



Capitol Region Watershed District

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Approved

Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, April 11, 2018 – 7:00 p.m.

CAC Members Present:

Steve Duerre
Gwen Willems
Michelle Ulrich
Nicole Soderholm
David Arbeit
Richard Weil
Pat Cavanaugh
Mary Lilly
Bill Barton
Kathryn Swanson

Others Present:

Mark Doneux, CRWD
Belinda Gardner, CRWD
Shirley Reider, Board of
Managers
Katie Brom, Great River
Greening
Christina Norton, Student

Members absent:

Mike MacDonald
Tom Elko
Bob Simonet

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. Arbeit provided an update on the work being done on the stormwater pipe at Como Lake.

III. Approval of Agenda

CAC 18-010 Motion: *To approve the CAC April 11, 2018 agenda.*

Arbeit/Soderholm
Unanimously approved

IV. Approval of Minutes

A) March 14, 2018 CAC Meeting Minutes

CAC 18-011 Motion: *To approve the March 14, 2018 minutes as amended.*

Duerre/Weil
Unanimously approved

V. District Initiatives for Review, Comment, and Recommendations

A) Field Learning for Teens

Administrator Doneux introduced Katie Brom, Outreach Manager of Field Learning for Teens an outdoor youth education program designed to target high school age youth of color. It is a free program of Great River Greening. The program goals are to include all voices and introduce youth of color to environmental services, restoration work to eliminate access barriers to career opportunities.

In 2011, the program had 500 young people, growing to 1700 youth served. The program has 79% youth of color.

In 2017, the District helped fund Girl Scouts Connectz. Last October the group learned how to control erosion and seeded wetland habitat restoration area.

Mr. Arbeit asked about how youth groups such as Girl Scouts Connectz, are introduced to Field Learning for Teens. Ms. Brom replied that the Girl Scouts Connectz is a program that has specific access guidelines and Ms. Brom directly connects with students through school groups.

Ms. Reider asked about the program's follow up for career opportunities. Ms. Brom replied that she reaches out and connects the students with resources.

Ms. Lilly asked about the statistics of program youth entering the environmental field. Ms. Brom replied that the program is working on keeping track of that information, but that the program does keep student information.

Ms. Willems mentioned that she is interested in the bigger picture. She asked about the projection for the field and the growth opportunity. Ms. Brom was unable to provide that information. Ms. Swanson commented that the field is very competitive.

Ms. Brom played a video for the group with interviews of staff and youth from the organization.

The CAC thanked Ms. Brom for her presentation.

VI. CAC Initiatives

A) 2018 Student Learner Program Update (Soderholm)

Ms. Soderholm commented that the student learner finalized the interview questions, but Ms. Swanson was unable to contact the student learner. Ms. Swanson will contact the student learner's instructor and report back at a future meeting.

B) CAC Officer Elections (Doneux)

Ms. Willems emphasized a special thank you to Mike MacDonald for his work as co-chair.

CAC officer elections for two Co-chairs and a Secretary. Ms. Willems opened the floor for nominations. Co-chairs: Mr. Duerre nominated Gwen Willems as Co-chair. Ms. Willems nominated Steve Duerre as Co-chair. Secretary: Ms. Willems opened the floor for nominations. Mr. Duerre nominated Michelle Ulrich.

Motion 18-012: *Elect Gwen Willems as CAC Co-chair.*

Unanimously approved

Motion 18-013: *Elect Steve Duerre as CAC Co-chair.*

Unanimously approved

Motion 18-014: *Elect Michelle Ulrich as Secretary.*

Unanimously approved

C) 2018 Tour Draft Itinerary

Administrator Doneux reviewed the tour itinerary. Mr. Arbeit asked about videography for the tour. Administrator Doneux offered to discuss video options before the tour.

VII. Project and Program Updates

A) Building Update (Doneux)

Administrator Doneux provided a building update. JE Dunn has cleared out the front of the building. The building permit is imminent. The final question holding up the permit concerns sewer easements, which may take time. An encroachment permit will be obtained from public works. The CAC thanked Administrator Doneux for his update.

B) Como Lake Management Plan Update (Doneux)

Administrator Doneux provided an update on the Como Lake Management Plan. At the next Board meeting staff will ask for approval of contract with Limnotech to develop the Como Lake Management Plan. There will be a technical advisory group and CAC members are invited to participate in that group. The CAC thanked Mr. Doneux for his update.

C) Annual Report Update

Administrator Doneux alerted the group that Ms. Bromelkamp will send out links prompting them to provide feedback online by next Wednesday prior to the Annual Report presentation to the Board of Managers.

Mr. Arbeit asked who the audience is for the Annual Report. Administrator Doneux replied that it is a State-required report.

Ms. Swanson asked about having District resources available at libraries.

VIII. CAC Observer Update

Ms. Lilly reviewed the topics from the last Board meeting. Ms. Lilly mentioned that there was discussion about planning environmental art at MN United Soccer Stadium. Ms. Reider mentioned the Directors' meeting with various City departments. She also mentioned a grant to the MN Landscape Association for

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

new office that will demonstrate stormwater features. Administrator Doneux mentioned that project drove the Stewardship Grant calculator discussion.

IX. Discussion

- a. New & Old Issues
- b. CAC observer for April 18, 2018 and May 2, 2018 Board of Managers Meeting
- c. 2018 Agenda Plan

A) New & Old issues

Ms. Cavanaugh commented on the I 94 land bridge park proposal by the Rondo community and recommended that the District stay on top of it. There was discussion by the group.

B) CAC Observer for the Board of Managers Meetings April 18, 2018 and May 2, 2018

Mr. Weil volunteered for May 2nd.

C) 2018 Agenda Plan

Ms. Willems read the 2018 agenda plan. The tour starts early this year.

There will be a special new building tour to be announced at a future meeting.

Move the New Building Open House to November.

X. Adjourn

CAC 18-015 Motion: *To adjourn the April 11, 2018 CAC Meeting.*

Soderholm/Swanson
Unanimously approved

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

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