant species and implement recovery efforts for wildlife species.

Increase efforts to limit damage to terrestrial and aquatic ecosystems from invasive wildlife species.

Implement conservation design based on historical ecological monitoring and implement a region-wide ecological assessment of restoration and management activities that can determine success and guide future adaptive management that can account for climatic conditions across the Chicago Wilderness Region.

Goal #2: Agriculture

Background: Agriculture represents a brand-new focus area for Chicago Wilderness. There are many organizations working within agriculture that have not traditionally been engaged with CW. The effort to make an impact on agricultural and working lands could have huge benefits to CW, due to the total acreage of farmlands in the region. By engaging new audiences and centering the health of people (both farmers and residents) as well as biodiversity, we can simultaneously create more habitat in the rural matrix, improve the region's food security, enhance our region's soil and water health, and, thereby, improve the health of our natural areas.

The Goal: For the 4.4 million acres in agriculture: Agricultural lands will remain an integral, permanent component of our regional fabric and an important contributor to food-system and climate resilience. Improved methods throughout our region's farms will restore life to our soils, lands, and waters, create habitat corridors for pollinators and grassland birds, increase diversity in food production for local consumption, and improve quality of life in rural communities.

By 2025, 25% (1.1 million acres) of our agricultural lands will be implementing conservation-forward, regenerative practices and adopting relevant BRP and CAPN measures, resulting in measurable and sustained ecological improvements.

Coordination:

- **Lead Organization(s)/CW Committees etc:**
 - Chicago Wilderness Agriculture Team
- **Supporting Organizations/Committees:**
 - Applied Ecological Services
 - Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts
 - Audubon Great Lakes
 - Delta Institute
 - Farm Foundation
 - Forest Preserve District of Will County
 - Growing for Kane
 - Illinois Agri-Food Alliance
 - Illinois Department of Natural Resources
 - Illinois Environmental Council
 - Kinship Foundation
 - Lake County Forest Preserves
 - Liberty Prairie Foundation
 - McHenry County Conservation District
 - Openlands
 - The Conservation Fund
 - The Field Museum
 - The Nature Conservancy
 - The Wetlands Initiative
- **Primary Point Person:**
 - Debby Moskovits, The Field Museum (retired)
 - Maggie Soliz, Applied Ecological Services/Association of Illinois Soil and Water Conservation Districts
 - Daniel Suarez, Audubon Great Lakes
- **Steering Committee Most Accountable Person:**
 - Maggie Soliz, Applied Ecological Services
 - Daniel Suarez, Audubon Great Lakes

Key Sub-Goals:

- TBD. Our current next steps include:
- Keep 1.1 million acres as the goal and collect baseline data
 - a. Define Communications benchmarks
 - b. Define mapping/metrics/baseline efforts to reach goal
 - c. Use "regenerative" as the term for now; once we start collecting baseline information we will be able to define it more specifically.
- Define all the intermediate steps we need to take to get to 1.1 million acres. We need a game-changer to get there.

- Develop a strategic plan and to think systematically and methodically, rather than perform “random acts of conservation.” We need alignment and to define where we intersect and where we can make a real difference. Once we define that well, we can get more people on board.
- Identify the low-hanging fruit (Climate, Farm Bill 2023, Strategic Alliances, Watershed Planning, targeted subgeographies)
- Jill Kostel (Wetlands Initiative), Tyler Strom (IL Agri-Food Alliance), and Megan Baskerville (The Nature Conservancy) offered to help inventory what is going on in the CW region (for Goal’s baseline)
- Jill Kostel can connect CW to Illinois Stewardship Alliance
- Tim Brennan (Farm Foundation) can connect CW to The Chicago Farmers
- Jill K, Tyler S, and Janice H (Growing for Kane) offered to help connect the AG Team to farmer networks like the Illinois Farm Bureau and other commodity groups that have the largest contact lists in the state
- Maggie Soliz-AES can add to the Watershed Planning and Prioritization niche

Goal #3: Green Infrastructure in Built Spaces 1.26.21

Background: Background: Much work has been done Chicago Wilderness region to increase Green Infrastructure. How do we utilize mapping and metrics to identify and show progress in this area while developing a model for the region? Consider expanding mapping and extrapolating exemplary project(s) to the Chicago Wilderness region-(Right of Way, Tree Canopy, Corporate, Industrial, Municipality, Residential and school campuses).

