



APPROVED October 12, 2011

Capitol Region Watershed District

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Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting

Wednesday September 14, 2011 – 7:00 p.m.

CAC Members Present:

David Arbeit, Bill Barton, Pat Byrne, Janna Caywood, Steve Duerre, Wade Johnson, Ted McCaslin, Shirley Reider, Michelle Ulrich

Members absent with notice:

Michael MacDonald, Michael Trojan, Gwen Willems

Others Present:

CRWD Manager Mike Thienes
Mark Doneux, CRWD Staff
Dawn Nelson, CRWD Staff
Lynne Kolze, MPCA
Karlyn Eckman,
U of M WRC Researcher
Mackenzie Consoer,
U of M Student

Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

Shirley Reider opened the meeting at 7:05 p.m. with introductions and a request for announcements. Committee, guests, speakers and staff introduced themselves. There were no announcements.

Public Comment – For items not on the Agenda.

Janna Caywood followed up on the Como Lake discussion from last month asking staff if they had an answer as to why Como Lake looks like it does this year. Administrator Doneux said staff do not have an answer yet. Administrator Doneux said a staff from Parks Operation and Maintenance has also received inquiries from residents and is looking for a more scientific answer; is it a regional trend or just Como Lake. Discussion occurred.

Approval of Agenda

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

CAC 11-09-01 Motion: *To approve the CAC September 7, 2011 agenda as provided.*

Arbeit/Duerre

Unanimously approved

Approval of the August 10, 2011 CAC Minutes

Ms. Reider asked for additions or changes to the August 10, 2011 CAC Minutes. There were no additions or changes to the Minutes.

CAC 11-09-02 Motion: *To approve the CAC August 10, 2011 CAC Minutes as provided.*

Arbeit/Duerre

Unanimously approved

Items for Review and Comment Requested by the Board of Managers

Como Neighborhood Knowledge, Attitudes and Practices (KAP) Study, Round One

Karlyn Eckman, Ph.D., Senior Research Associate, Water Resources Center, U of M

Administrator Doneux introduced University of Minnesota Water Resources Center researcher Karlyn Eckman. Ms. Eckman explained that the goal of the study was to gain baseline data on respondent knowledge, attitudes, practices and constraints related to water quality in Como Lake. Results will be used to

plan education, outreach activities and civic engagement activities of the Community Cleanup for Water Quality (CCWQ) project sponsored by the Freshwater Society (FWS), funded by the Capitol Region Watershed District (CRWD) and organized by the Como Lake Neighbor Network (CLNN). Ms. Eckman said first-round survey data will also be used as a baseline for comparison when the survey is repeated in fall 2011. The field portions of this study were carried out from March 14 through 31 2011. Mailed questionnaires were received throughout the month of April 2011 and data entry and analysis was completed during the first week of May. Ms. Eckman said a total of 357 questionnaires were completed. The adjusted sample included 572 households within Como subwatersheds 2 and 6, for a response rate of 62%.

Ms. Eckman said to summarize, the Round One KAP study highlights a strong concern and sense of stewardship for Como Lake among resident respondents. The study identifies areas where educational messages can be used to target knowledge gaps. Ms. Eckman said the next step is to prepare to repeat the KAP study in November 2011 and there will be a full report in early 2012 for CRWD and Freshwater Society. The committee thanked Ms. Eckman for her presentation

Discussion

Central Corridor Light Rail Transit Update

Administrator Doneux provided an update on the Central Corridor Light Rail Transit (CCLRT). Administrator Doneux explained the CCLRT construction criteria, stormwater criteria and considerations. The District hosted a Stormwater Design Workshop in June 2009. There were over 50 participants. During the workshop 15 types of BMPs were discussed. The preferred BMPs included integrated tree trench systems, vegetated medians, ROW rain gardens and other landscape practices.

Administrator Doneux noted that the work began on 4th Street in downtown St. Paul Fall of 2009. In March 2011, major work commenced on University Avenue at Emerald Street. Since March the south drive lanes have been closed off from City limit to Syndicate Avenue. Administrator Doneux said traffic is now shifted to the south drive lanes from Emerald Street to Hampden Avenue. The work continues to progress towards Syndicate Street and is scheduled to be complete before this winter. Administrator Doneux said the track is currently being laid downtown on 4th Street. Administrator Doneux showed cross sections providing the Pervious Pavers/Structural Soil designs and explained the infiltration trench designs.

Administrator Doneux said the District thought there was an opportunity to do more so the District contracted with Barr Engineering earlier this year to find additional sites to design and construct green infrastructure practices. Administrator Doneux said there were 11 suitable sites. Administrator Doneux reviewed side street designs and additional green infrastructure practices. The second phase of green infrastructure practices will include stormwater planters and rain gardens. Administrator Doneux said the construction of the first green infrastructure practice that will be is a stormwater planter at the southeast corner of Aldine Street. There will also be a two-cell rain garden at the northwest corner of Pillsbury Street. hired an engineer to conduct a site screening. Administrator Doneux said all side streets to University Avenue were assessed for water quality effectiveness, constructability and education value. There were 15 factors including high treatment volume, good draining, clean soils and not near utilities or trees.

Staff and Program Updates

Neighborhood Stabilization Program (Doneux)

Administrator Doneux said he and Anna Eleria met with staff from PED to learn about the Neighborhood Stabilization Program (NSP). Administrator Doneux explained that the NSP is a federally funded program where the City received a HUD grant to acquire foreclosed homes, rehabilitate them and then the homes are put back on the market to be sold to first time home buyers. There are about 300 homes in the program. PED staff asked if the City could partner with the District to incorporate rain gardens and other water

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

improvement projects to retain stormwater on site during the rehabilitation process. Administrator Doneux said he and Anna saw four properties that are part of the program and staff is in the process of developing basic rain garden plans for those properties. Each property will be given a basic plan and funding to include a rain garden and possibly a rain barrel to be included during the landscaping rehabilitation. Administrator Doneux said Shawn Tracy is currently lined up to design them but he probably will not have time to design 300 plans. Discussion occurred.

Stop the Rain Drain Program Update (Beckman)

There was no update

Trout Brook Interceptor/35E Reconstruction Project Update (Doneux)

Administrator Doneux said MN/DOT met with Burlington Northern who asked that our pipe under the Cayuga Bridge be relocated at their cost by the end of next year. Administrator Doneux said the District will design and manage the construction of any relocation project.

Board of Managers and CAC Observer Update

Manager Thienes said that recent Board actions included adopting the Preliminary 2012 Budget and Levy and a Capstone Project Study presentation by Lucios Jonett.

Discussion - New & Old Issues

Administrator Doneux gathered the Committee for a group photo for the District website. No discussion occurred.

October 12, 2011 Agenda Overview

Trillium Site Visit @ 5:00 the District would provide a light meal.

Adjourn – The meeting adjourned at 9:05 pm by consensus.

Respectfully submitted,

Dawn Nelson