



Capitol Region Watershed District

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Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting September 9, 2009 – 7:00 p.m.

CAC Members Present:

Bill Barton, Jim Cotner, Steve Duerre, Paul Kammuller, Shirley A. Reider, Michelle Ulrich & Bruce Holdhusen

Members absent with notice:

Judith Monson, Brandon Wiarda, Michael MacDonald, David Arbeit

Others Present:

CRWD Manager Mike Thienes
Mark Doneux, CRWD Staff
Anna Eleria, CRWD Staff

1. Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

Shirley Reider opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with a request for announcements. Shirley Reider spoke of the Watersity Exhibit at the U of M Landscape Arboretum that she had seen. She thought the exhibit was very well done. Bruce Holdhusen commented on the Kittsondale IDDE issue and a potential source of bacteria pollution north of the District's monitoring station. He also commented on the City of Shoreview's pervious concrete streets project. Bill Barton reviewed the issues and importance of the Restoring Clean Water Act. Mr. Barton read a passage from a letter supporting passage of this legislation. Steve Duerre discussed the Metropolitan Airports Commission new zoning ordinance and how it could affect stormwater management in the District.

2. Public Comment – For items not on the Agenda.

There were no public comments.

3. Approval of Agenda

Ms. Reider asked for additions or changes to the Agenda.

CAC 09-09-01 Motion: *To approve the CAC September 9, 2009 agenda as presented.*

Duerre/Ulrich

Unanimously approved

4. Approval of the August 12, 2009 CAC Minutes

Ms. Reider asked for additions or changes to the August 12, 2009 CAC Minutes.

CAC 09-09-02 Motion: *To approve the CAC August 12, 2009 CAC Minutes as presented.*

Barton/Duerre

Unanimously approved

5. Items for Review and Comment Requested by Board of Managers

No Items for Review

Project and Program Updates

Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Stormwater Workshop Update (**Doneux**)

Administrator Doneux gave an update on the various CCLRT activities. A draft summary report from the June 25th workshop is being completed. This draft has been distributed to all of the partners that attended the workshop. We will then prepare a final draft for adoption by the District and our partners. As reported at the August CAC meeting the MPCA 319 was not approved for this project. Staff will continue to consider

other grant programs for this project. The CRWD is now reviewing the Met Council proposed cross section for a future permit application for the CCLRT project.

Stewardship Grant Program Update (Eleria)

Ms. Eleria gave an update on the Stewardship grant program. Since 2005, CRWD has provided cost-share funding and technical assistance for water quality improvement projects, such as rain gardens, rain barrels, green roofs and education and outreach activities, for residents, non-profits, businesses and schools located and/or working in the District.

As of early September 2009 with the expected approval of three pending grant applications, CRWD will have awarded 34 stewardship grants for a total award amount of \$23,000. The majority of the grant projects have been for rain gardens. Other funded projects include educational workshops, internships, rain barrels, green roofs and pervious pavements. The 2009 budget for Stewardship Grant projects is \$32,000. The remaining amount available for additional water quality improvement projects is \$9,000. Ms. Eleria referred to a map that was enclosed in the CAC packet that shows the locations of the grants.

Ms. Eleria continued by noting that to date, two Partner Grants have been awarded in 2009 to the Friends of Mississippi River and Chalchiutlicue Environmental Summit. The total Partner Grant amount awarded is nearly \$18,000. Thirty-one thousand dollars remain for funding Partner Grant projects.

Ms. Eleria summarized that as a whole, the Stewardship Grant Program including the Partner Grants and staff labor for both grant programs has incurred over \$35,000 in expenses as of July 31, 2009, which is a third of the entire program budget for 2009, \$101,880.00. The balance of funds remaining in the program is over \$66,000. The Committee thanked Ms. Eleria for the update

Education Plan Implementation - Watershed Survey (Doneux)

Administrator Doneux gave the Committee and update on a watershed survey of District residents. In April, CRWD contracted with Amherst H. Wilder Foundation's Wilder Research to conduct an evaluation of watershed residents that includes 400 completed telephone surveys and two focus groups. The survey is collecting data regarding resident's opinions of water quality issues, their experiences with household activities that affect water quality. Mr. Doneux reviewed the questions with the Committee.

6. Board of Managers and CAC Observer Update

Manager Thienes said that recent Board actions included adopting the Preliminary 2010 Budget and Levy. The levy was increased 4.8% from 2009. The Board also approved a part-time receptionist position. Manager Thienes also noted that the Board heard a report about the pervious asphalt parking lot at the Falcon Heights City Hall.

7. Discussion - New & Old Issues

No items were discussed.

8. October 14, 2009 Agenda Overview

9. Adjourn – 8:09

Respectfully submitted,

Mark Doneux