Priority areas to consider:

1. Corporate/Industrial/Schools/Universities Campuses
2. Rights of Ways
3. Municipalities and Residential
4. Tree Canopy
5. Reviewing/Expanding the GIV

The Goal:

By 2025, a Chicago Wilderness alliance representing the full diversity of the region will have identified and implemented the best approaches to:

For the built-up 2.8 million acres where people live, work, and commute: increase native landscaping and green infrastructure to improve local quality of life, following relevant Chicago Wilderness Biodiversity Recovery Plan and Chicago Wilderness Climate Action Plan for Nature – with 3% (84,000 acres) showing results by 2025.

Coordination:

- **Lead Organization(s)/CW Committees:** CW Corporate Council-Jim Jerozal, Maggie Soliz, Sara Race, Jim Kleinwachter
- **1. Corporate/Industrial/Schools/Universities Campuses-**
 - **Primary Point Person:** Jim Kleinwachter, Conservation Foundation
 - **Potential Supporting Organizations/Committees**
 - Conservation@work,
 - Wildlife Habitat Council
 - Chicago Living Corridor
 - Loyola-Nancy Tuchman
 - IGEN Illinois Community College Monarch Pledge
 - Other partners to be determined
- **2. Rights of Ways-**
 - **Primary Point Person:** Sara Race, ComEd
 - **Potential Supporting Organizations/Committees**
 - Mark Johnson Right of Way Working Group
 - Iris Caldwell-UIC
 - Julie Pascal, John Dakarian Nicor
 - IDOT, INDOT, MDOT, WDOT
 - Metropolitan Water Reclamation District
 - Cardno-Daniel Salas
 - GIS Consortium-reach out
- **3. Municipalities and Residential-**
 - **Primary Point Person:** Maggie Soliz, AES
 - **Potential Supporting Organizations/Committees:**
 - Conservation@home
 - GIS Consortium-reach out
 - Wild Ones- Chicago Living Corridor
 - Metropolitan Mayors Caucus
 - Watershed Plans**
 - Green Infrastructure Champions
 - MWRD green infrastructure maps/grant recipients
 - CMAP
 - Algonquin
 - Riverwoods, Montgomery
 - 319 funded projects
 - American Public Works Association
- **4. Tree Canopy**
 - **Primary Point Person:** Jim Jerozal, Nicor Gas
 - **Potential Supporting Organizations/Committees:**
 - Chicago Region Tree Initiative-
 - Soil and Water Conservation Districts, AISWCD
 - Land Trusts,
 - Openlands,
 - Oak Ecosystem Recovery Plan-
 - Chicago Park District
 - The Nature Conservancy
 - Dave Shimberg-Tree Canopy
- **5. Reviewing/Expanding the Green Infrastructure Vision**

- **Primary Point Person:**
- **Potential Supporting Organizations/Committees: TBD**
 - Check in with former GIV task force members
 - **Steering Committee Most Accountable Person: Jim Jerozal/Maggie Soliz**

Key Sub-Goals:

Increased **Green Infrastructure** will be fostered by:

- **Identifying ways that work is currently being quantified and determine how to feed into the mapping efforts** to truly understand where this is taking place and how we can help expand. (Survey)
- **Increasing outreach and collaboration with others doing this work** that expand and change local knowledge of the ecological, community and cost benefits of green infrastructure. Marketing and professional communications expertise to expand reach and influence decisionmakers.
- **Creating a template based on the efforts of an exemplary municipalities and extrapolate to other in region.**
- **Providing resources and training for those interested in adopting green** available to increase the number of acres.
- This feeds into Goal #5 by Annual increases in **green space** in the majority of jurisdictions in the region, incorporating as much as possible community-defined green spaces such as community gardens, neighborhood trees, schoolyard gardens, and backyards.

