



## Capitol Region Watershed District

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### **Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, December 14, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.**

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#### **CAC Members Present:**

Pat Cavanaugh  
Steve Duerre  
Kathryn Swanson  
Gwen Willems  
Richard Weil  
Mike MacDonald  
David Arbeit  
Bob Simonet  
Rick Sanders  
Michelle Ulrich  
Bill Barton  
Claudia Hochstein  
Nicole Soderholm

#### **Others Present:**

Jessica Bromelkamp, CRWD  
Mark Doneux, CRWD  
Belinda Gardner, CRWD  
Michael Thienes, Board of  
Managers  
Jessica Bromelkamp, CRWD  
Forrest Kelley, CRWD  
Barb Platt, Guest

#### **Welcome, Announcements, and Updates**

Mr. Duerre opened the meeting at 7:00 p.m. Mr. Duerre asked for any announcements or updates.

Mr. Barton announced Gloria Dei's Water Steward Award given at the MN Association of Soil and Water Conservation District awards ceremony.

Mr. Doneux announced that the District received a Historical Society Grant for Capitol Region Watershed Districts oral history study. Mr. Doneux thanked Pat Cavanaugh for work pulling material together for the application and mentioned that we will begin the study early 2017.

#### **III. Approval of Agenda**

No additions or changes.

**CAC 16-038 Motion:** *To approve the CAC December 14, 2016 agenda.*

Arbeit/Sanders  
Unanimously approved

#### **IV. Approval of Minutes**

**A) November 9, 2016 CAC Meeting Minutes**

**CAC 16-039 Motion:** *To approve the November 9, 2016 minutes.*

Arbeit/Cavanaugh  
Unanimously approved

## **V. District Initiatives for Review, Comment, and Recommendations**

### A) Reappointment Recommendations

Mr. Doneux reminded the committee that the board annually appointments the CAC and that the CAC recommends a slate of CAC. Mr. Doneux mentioned that in 2016 the CAC had very good attendance and that we met the bylaws of the CAC.

**CAC 16-040 Motion:** *Recommend reappointing CAC members through December 2017.*

Willems/MacDonald  
Unanimously Approved

## **VI. CAC Initiatives**

### A) Service Learning Student Program Update

Ms. Swanson reviewed the timeline for the student learner program. Claudia Hochstein offered to assist with student learner interviews.

### B) 2016 CRWD Watershed Steward Award Program

Ms. Bromelkamp reminded the group of the awards ceremony to be held at the Wilder Center on December 21<sup>st</sup> at 6:30pm. Ms. Bromelkamp provided draft programs and asked the CAC for volunteers with registration and set up. Ms. Cavanaugh volunteered for set up and Mr. Weil and Mr. Duerre volunteered for registration. Ms Bromelkamp asked the CAC to be available for pictures after the ceremony.

### C) 2016 State of the River Recap

Mr. Doneux reviewed the State of the River report by Friends of the Mississippi. Mr. Doneux gathered some feedback from the CAC on hosting this type of event as well as the quality of the presentation.

Ms. Swanson described that she was glad to hear the presentation and it made her think more about educating companies about excessive use of parking lot salt. Ms. Willems stated that the presentation had great education outreach benefits. Ms. Swanson asked if the presentation could be held at a library or a common location. Ms. Cavanaugh mentioned that the presentation was held in other locations and may have had an impact on attendance.

Mr. Arbeit mentioned a presentation that he attended at the Ramsey County Library and they had 50-60 people. He mentioned that more presentations the more informed the CAC and community becomes. Ms. Hochstein mentioned that there are other venues such as the Tap Room drawing a diverse group. Ms.

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Cavanaugh mentioned that we should communicate more about the CAC and invite the guests to the CAC meeting. Mr. Doneux mentioned that when we have a better location we could accommodate more guests at a meeting.

#### D) 2016 Fall Moos Family Lecture Series with Janet Attarian Recap

Mr. Doneux discussed the Fall Moos Family Lecture Series and gathered some feedback from the CAC on participating at this type of event.

