

WCAS CONSERVATION LAB REPORT FOR 12-1-2018

WCAS held a second conservation project laboratory on December 1, 2018 at Bethany Presbyterian Church in Cleveland. Nine people attended this event. Kurt Miske opened the meeting and Tom Romito facilitated the event.

1. We began by reviewing the output of the November 10 meeting and decided that the project that interested us the most was growing plants on an actual plot of land, then sell the seedlings to homeowners to populate their own yards. We reviewed the flowchart that we produced in the November 10 meeting about how to do this.

2. We then listed the following ideas that elaborated on our intention to conduct that project:

- a. Plant seeds that support habitat.
- b. Avoid city-owned plots of land for this project.
- c. Collaborate with existing urban gardens.
- d. Sell native plants seeds.
- e. Attract institutions to allow us to plant seeds on their properties (businesses, colleges, metroparks, etc.) that we have access to in order to maintain them.
- f. Identify private landowners who would let us show them how raise native plants.
- g. Bruce Missig offered to let us use his backyard in Parma to plant native seeds and grow seedlings to sell to other landowners.

3. Next, we brainstormed the following topics that we should consider in planning this project:

- a. Timing of production.
- b. Sale of seeds or seedlings?
- c. Finding subject matter experts to guide us in this project.
- d. Quantity of seeds or plants we would need to buy and sell.
- e. Funding we need to conduct this project.
- f. Marketing the project to get funding and volunteers.
- g. The actual cost of doing this project.

- h. The source of seeds or seedlings.
- i. Writing a grant proposal to National Audubon Society.
- j. Creating a saleable product.

4. The event culminated in the creation of this action plan to begin the work on this project:

WHAT	WHO	WHEN
Research production of issues noted in paragraph 4 of this report.	Subcommittee consisting of Karen, Lisa, and Pat	By January 5 - the next lab meeting
Identify subject matter experts on native plants in concert with Gloria Ferris.	Mary Anne and Tom	Mid-December
Draft a grant proposal to National Audubon Society about the native plant project. Incorporate the request for \$500 to fund LEAP's native plant card for 2019.	Lisa	January 5
Market the project using the Internet and social media.	Betsey	January 5
Find locations to showcase the project, such as Frostville and farm markets.	Kaoru	Early December
Find volunteers to staff the locations where we want showcase the project.	Betsey and Kaoru	In progress