Process

- Review of goal and concept of 5 sub-committees: Corporate/Industrial/Schools, ROW, Municipal/Residential, Tree Canopy, GIV Intersection
- ID People we need to get to the table.
- Confirm subcommittee lead
- Explore ID Survey maps/plans that exist
- Convene Workshop around Subcommittees
- Identify Potential Pilot Projects
- Earth Day kickoff

Goal # 4: Increase Habitat/Conservation Lands

Background:

The “classic conservation lands” (CCL) form the core of the conservation estate in the CW region and always will. It is the land base that has allowed us to hold onto the unique natural heritage that is our region’s hallmark. While it is impressive in terms of size it is not finished. If we look to conservation goals for CCL open space starting in 1918-20 with the passage of the Forest Preserve Act we can see that the first century produced the roughly 300,000+ acres we now have. We should do no less. This number by 2120 should be close to a half million or more acres. The number is daunting when it is written by itself but let’s look at it another way. If we look at it on a yearly average it is about 2,000 additional acres per year across the region. That gets us to a half million in a century. *Ed Collins, 2020*

The Goal: By 2025 Increase conservation lands from the current 6.5% of our region to 9% (195,000-acre increase)

Coordination:

- **Lead Organization(s)** Forest Preserve of Kane County, Forest Preserves of Cook County
- **Supporting Organizations/Committees:** TPL, Openlands, Government Agencies (IDNR, MWRD, Forest Preserve and Conservation Districts)
- **Primary Point Person:** TBD
- **Steering Committee Most Accountable Person:** Cathy Geraghty

Key Sub-Goals:

Figure out what’s possible: Even with successful referenda the average number of acres per year acquired and protected is around 2,000-acres. This means that in the next five years we can expect to acquire 10,000-acres not 195,000-acres.

Next steps

1. Poll existing plans for ‘acquisition’ or ‘easements’ throughout CW to understand whether we need to revise the 195K acres
2. Confirm definition of conservation lands (permanence, size)
3. Identify new sources of funding and mechanisms for ‘acquisition’
4. Develop communications plan to engage people in the region for support (using Brook’s study for guidance)
5. Consider some mechanism to engage people beyond the choir (CW Magazine type)
6. Identify the priority acres and determine the ways that CW Alliance can best support their addition to conservation lands

General discussion and consensus:

- (i) There are several plans, and the group believes that the priority areas already are known throughout the region.
- (ii) We don’t have a handle on the acres targeted for acquisition by members in the CW region – once we know that number, it will be easier to assess whether the goal of 195K is achievable.

General discussion:

- (i) We need to agree on what we mean by “**Conservation Lands**.”
The Green Vision encompasses the **entire** region of **7.7** million acres. The first 3 goals target the different land cover types: (1) green spaces (**0.5** million acres); (2) AG lands (**4.4** million acres); (3) built-up lands (**2.8** million acres). Goal 4 is meant to increase the 0.5 million acres in “green spaces” – lands permanently dedicated to green – with an emphasis on creating habitat for conservation. But where the 0.2 million acres (or 195K) come from – i.e., built-up lands or AG lands – would need to be determined, because there isn’t much left that might be consider CCL.
- (ii) We need to agree on whether there is a minimum number of acres required for an area to be called “conservation lands.”
- (iii) We need to embrace the tension between acreage goals, access, and equity goals.
- (iv) All agree that ecologically sensitive lands are a priority. But access and equity are hugely important as well.
- (iii) We need to make sure that we include IN, MI, and WI in these discussions

Discussion: How can Chicago Wilderness as an Alliance best support this goal?

1. **Coordination?**
 - Regional polling – it’s a rare moment in time. People are visiting nature in greater numbers than ever before
 - Develop messaging (the brand) beyond government ownership
2. **Mapping?**
 - CMAP has a ton of data that can support this effort
 - Survey members to see who is doing what before we update the GIV (talk with Mapping Group to see what already is happening)
3. **Communications?**
 - Provide consistent public communication like the CW magazine once did.

Goal 5: Nature Access and Benefits for People

Background: Nature is for everyone. The plants, animals, and habitats in the Chicago Wilderness region provide tangible economic, social, cultural, and health benefits to the 11.5M residents who live here and the 60M who work, convene, and visit every year. Combined with the diverse human communities of the region, they constitute the shared natural and cultural heritage inherited by each generation. Yet currently, these benefits are not equitably distributed, and the natural assets that sustain them are not equally accessible to all, damaging quality of life and opportunity in many neighborhoods and jurisdictions.

