



Capitol Region Watershed District

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Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, July 12, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.

CAC Members Present:

Steve Duerre
Gwen Willems
David Arbeit
Rick Sanders
Pat Cavanaugh
Mary Lilly
Mike MacDonald
Claudia Hochstein
Bob Simonet
Hunter Smoak
Richard Weil

Others Present:

Belinda Gardner, CRWD
Lindsay Schwantes, CRWD
Shirley Reider, Board of
Managers
Mark Doneux, CRWD
Janna Caywood, Como Active
Citizen Network

Members absent:

Michelle Ulrich w/notice
Nicole Soderholm w/notice
Kathryn Swanson w/notice
Bill Barton

Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

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

Mr. Arbeit asked Janna Caywood to comment on the Storm Drain Mural. Ms. Caywood replied that the Friends of the Mississippi River found an artist and developed a collaborative process with the community to create the Mural. They are looking for a small group of community members to brainstorm and give input on the design and message. The meeting will be held July 13, 6:30-8:00 pm.

Mr. Doneux suggested introductions for new CAC member and guest.

III. Approval of Agenda

CAC 17-019 Motion: *To approve the CAC July 12, 2017 agenda.*

Sanders/Duerre
Unanimously approved

IV. Approval of Minutes

A) May 10, 2017 CAC Meeting Minutes

CAC 17-020 Motion: *To approve the May 10, 2017 minutes.*

Weil/Sanders

Unanimously approved

V. District Initiatives for Review, Comment, and Recommendations

A) Community Curb Cleanup Model- Janna Caywood Como Active Citizen Network

Ms. Schwantes introduced Janna Caywood.

Ms. Caywood provided background information on the purpose, approach, and impact of the Como Active Citizen Network. The Model launches a leadership team of neighbors who learn water quality issues, organize neighbors, and implement a resident-led solution.

Ms. Schwantes asked Ms. Caywood to elaborate on the evolution of the network and the changes made. Ms. Caywood replied that the group went through leadership training and refocused the purpose of the organization.

Ms. Cavanaugh asked about the relationship of District Councils, characteristics, and activism. Ms. Caywood replied that there is a long-standing relationship with District 10. The current chair of the enviro committee is on the leadership team of the network. Ms. Reider commented that the initial phases of developing the leadership team can pull from District 10. Mr. Arbeit commented that when he chaired in the beginning other organizations were restricted whereas the network was not. Ms Reider commented on the model that it can be used in multiple districts. One of the key features is to identify the collaboration and find out what's in place already and what the network can offer as value. Mr. Arbeit commented that the model should include people who were involved in the beginning stages of development. Ms. Schwantes commented that the District is prepared to add to the model report. Ms. Schwantes mentioned that the report will be flexible and adaptive. The CAC thanked Ms. Caywood for her presentation.

VI. CAC Initiatives

A) Awards Program Update

Mr. MacDonald commented that the Awards committee talked about possible changes to the program including adding another category and develop criteria that will help people nominate. Mr. Doneux commented that the Awards Program will asked the CAC to adopt the full program with new category and the criteria. The plan is to move the event to January. Mr. MacDonald reminded the CAC to nominate.

B) Student Learner Update

Mr. MacDonald directed the CAC to review the Student Learner project by viewing the presentation board available and displayed.

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

VII. Project and Program Updates

A) 2017 CAC Tour Recap

The CAC commented that the tour was very useful. They enjoyed the diversity in the sites. Mr. MacDonald mentioned that it is fun to see the progression of the projects.

Mr. Doneux presented a couple of pictures of the Como High School site and elaborated on the diversion structures and the pretreatment practice and summarized the hydrology system.

Mr. Arbeit asked Mr. Doneux to discuss the boundaries in St. Paul and how the District realized the initial map was wrong. St. Paul Public Schools right of way and the project was a landmark agreement that almost didn't happen. There was much discussion about this agreement. Ms. Lilly asked if the mapping will be updated and Mr. Doneux replied that the District will continue to make the updates.

B) Building Update

Mr. Doneux provided an update on the new building. Mr. Doneux presented the schematic design and reviewed the history of the existing business and the process of selecting the property at 595 Aldine. Mr. Doneux commented that the Board approved the schematic design. Ms. Willems asked about guests who park in the back and the reception being in the front. Mr. Doneux replied that there will be a combination of signage and systems. Ms. Hochstein asked about the windows for bird safety and suggested etchings as one solution.

VIII. CAC Observer Update

Ms. Reider reviewed the June Board Meetings.

IX. Discussion

- a. New & Old Issues
- b. CAC observer for July 19, 2017 and August 2, 2017 Board of Managers Meeting
- c. 2017 CAC Agenda Planner
- d. Upcoming CRWD Events

A) New & Old issues

Mr. Simonet asked about an update on the water controls systems going in at the stadium site. Mr. Doneux replied that there will be a form of a combined system and may not include a water feature. There was a public hearing two weeks ago.

Ms. Hoschstein asked the CAC if they would be interested in hosting their own community water meetings. There were several people who agreed.

B) CAC Observer for the Board of Managers Meetings July 19, 2017 and August 2, 2017

Ms. Cavanaugh will attend the July 19th meeting.

C) CAC Agenda Planner

Budget and updates include History Study

D) Upcoming CRWD events

Ms. Schwantes promoted a District event happening on July 20.

X. Adjourn

CAC 17-021 Motion: *To adjourn the July 12, 2017 CAC Meeting.*

Willems/Duerre
Unanimously approved

The meeting was adjourned at 9:03 PM.
Respectfully submitted,
Belinda Gardner

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