

## St. Croix Valley Chapter

March 27, 2024 6pm—8pm

Present: Evanne, Mike M, Ginny G, Peter F, Wayne H, Harvey H, Bill R., Doreen L

*Grant applications* — Ginny Gaynor has volunteered to work with TPE Chapter Support to apply for grants to support chapter work. Ginny gathered suggestions for education, equipment, and contractor projects for which we need funds.

*Budget update* — Marti Piepgras, chapter treasurer, did not attend.

*Events* — Evanne provided a list of upcoming events where TPE will be represented.

Washington County Prescribed Burn Open House  
EarthFest in River Falls  
Bethel Earth Day in Hudson

*Field trips* — Evanne reminded everyone of upcoming field trips and asked for suggestions.

Crex Meadows trip June 8 (Saturday)  
Collaboration with Chippewa Savannas & Coulee for summer event at Prairie Haven (Marcie O'Connor's place near Alma, WI) [<https://www.prairiehaven.com/>]  
Ottawa Bluffs Nature Preserve – join Many Rivers chapter; Bill R will lead [<https://www.nature.org/en-us/get-involved/how-to-help/places-we-protect/ottawa-bluffs/>]

*Prescribed burn update* — Alexander savanna is still possible if it dries out. Evanne distributed the list of landowners who want burns this spring and fall.

DeSanctis Park burn (RF) – April 9 – as part of Natural Resources Day

- City handles notifications.
- Tim Rixman will come; perhaps Joe and David
- Tim contacted Fire Chief; he wants a call 1 wk to day-of.
- 1.27 acres
- We need an easterly wind

### New Business

- Property monitor – Harvey walks Alexander each year and completes an assessment form. Anyone interested in learning how to do this, contact Harvey (Harveyhh@nwcomm.net) [[https://theprairieenthusiasts.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/TPE\\_Easement\\_Monitoring\\_Procedures.pdf](https://theprairieenthusiasts.org/wp-content/uploads/2023/04/TPE_Easement_Monitoring_Procedures.pdf)]
- Do we want to take on more management projects?
  - Harvey suggests we pursue purchasing the land around Hammond Cemetery. He will determine whether the current owners are interested.
  - Wayne suggests we take on management of Higgins fen. First step, he will contact landowner about a field trip and insect and plant survey.
- We will pursue selling the old 50-gallon TPE pumper unit, first to our chapter members.
- We will also pursue selling four herbicide backpack sprayers, first to our chapter members.