The Goal: By 2025, a Chicago Wilderness alliance representing the full diversity of the region will have identified and implemented the best approaches to (1) **increase access** to natural areas and green spaces of all types that are welcoming to all; (2) **expand nature-based programming** across the region, particularly in places with the least area of healthy green space in 2020; and (3) foster a regional partnership that addresses the region's legacy of environmental injustice and as part of its internal operations and external relationships. At least **3M more people** will reap nature's benefits from this activation of local green spaces, with an emphasis on those who have historically been excluded.

Coordination:

- **Lead Organization(s)/CW Committees etc:** The Field Museum, Chicago Park District, TBD
- **Supporting Organizations/Committees:** CW Education Committee
- **Primary Point Person:** Amy Rosenthal, Teishetta Daniel
- **Steering Committee Most Accountable Person:** Amy Rosenthal

Key Sub-Goals on access, programming, and process:

Increased **access** will be fostered by:

- **Growing community partnerships** to truly understand barriers to access to nature and collaboratively address them in ways that mitigate negative impacts such as green gentrification, etc.
- **Increasing outreach and communications** that expand and enhance local knowledge and perceptions of what and where nature is and provide tools for parents, teachers, students, residents, and others
- **Providing multilingual information** available about double the number of green spaces and natural areas
- Increasing the **length of greenways and blueways by 10%**
- Creating 20% more **bike lanes** connected to green space
- **Decreasing costs and fees** associated with accessing these areas, including transport, parking, and site fees
- Annual increases in **green space** in the majority of jurisdictions in the region, incorporating as much as possible community-defined green spaces such as community gardens, neighborhood trees, schoolyard gardens, and backyards

Increased **programming** will be fostered by:

- 10% increase in children served by **environmental education programs** through collaboration and partnerships with families, schools, health care professionals, day cares, and other avenues
- 10% increase in participation in nature-based and outdoor programming for people of all ages
- **Annual expansion** in partnership, programming, outreach, and education in jurisdictions where the majority of residents are low-income and/or people of color

More equitable distribution of resources will be fostered by **decision-making processes** that include a variety of stakeholders reflecting the diversity of the region. To this end, the Chicago Wilderness alliance will:

- Sustain a more **diverse membership** across the dimensions of race, ability, geography, age, sexual orientation, and religion preference
- Build capacity to 1) address long standing barriers to diversity, equity and inclusion in the conservation movement, such as implicit bias, narrow recruitment practices, inadequate training, and poor retention of people of color and 2) support anti-bias and anti-racist practices that aim to make green spaces and CW organizations more inclusive and diverse
- Establish practices that annually increase the number of **community-based organizations participating in CW** and the socioeconomic and **racial diversity of stakeholders** actively engaged in all aspects of the alliance, including its leadership

GOAL #6 CLIMATE GOAL

BACKGROUND

Climate change disrupts the natural patterns and systems of the Chicago Wilderness region, threatening devastating heat waves, flooding, and polar vortices that harm people and nature -- disproportionately affecting historically marginalized communities and vulnerable species. To avoid the worst impacts of climate change, immediate action is needed to reduce greenhouse gas emissions across all sectors in line with global goals to keep global average temperature rise to 2°C or less. While nature-based solutions are only part of the answer, efforts to expand/restore, protect, and sustainably manage natural areas and green space have the potential to contribute to meaningful mitigation and adaptation measures that increase resilience and slow warming in the Chicago Wilderness region. Nature -- in the form of the woodlands, wetlands, urban forests, prairies and other landscapes that co-exist here -- is already providing important climate benefits, such as flood mitigation, local temperature regulation, and carbon storage. Currently efforts to realize the full potential of nature-based solutions are poorly linked with important considerations of equity and justice, which are necessary to incorporate into effective climate solutions for the Chicago Wilderness Region -- from urban city centers to rural working lands.

GOAL STATEMENT

By 2025, the Chicago Wilderness alliance will be positioned to **address climate change and its disproportionate impacts in the region** by engaging a diversity of communities and institutions across the region and working together to **slow regional emissions, expand the suite of nature-based adaptation activities** and their application, and **institute equitable solutions to the climate-driven impacts** already underway. These efforts will be underpinned by an up-to-date and publicly available **CW Climate Action Plan for Nature**.

