



Capitol Region Watershed District

1410 Energy Park Drive, Suite 4 • Saint Paul, MN 55108
T: (651) 644-8888 • F: (651) 644-8894 • capitolregionwd.org

Approved

Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, February 11, 2015 – 7:00 p.m.

CAC Members Present:

Bill Barton
Mike MacDonald
Rick Sanders
Nicole Soderholm
Kathryn Swanson
Michelle Ulrich
Richard Weil
Gwen Willems

Others Present:

Elizabeth Beckman, CRWD
Mark Doneux, CRWD
Forrest Kelley, CRWD
Michelle Sylvander, CRWD
Lindsay VanPatten, CRWD
Mary Texer, Board Manager

Members absent:

David Arbeit, w/notice
Pat Byrne, w/notice
Steve Duerre
Ted McCaslin

Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

Ms. Willems opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Willems requested any announcements. No updates or comments were made.

Public Comments

Ms. Willems requested any public comments. No public comments were made.

Approval of Agenda

Ms. Willems asked for any additions or changes to the Agenda. No additions or changes were made.

CAC 15-004 Motion: *To approve the CAC February 11, 2015, agenda.*

MacDonald/Ulrich
Unanimously approved

Approval of the January 14, 2015 CAC Minutes

Ms. Willems requested any changes or corrections to the minutes. One correction was noted.

CAC 15-005 Motion: *To approve the January 14, 2015 CAC Minutes with one change.*

Weil/MacDonald
Unanimously approved

District Initiatives

A) Education Program Review, (Elizabeth Beckman)

Ms. Beckman reviewed that in the summer of 2014 at the invitation of Ramsey-Washington Metro Watershed District (RWMWD), CRWD staff explored the possibility of a partnership between RWMWD and Mississippi Watershed Management Organization (MWMO) to jointly hire a communications consultant in order to share costs, reduce replication of effort and improve the effectiveness of outreach communication of the three watershed organizations. In August 2014, staff from the three organizations selected the firm Fourth Sector Consulting, LLC to provide strategic communications services including the development of a shared Strategic Communications Plan.

Ms. Beckman reviewed, that in December 2014, Fourth Sector Consulting, LLC independently completed a communications audit for CRWD and recommended improvements for our print materials and the addition of various digital tools. Ms. Beckman shared feedback from the Board of Managers. Ms. VanPatten reviewed the Partner Grants awarded in 2014 for a total of \$92,500. Grants were awarded to:

Great River Greening for summer interns,
Asian Outdoor Heritage for rain garden plantings and community events,
Ce Tempoxcalli for open streets event,
Como Citizens Network for neighborhood leaf cleanup,
Frogtown Green,
Harambee Elementary to develop a curriculum for 4th and 5th graders with a water theme,
Lower Phalen Creek,
Urban Roots for interns at Trout Brook,
Watershed Partners for Adopt A Drain program, and
Wisdom Dances for the open streets event

Ms. VanPatten shared a video from Great River Greening and reviewed the grants approved for 2015. The committee thanked staff for the update.

B) 2015 Rule Revisions (Forrest Kelley)

Mr. Kelley stated that a Rules Revision Technical Advisory Committee meeting was held on January 29, 2015 to discuss revisions and comments. Mr. Kelley reviewed the informal comments made at the meeting. A public hearing is set for March 4, 2015. The Board has authorized distribution of the revised rules for review and comment beginning Friday, February 6th and ending Monday, March 23, 2015.

Mr. Kelley shared that the current volume reduction standard is .9 inches of runoff over impervious surfaces. The staff are recommending 1.1 inch of run off without using an initial abstraction. Most other watersheds have a 1 inch standard or do not have a standard.

Mr. Kelley reviewed that the current rule states if you cannot infiltrate then filter runoff for a 70% credit towards volume reduction. Studies are showing that filtering may not be as effective as thought. By adding iron to the filter it would remove more of the dissolved phosphorous so an 85% credit would be provided and only a 55% credit for regular filtration.

Mr. Kelley invited members of the CAC to attend the public hearing and make public comments. Mr. Kelley will provide additional updates for the CAC in March after the public hearing.

“Our mission is to protect, manage, and improve the water resources of the Capitol Region Watershed District.”

CAC Initiatives

A) 2015 “Event” Planning

Administrator Doneux requested feedback for the CAC about co-sponsoring a guest speaker like the 2104 Freshwater Society event. The 2014 event gave the District and CAC good exposure. The Freshwater Society event was well attended. Ms. Swanson suggested a seminar. Members of the CAC agreed to have Administrator Doneux contact the Freshwater Society regarding plans for a guest speaker in fall of 2015 that CRWD might be interested in partnering with.

B) 2015 CAC Recruitment

The CAC discussed efforts to continue recruitment of additional members. Administrator Doneux shared that he will be contacting Mae Davenport about possible people of interest from the Community Capacity study. Ms. Swanson asked about the interest of adding a student service learning internship. Ms. Swanson will find out more information.

Project and Program Updates

A) 2014 Partner Grant Program Summary, (Elizabeth Beckman)

An update was included with the presentation.

CAC Observer Update

Steve Duerre attended the February 4, 2015 Board of Managers meeting but was absent to report. Manager Texer stated that the rules revisions were reviewed.

Discussion –

A)New & Old Issues

No new or old business.

B)Identify CAC Observer for the February 18th and March 4th Board of Managers Meetings.

No one was identified.

C)March 11th CAC Agenda Overview

Upper Villa Park Project Review
Event Planning
CAC By Law revisions

D)2015 Meeting Schedule

“Our mission is to protect, manage, and improve the water resources of the Capitol Region Watershed District.”

Adjourn –

CAC 15-006 Motion: *To adjourn the February 11, 2015 CAC Meeting.*

Ulrich/Swanson

Unanimously approved

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Sylvander

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