



Capitol Region Watershed District

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APPROVED

Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, November 13, 2013 – 7:00 p.m.

CAC Members Present:

Gwen Willems
Michelle Ulrich
Kathryn Swanson
Steve Duerre
Mike MacDonald
David Arbeit
Bill Barton
Ted McCaslin
Richard Weil

Members absent:

Janna Caywood, with notice
Pat Byrne

Others Present:

Mark Doneux, CRWD
Michelle Sylvander, CRWD
Mary Texer, Board Manager
Shirley Reider, Board Manager
Joe Collins, Board Manager
Linda Jungwirth
Kerry Antrim, District 6
John Jungwirth
Mark Voerding
Jeff Martens, District 6

Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

Mr. Arbeit opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. with a request for introductions and any announcements.

Public Comments

Mike MacDonald asked if anyone knew how the leaf cleanup around the Como Lake area went? Unfortunately, Janna Caywood was absent and unable to provide an update for the committee.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Arbeit asked for any additions or changes to the Agenda. No changes were requested.

CAC 13-025 Motion: *To approve the CAC November 14, 2013 agenda.*

MacDonald/Willems
Unanimously approved

Approval of the October 9, 2013 CAC Minutes

Mr. Arbeit requested any changes or corrections to the minutes. There were a couple of changes noted. Bill Barton was absent with notice. Gwen Willems, Michelle Ulrich and Steve Duerre are the CAC members serving on the subcommittee formed to strengthen the role of the Citizen's Advisory Committee. The minutes will be updated to reflect these changes.

CAC 13-026 Motion: *To approve the CAC October 9, 2013 CAC Minutes.*

Duerre/MacDonald
Unanimously approved

Items for Review and Comment Requested By Board of Managers

A) A History of the Willow Reserve, Linda Jungwirth and Kerry Antrim

Linda Jungwirth and Kerry Antrim were introduced. In 2012, CRWD provided a grant to District 6 to prepare a natural and cultural history of the Willow Reserve and its surroundings. Ms. Jungwirth reviewed the area known as Willow Reserve as a 23-acre wetland located northeast of Loeb Lake. The land was originally acquired to provide a wildlife preserve. It is located within the Mississippi Flyway, the migration path for birds wintering in the south to breeding areas in the north. In the 1800's through the 1940's, much of the area was used for farming because of the rich soil. The reserve was given the name Willow Reserve because the willow plants along the railroad tracks. For many years the willows were harvested and for use in floral arrangements. Today, many changes are being proposed around the area. Ms. Jungwirth and Ms. Antrim reviewed their report and discussion followed. The Committee thanked the presenters and District 6 for their work.

B) Discussion on Role of the CAC

Ms. Willems reviewed the discussion on the CAC roles and structure. At the October 9th CAC meeting, former State Senator Ellen Anderson facilitated a discussion on ways to reinvigorate the committee. From the meeting some brainstorming generated potential changes and new roles for the CAC members. A subcommittee was formed by Gwen Willems, Michelle Ulrich and Steve Duerre to summarize the ideas. A joint meeting is being planned for December 11th with the CAC and CRWD Board of Managers to review the list and discuss ideas for strengthening. Administrator Doneux will send out an electronic poll to gauge the CAC on their highest priorities.

C) CAC Members for Partner Grant Review Committee

A subcommittee for the Partner Grants was requested and was formed to include Ted McCaslin, David Arbeit, and Mike MacDonald as the alternate. The subcommittee is scheduled to meet on Wed. November 20th at 4:30 to review 2014 Partner Grants.

Staff and Program Updates

Villa Park (Doneux)

Administrator Doneux reviewed that the Villa Park project is now complete.

Trout Brook Interceptor (Doneux)

Administrator Doneux reviewed the Trout Brook Interceptor. This project has been turned over to MN DOT. A final walk thru will take place on Friday, November 15th.

CAC Observer and Board of Managers Update

No CAC members were present for the October 16, 2013 Board of Managers meeting. Shirley Reider gave an update from the meeting. Ms. Reider shared an update on Inspiring Communities Program formerly known as NSP (Neighborhood Stabilization Program). The City of St. Paul will be renovating 77 homes and add water friendly landscaping to help revitalize neighborhoods. Administrator Doneux announced that CRWD will be awarded Program of the Year at the MAWD Annual Meeting for this program.

A resolution has been drafted by Mary Texer for MAWD Board to adopt. The resolution proposes that MAWD Board adopt and communicate to the membership:

- A structured inclusive approach to legislative lobbying that promotes active participation by the Watershed Districts, their staff and boards;

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

- Key talking points for the Watershed Districts, their staff and boards that engage legislators and advance the legislative agenda;
- A comprehensive social media strategy that informs and calls people to action in support of the legislative agenda.

Discussion –

A)New & Old Issues

Administrator Doneux announced that Bob Fossum has been promoted to Program Manager III. The Board of Managers approved a resolution to establish a Monitoring, Maintenance and Research Division of CRWD.

B)Identify CAC Observer for November 20th Board of Managers Meeting and the December 4th Board of Managers Meeting

Bill Barton has volunteered to attend the November 20, 2013 Board of Managers meeting. No members were identified for the December 4, 2013 and the December 18, 2013 Board of Managers meetings.

C)December 11, 2013 CAC Agenda Overview

The December 11, 2013 meeting will be with the CAC and CRWD Board of Managers. At the meeting, the CAC roles and structure will be reviewed and discussed.

Adjourn –

CAC 13-027 Motion: *To adjourn.*

Duerre/MacDonald

Unanimously approved

The meeting was adjourned at 9:12 PM.

Respectfully submitted,

Michelle Sylvander

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