To achieve these objectives in climate mitigation, adaptation, engagement, and justice, the CW Alliance will:

- Advance **ambitious regional emissions reductions** in line with the global climate goals of the Paris Accord and work to identify and **reduce GHG emissions sources derived from the organization's activities** and operations in accordance with local, national and international efforts, while enhancing the mitigation benefits of ecological land management.
- Develop a set of strategies and tools to **enable land managers to adjust to climate changes** and maintain protected landscapes and urban green space in good ecological condition, **protecting the most vulnerable ecological communities** and **reducing climate impacts** suffered by human communities.
- Facilitate the members' **connections with the wider community** working on climate issues in the region, and **offer training and tools to help CW members** mitigate their climate footprints, enhance their outreach and engagement programs, adapt to climate impacts, and communicate with public officials.
- **Prioritize inclusive climate actions by CW members that improve equity and amplify the efforts of regional climate justice leaders** by bringing attention and material support to their efforts.

Goal #7: Chicago Wilderness Aquatic Resource

January 26, 2021

Chicago Wilderness members and partners will unite to engage people across the region, with approximately 34,700 linear miles of streams, over 169,000 acres of inland lakes and marshes, and 126 miles of Lake Michigan coastline, to protect, restore and maintain the quality of the region's aquatic resources to achieve the goals of the Biodiversity Recovery Plan and Climate Action Plan for Nature.

Over the next three years, Chicago Wilderness will adapt or develop a regionalized index to establish a baseline for its members and partners to contribute to and comprehensively measure improvements to watershed health, including:

- **Connectivity** (Waters are more connected so people and wildlife can travel and thrive.)
- **Physical integrity** (Includes shorelines, riverbanks, instream habitat, flow, wetland preservation, connected floodplains, land use practices)
- **Health** (Humans and native aquatic life flourish with clean ground and surface water, biological integrity, healthy habitat, and controlled invasive species.)
- **Resilience** (Humans and aquatic life adapt to climate change impacts and fluctuating lake levels.)
- **Source protection** (Headwater streams, fens, springs, wetlands, and connected uplands are monitored, protected, and restored.)
- **Restored absorption** (Increased storage, infiltration, and nature-based solutions, including the use of restoration as a green infrastructure practice.)

Once complete, Chicago Wilderness will have a baseline to evaluate and determine a targeted percent increase in the comprehensive index value as the next aspirational and grounded goal of improved watershed health.

Coordination:

- **Lead Organization(s): TBD**
- **Supporting Organizations/Committees: TBD**
- **Primary Point Person: Stacy Meyers**
- **Steering Committee Most Accountable Person: Jerry Adelman, Openlands**

January 19, 2021

Chicago Wilderness – Conceptual Framework to Assist with Planning

The Institute for Conservation Leadership (ICL) is pleased to submit this conceptual framework to the steering committee of the Chicago Wilderness to support planning and alignment across the network of participating organizations. We recognize the important role Chicago Wilderness plays in advancing a landscape where people and nature thrive together in the Chicago area. By working collaboratively, Chicago Wilderness engages the Chicago region in a Green Vision for vibrant communities, environmental health and justice, economic vitality, and well-being for all. We look forward to the possibility of assisting you as you plan for the future and seek to strengthen the network.

Our Understanding of Background and Need

Chicago Wilderness is an alliance of nearly 225 organizations and agencies in Illinois, Wisconsin, Indiana, and Michigan. It has a long history of collaboration and connecting its partners for the shared purpose of preserving and expanding the region's natural resources. Like most networks, it has experienced the natural cycles of waxing and waning partner engagement and energy due to resources, emerging opportunities or threats, and leadership.

Chicago Wilderness is currently in the process of creating a plan that maps out seven strategic goals and objectives that:

- build on past successes,
- provide clear direction for collaboration and to engage current financial and human resources, and,
- will reinvigorate and energize current partners and potential new partners.

In addition to the planning work, Chicago Wilderness leadership is in the process of hiring a diversity, equity, and inclusion consultant to assist in ensuring that implementation of the plan addresses the needs and interests of all communities throughout the region.

Chicago Wilderness leadership would also like assistance with completing the plan and with establishing a strong network foundation that will carry its work forward. We understand the goals of this work to be:

- Support the goal work groups in completing their plans and the board of directors in finalizing a plan that with goal alignment and consistency so that progress can be measured easily;
- Build the capacity of Chicago Wilderness to harness the energy and expertise of its diverse set of partner organizations;

- Foster new insights, learning, and relationships that will advance Chicago Wilderness' Green Vision; and
- Engage partners through peer learning and discussion about the strategic goals, synergy between them, collaborating virtually, and network development theory and the implications for Chicago Wilderness.

