



Capitol Region Watershed District

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Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, July 18, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.

CAC Members Present:

Pat Cavanaugh
Richard Weil
Nicole Soderholm
Mary Lilly
Steve Duerre
Gwen Willems
Kathryn Swanson
Michelle Ulrich
Mike MacDonald

Others Present:

Mark Doneux, CRWD
Britta Belden, CRWD
Belinda Gardner, CRWD
Steven Yang, CRWD
Lindsay Schwantes, CRWD
Patricia Ohmans, Frogtown Green
Joe Collins, Board of Managers

Members absent:

David Arbeit, w/notice
Bill Barton, w/notice
Bob Simonet, w/notice
Tom Elko, w/o notice

I. Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

Ms. Willems opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Ms. Willems asked for any announcements or updates and introductions.

Mr. MacDonald announced District 10 Rain Barrel event went well thanks to a grant from the District. Ms. Willems announced an article featuring the District with an interesting article on Como Lake.

II. Approval of Agenda

CAC 18-019 Motion: *To approve the CAC July 18, 2018 agenda.*

Duerre/Weil
Unanimously approved

III. Approval of Minutes

A) May 9, 2018 CAC Meeting Minutes

CAC 18-020 Motion: *To approve the May 9, 2018 minutes.*

Duerre/Weil
Unanimously approved

IV. District Initiatives for Review, Comment, and Recommendations

A) Water Stewardship in Frogtown-Patricia Ohmans

Ms. Schwantes introduced Patricia Ohmans who provided an overview of the work done in Frogtown and shared their partnership with the District. The District supports their mission to create a healthier and more beautiful neighborhood through water stewardship activities and educational programming with one of many goals of planting 1,000 trees in Frogtown park, Pollinator gardens, garden tours, promoting sustainable development. Ms. Cavanaugh asked about adult programming. Ms. Ohmans said the Frogtown activities are family friendly. Mr. Collins asked about flooding in the area. Ms. Ohmans replied that as a resident she hasn't noticed flooding. The CAC thanked Ms. Ohmans for her presentation.

B) 2017-2018 Greencorps Member Activities

Mr. Yang presented his work with the District. His focus was on Stewardship Grant Programs. Part of his work consisted of surveying residents, analyzing the results and later reviewing with staff, Board and CAC. Mr. Yang shared the new gardening guide that he helped design to inform the residents of maintenance and weed identification. He announced the first Rain Garden Workshop to be held on July 31, 2018. Mr. Yang shared the BMP database numbers, grants, efficiencies, and demographics. His recommendation included focusing mostly on Trout Brook and Phalen with more outreach opportunities in Trout Brook. Ms. Swanson asked how renters get involved in projects. Mr. Yang commented that the recommendation would be to get the residents involved. Ms. Cavanaugh said the maps are powerful. She recommended a switch to the word "profile" to "survey respondent". Ms. Cavanaugh asked Mr. Yang what he learned about policy. He replied that he learned a lot about cultural competencies at the institutional level. Ms. Willems asked about Mr. Yang's future career goals. He replied that he will be attending Duke University for Environmental Studies.

The CAC thanked Mr. Yang for his presentation.

C) Diversity Strategic Plan Presentation

Mr. Doneux reviewed the plan and process for the Diversity Strategic Plan. Mr. Collins stated that the mission is to serve the citizens of the District. Mr. Doneux walked through the plan, value statement, goals, priorities, action steps and indicators of progress. He mentioned that this is not a new program, but rather how we do our work with a different lens or view. Mr. Doneux clarified what the District considers underserved and the opportunity to follow best practices. Ms. Lilly mentioned that the indicators of success column repeats the action. She recommends that the action steps be intentional and the indicators of progress provide a specific benchmark. Ms. Swanson mentioned that the location of the new building should increase the diversity of the CAC. There was much agreement that the Partner Grant program offers a huge opportunity for diversity efforts. Ms. Cavanaugh emphasized that diversity work in our industry is untapped territory and that the plan is a living document, and diversity work is the right thing to do.

V. CAC Initiatives

A) 2018 Student Learner Program Update (Soderholm)

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

Ms. Swanson shared the information that she found out about the student learner is that he was ill and ultimately failed his class. There is no further update at this time.

VI. Project and Program Updates

A) Building Update (Doneux)

Mr. Doneux provided an update on the building. He mentioned it is on schedule and budget.

B) 2019 Budget Update (Doneux)

Mr. Doneux reviewed the 2019 Budget.

C) Como Lake Management Plan Update (Belden)

Ms. Belden provided an update on the Como Lake Management Plan. She announced that the Public Advisory group meeting will be held on Thursday August 9, 2018 at the Como Pavilion. This is the first kick-off meeting to learn more and provide feedback on goals and expectations. This event is an active recruitment effort to form the PAG. Ms. Belden reviewed the table of meetings with Board, CAC, AAG and PAG. Ms. Belden is looking to the CAC for recruiters on July 26 and August 2. Ms. Belden reviewed the Como Lake story Map and video and presented it to the group. Ms. Gardner will send the group a reminder about the PAG meetings.

D) Strategic and Water Management Plan Update (Doneux)

Mr. Doneux reviewed the proposal for the strategic and water management plan. He stated that the planning phase for the strategy plan and watershed plan will be discussed with the CAC. The process will be straight-forward, the district will meet with stakeholders and discuss key strategies and goals. Ms. Lilly asked about the difference between the two plans. Mr. Doneux replied the plan proposal looks at the SWOT, logistics, implementation of the District and organizational direction. The watershed plan details how we do the work within the District.

VII. CAC Observer Update

Ms. Cavanaugh reviewed the May 16 Board meeting.

VIII. Discussion

- a. New & Old Issues
- b. CAC observer for July 25, 2018 and August 1, 2018 Board of Managers Meeting
- c. 2018 Agenda Plan

A) New & Old issues

The CAC thanked the District for the tour.

B) CAC Observer for the Board of Managers Meetings July 25, 2018 and August 1, 2018

Mike Macdonald will be at July 25, 2018.

C) 2018 Agenda Plan

Ms. Willems reviewed the 2018 agenda plan.

IX. Adjourn

CAC 18-21 Motion: *To adjourn the July 18, 2018 CAC Meeting.*

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

Weil/Soderholm
Unanimously approved

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.
Respectfully submitted,
Belinda Gardner

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