



Capitol Region Watershed District

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Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, October 12, 2016 – 7:00 p.m.

CAC Members Present:

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

Others Present:

Jessica Bromelkamp, CRWD
Mark Doneux, CRWD
Belinda Gardner, CRWD
Mary Texer, Board of Managers

Members absent:

David Arbeit, w/ notice

Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

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

Ms. Willems invited the CAC to the Ramsey Conversation District's 2016 State of the Waters event on October 20, 7:00pm-8:30pm. Ms. Willems will send out an email.

Mr. Barton attended the State of the River at the Science Museum of Minnesota and learned from the report that micro fibers have been found everywhere, water, fish, wildlife and bugs are eating the fibers.

III. Approval of Agenda

No changes.

CAC 16-031 Motion: *To approve the CAC October 12, 2016 agenda.*

Willems/Soderholm
Unanimously approved

IV. Approval of Minutes

A) August 10, 2016 CAC Meeting Minutes

CAC 16-032 Motion: *To approve the September 14, 2016 minutes.*

Sanders/MacDonald
Unanimously approved

V. District Initiatives for Review, Comment and Recommendations

A) Transforming Central High School Project Update

Mr. Doneux provided a presentation on the final details from Transforming Central High School Project. The stormwater treatment areas at Central High School help reduce pollution in the Mississippi River. Polluted stormwater runoff from Central used to flow from rooftops, parking lots and sidewalks to storm drains and then the Mississippi River. Transforming Central is a community effort to reshape the urban landscape of Central High School to improve the students' daily experience, address the environmental impacts of the campus, and connect with the vibrant community that embraces the school. It is a great example of the way storm water management can be incorporated into a multi-faceted project that seamlessly improves water quality and the lived experience of people. In addition, the process incorporated many different groups and partners to realize a transformation that works for the whole community as well as the environment. A big part of the project is education so signage and classroom space were incorporated. A previously bunker-like exterior is now beautiful, welcoming, and good for everyone.

Mr. Doneux discussed how permeable pavers provide runoff from the plaza to soak into the ground, tree trenches capture runoff from the plaza to be used for watering trees and a large underground rock trench with perforated pipes allows runoff to soak into the ground. In addition, two rain gardens capture runoff from the plaza and grassy hill providing less runoff and cleaner water.

Ms. Cavanaugh asked about the people involved in the project. Mr. Doneux replied that the parents, students and teachers along with facilities management were involved in the project.

Ms. Soderholm asked about salting the pavers. Mr. Doneux replied that there have been meetings about winter maintenance and they will be invited to participate in the winter maintenance training next week.

B) Harambee Elementary School Project Update

Mr. Doneux provided a presentation and update on the Harambee Elementary School project. The Harambee school project was the first site where the District developed a Clean Water Plan.

Mr. Barton commented on the size of the parking lot. Mr. Doneux replied that the easiest path was treating the runoff versus reducing the parking lot.

VI. CAC Initiatives

A) Service Learning Student Program Update

Ms. Willems started the discussion. There was an ongoing discussion about the District's involvement and if the District would continue facilitating the Student Learner Program. Mr. Doneux confirmed that Ms. Swanson is on board for heading up the project and taking the lead. Ms. Swanson agreed and replied that she would work on firming up and managing the structure and outcome.

B) 2016 CRWD Watershed Steward Award Program

Ms. Bromelkamp provided an update on the Watershed Awards nominations. At the time of the meeting 12 nominations were submitted. Ms. Bromelkamp reminded the group the awards ceremony will be held at the Wilder Center on December 21st at 6:30pm. Ms. Bromelkamp commented that they are looking for more Young Watershed Steward nominations. She also asked for feedback from the group about last year's event. There was much discussion about how nominations are submitted per the CAC nomination rules and there will be more conversation about the awards nomination rules in the future.

C) Fall Moos Family Lecture Series with Freshwater Society

Janet Attarian, City of Detroit Green Streets, is the speaker for the next Fall Moos Lecture Series. The meeting will be held at the U of MN St. Paul Campus Tuesday, November 15, 6:00 pm Social, 7:00pm Presentation.

VII. Project and Program Updates

A) Willow Reserve Outreach

Mr. Doneux showed the group the video that was produced by the City showcasing the Willow Reserve Outreach project.

Ms. Willems asked if the video was on the District's website. Ms. Bromelkamp replied that she would confirm and make sure it gets on the website.

B) Education and Outreach update

Ms. Bromelkamp provided an Education and Outreach update. The 2016 Master Water Stewards are completing their projects and are invited to the awards ceremony. The next class of students started last night and the watershed tour is on Saturday. The next community event is with the FrogTown Green

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organization. The event will showcase the first nature center at Hmong town market. Ongoing fall programs include Adopt a Drain and Leaf Clean ups and will expanded to Roseville in the next couple of years. Ms. Bromelkamp asked the group about the State of the River presentation in November and the invite list and how the meeting will be conducted. The meeting will start at 7:00pm with a 45-minute State of the River presentation and the CAC members will conduct their meeting at 8:00 pm.

VIII. CAC Observer Update

Ms. Cavanaugh provided an update from the September 21, 2016 Board of Managers meeting. The meeting focused on the Model Atlas 14 update and a Crisis Communication Plan update. Ms. Texer provided an update on the October 5, 2016 meeting focusing on the Office Fit Plan for 595 Aldine.

IX. Discussion

- a. New & Old Issues
- b. CAC observer for October 19, 2016 and November 2, 2016 Board of Managers Meeting
- c. 2016 Meeting Schedule

A) New & Old issues

Ms. Swanson clarified that she will contact the instructor about the Student Learner Project and she will log the hours and make it known that she won't post the last five hours unless the District receives a deliverable. Ms. Swanson throughout an idea of having art project versus an environmental project. Ms. Swanson would like to finalize the details by December. Ms. Swanson will review the details at the next meeting.

Mr. MacDonald mentioned that last weekend CRWD provided funds to replant Churchill street Gardens. Public Works and the neighbors were collectively able to develop a new rain garden design that includes 1100 plants.

B) CAC Observer for the Board of Managers Meetings October 19, 2016 and November 2, 2016

Ms. Cavanaugh volunteered to attend the October 19, 2016 meeting.

C) 2016 Meeting Schedule

Mr. Doneux reviewed the 2016 Meeting Schedule.

X. Adjourn

CAC 16-033 Motion: *To adjourn the October 12, 2016 CAC Meeting.*

Sanders/Simonet
Unanimously approved

The meeting was adjourned at 9:05 PM.
Respectfully submitted,

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

Belinda Gardner

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