ICL's Approach and Conceptual Framework

Developing a network and collective planning requires flexibility and an iterative design process, in which the priorities of the network are shaped by the network's leaders and participants.

ICL will provide process design and facilitation in support of the development of the goals and the network. In our work with Chicago Wilderness, we aim to engage and build capacity within the network to create the goals and lead the alliance toward the goals. ICL will use its deep understanding and skill of developing and facilitating dynamic and creative online meetings and training sessions using a variety of tools and platforms. ICL will share our broad knowledge of network development and experience of supporting hundreds of networks and coalitions during our 30-year history.

This conceptual framework provides a general road map of how we would approach supporting Chicago Wilderness. We offer a visual of the framework and then an outline overview narrative of the potential steps.

	Phase/Step 1	Phase/Step 2	Phase/Step 3	Phase/Step 4
Planning Group	Create a shared scope of work to meet planning and network development goals		Provide some guidance and support to work groups; Review drafts as needed	Help in finalization and guiding the engagement of the broader network
Steering Committee		Network Mindset workshop and discussions to clarify shared framework for goals and goal development	Check-ins about progress and any key guiding questions that come up	Support finalization of the goals; Final approval?
Goal Work Groups	Provide input on needs	Key leaders involved in workshop and discussions	Focused planning work led by work group leaders, supported collective meetings;	Lead engagement processes for their goal.
Wider Groups in Chicago Wilderness			Test any concepts or questions through online engagement	Online session to "roll out" new goals, engage members in each goal, show ways for engagement to achieve goals

1. Establish Planning Group to Guide Process
 - Create shared understanding of goals and process
 - Clarify roles and responsibilities
 - Plan activities and establish timeline
2. Ground Planning Work and Network Development --Facilitate 2 Sessions on Network Mindset
 - Create a shared framework to align goals that are consistent across work groups Network development theory and examples
 - Collaborative leadership approaches to support deeper network engagement
 - Facilitating collaborative work virtually (optional)
3. Support Goals and Objectives Development Within Work Groups
 - Ensure a consistent approach/framework for goals and objectives
 - Coach group leaders in facilitating process to finalize goals and objectives
 - Provide training, facilitation, guidance and materials as needed
4. Engage and Energize Full Network to Implement a Finalized Chicago Wilderness Plan
 - Facilitate sessions with Chicago Wilderness partners to test interest and capacity to engage in support of the plan's vision
 - Facilitate discussions with board of directors that synergy and alignment across the plan's goals and objectives
 - Practice new ways of network engagement and use of platforms to harness the power of the network and increase effectiveness

Rough Estimated Budget

The budget estimates are roughed out based on the above concepts, and we offer them to support continued discussions, as well as to support Chicago fundraising efforts.

While ICL proposes an approach and particular steps, we anticipate adapting this process with a Planning Team and Steering Committee as this project evolves. A more detailed scope of work will be developed in consultation with Chicago Wilderness leadership based on our discussions and the budget available. We look forward to discussing this framework with you.

11 - 13 days @ \$2,000

\$ 22,000 - \$26,000

2 days of tech support for online meetings is include in our fees (estimated \$2000)

No direct expenses are anticipated at this time.

ICL's Resource People

ICL's lead consultants for our work with Chicago Wilderness will be Dianne Russell and Peter Lane.

Dianne Russell, ICL president, has more than 30 years of experience working with networks and collaboratives working on conservation, large landscape ecosystems, and watersheds. She has played the role of foundation advisor, process designer, meeting facilitator, backbone staff, and evaluator with over 40 collaborative efforts across the U.S. and Canada. She has a broad applied knowledge and deep hands-on experience with a wide range of collaboratives, including Vital Lands Illinois (10 years), the Great Lakes Funder Collaborative (3 years), the Healing Our Waters Coalition (Great Lakes focused coalition, founding meeting), Smart Growth California (a project of the Funders Network for Smart Growth and Livable Communities, 2 statewide convenings), and Delaware River Watershed Initiative (8 years). Dianne's accomplished work in collaboration has been supported by her training with the Gestalt Institute of Cleveland, VISIONS (multicultural skills), and her academic training (double degree in Religion and Sociology from Wittenberg University).