Ms. Hochstein mentioned that she participated and she thought it went great. Ms. Cavanaugh suggested that we invite elected representatives. Ms. Bromelkamp replied that she does invite councilmembers and elected officials however inviting via email can be challenging. Mr. Doneux talked about a phone app used for gathering input at events and it might be something that we can use in the future.

## VII. Project and Program Updates

#### A) Upper Villa Project Update

Mr. Kelley provided an update on the Upper Villa Project. Now that the project has been completed, presentations have been given to the Board of Managers, MAWD Annual conference, Indianapolis for Storm Con and submitted an abstract for the Water Environment Federation in Chicago next year. Mr. Kelley reviewed the issues and solutions for Lake McCarrons and described the work that needs to be done on the lake such as catching sediment and volume up stream of Villa Park. Mr. Kelley reviewed the lake data and mentioned that the project is a prevention project. The recommendations reduce volume upstream and remove 45 pounds total phosphorus per year. Mr. Kelley stated that the District reviewed five options and determined the most cost effective option and reviewed the partners and contractors on the project.

Ms. Willems asked about the maintenance. Ms. Ulrich asked if the City shares in responsibility in the maintenance and Mr. Kelley replied that the City will own and maintain the system.

Mr. Sanders mentioned that the Upper Villa presentation would also be good for neighborhood groups.

#### B) 2017 Partner Grants

Mr. Doneux reviewed the 2017 Partner Grants. The District received 19 Partner Grant applications totaling \$277,433 in funding request. The 2017 Partner Grant Review Committee of Board Mangers Reider and Thienes and CAC member Willems and Swanson reviewed the proposals on November 22 and made a recommendation to bring to the Board. Six of the applications were pulled from the 2017 Partner Grant pool because the proposals were better aligned with other District programs such as stewardship grants or general education and outreach. Staff will work with the applicants and explore funding for those proposals through other budgets.

The Partner Grant Review Committee recommended \$87,000 in funding for 10 proposals. The Board approved the Committee's recommendation with no changes at the December 7, 2016 Board meeting.

#### C) 2017 Special Grants

Mr. Doneux reviewed the 2017 Special Grants. A review committee consisting of two board members and one Citizen Advisory Committee member met to review applications and develop a funding

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recommendation. Three projects were selected for full funding, and two projects were awarded partial funding to advance feasibility studies. Those projects may be eligible for additional Special Grant funds if feasibility studies identify viable water quality improvement opportunities. In total, \$226,550 of the \$350,000 budgeted are recommended for grant awards. The remaining funds will be reserved to supplement current projects if additional opportunities are identified or to fund additional projects that may come up in 2017.

## **VIII. CAC Observer Update**

Mr. Weil commented on the December 7<sup>th</sup> Board of Managers meeting.

Mr. Thienes reviewed the November 16 meeting and it was about the Upper Villa project and how it started as a capstone project and a group of students came back with the Upper Villa Project.

Ms. Swanson mentioned recognizing the Capstone students and recognizing the college.

## **IX. Discussion**

- a. New & Old Issues
- b. CAC observer for December 21, 2016 and January 4, 2016 Board of Managers Meeting
- c. 2016 Meeting Schedule

### **A) New & Old issues**

Mr. Arbeit asked about the District building plan and soccer stadium update. Mr. Doneux stated that there's a meeting tomorrow and if all goes well the close date would be in February and the whole process would take a year.

Mr. Doneux stated that the construction work for soccer stadium will begin in spring. The city council approved overall site plan but the permits have not been approved.

### **B) CAC Observer for the Board of Managers Meetings December 21, 2016 and January 4, 2016**

Ms. Cavanaugh volunteered for December 21, 2016.

### **C) 2016 Meeting Schedule**

Mr. Doneux stated that the 2016 Meeting Schedule has been adapted to the CAC and Board projects and an integrated schedule will be presented in place.

Ms. Swanson mentioned being added to the April meeting for the Student Learner presentation.

## **X. Adjourn**

**CAC 16-041 Motion:** *To adjourn the December 14, 2016 CAC Meeting.*

Duerre/Swanson  
Unanimously approved

The meeting was adjourned at 9:00 PM.

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Respectfully submitted,  
Belinda Gardner

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