Peter Lane -- Previously to becoming a consultant, he was on staff at ICL for 18 years as director of programs. Peter has more than 20 years of experience working with nonprofit organizations and local governments to help them increase their effectiveness and impact through planning, team and board development, and community engagement. He played a lead role in developing and delivering ICL's intensive Leading from Within program and has supported the work of numerous networks and partnerships including the National Association of National Heritage Areas, Jersey Water Works, Cities Connecting Children to Nature, Regional Conservation Partnerships, and the Delaware River Watershed Initiative. Peter is also a national board-certified health and wellness coach and serves on the board of the REVE Kandale Foundation, an all-volunteer nonprofit organization that raises funds for community development projects in Congo (DRC) where he was a Peace Corps volunteer. He has received intensive coaching and training from the Gestalt Institute of Cleveland and received his B.A. from Clark University in Massachusetts and a M.Ed. from the University of Massachusetts at Amherst.

Carolyn Finney Event Sponsorship Information

Chicago
Wilderness

Chicago Wilderness

**Sponsor
this event!**

DR CAROLYN FINNEY



REIMAGINING HEALTHY
COMMUNITIES
FOR PEOPLE
AND NATURE

WED, FEB 17
2-3:30PM CST

We are pleased to live-stream a conversation with storyteller, author, and cultural geographer Dr. Carolyn Finney. She is the author of the best-selling book *Black Faces, White Spaces: Reimagining the Relationship of African Americans to the Great Outdoors*. This event is free and open to all.

Event attendees will include conservation leaders, environmental professionals and interested community members primarily from Illinois, Indiana, Michigan and Wisconsin as well as nationally.

Your support will make it possible for people living in the Chicago Wilderness region and beyond to learn and be inspired.

The conversation serves as a launching point for a new Green Vision, where diverse communities in our region are engaged to promote health, economic vitality, and well-being for all.

We appreciate your support.

"In the case of race and the environment, it's not just who we imagine has something valuable to say. These assumptions, beliefs, and perceptions can be found in the very foundation of our environmental thinking, how we define the environment and how we think of ourselves in relationship with the environment. Who do we see, what do we see?"

— FROM BLACK FACES, WHITE SPACES: REIMAGINING THE RELATIONSHIP OF AFRICAN AMERICANS TO THE GREAT OUTDOORS

**Diverse Voices
Green Vision
United Region**

Join us as a sponsor!
February 17, 2021
2 pm –3:30 pm

**Questions?Contact
Laura Reilly**

Laura.ReillyCW@gmail.com

Sponsorships are contributions made to Chicago Wilderness for which the sponsor receives promotional, civic engagement, and community relations value.

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COMPANY NAME: _____

CONTACT NAME: _____

MAILING ADDRESS: _____

CITY: _____ STATE: _____ ZIP: _____

TELEPHONE: _____ EMAIL: _____

SPONSORSHIP LEVELS

Select a sponsorship level:

	Platinum	Silver	Bronze
Participation Level	\$6,000	\$1,500	\$500
Platinum: \$6,000			
• Exclusive sponsor of the event • Introduce Dr. Finney on the livestream • Logo featured prominently during the event • Thanked personally by host during the event • Thanked on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn posts • Logo featured prominently on website, event landing page, and all promotional materials • Logo featured prominently in thank you email to registrants • Logo featured prominently on e-newsletters			
Silver: \$1,500			
• Logo featured prominently during the event • Thanked personally by host during the event • Thanked on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn posts • Logo on event landing page and all promotional materials • Logo on thank you email to registrants • Logo on e-newsletters			
Bronze: \$500			
• Logo on event landing page and all promotional materials • Logo on thank you email to registrants • Thanked on Facebook, Twitter, Instagram, and LinkedIn posts • Logo on e-newsletters			

AGREEMENT AND PAYMENT

Signature of organization representative constitutes a contract.

Signature

Printed Name

Date

Contract can be submitted via email to Laura.ReillyCW@gmail.com and electronic payment information will be sent to you, or submit contract and payment by mail to Chicago Wilderness, 411 S. Wells St., Suite 300, Chicago, IL 60607. Make checks payable to "Chicago Wilderness Alliance".