



Capitol Region Watershed District

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Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting Wednesday, December 9, 2020, 7:00 p.m.

CAC Members Present:

Nicole Soderholm, remote
Bob Simonet, remote
Mary Lilly, remote
Mike MacDonald, remote
Gwen Willems, remote
Richard Weil, remote
Michelle Ulrich, remote
Steve Duerre, remote
Tom Elko, remote
David Arbeit, remote

Others Present:

Mark Doneux, CRWD
Joe Collins, CRWD, remote
Britta Belden, CRWD, remote
Jessica Bromelkamp, CRWD, remote

CAC Members Absent:

Pat Cavanaugh, excused
Cheryl Braun, excused

I. Welcome, Announcements, and Updates

Ms. Willems opened the meeting at 7:01 p.m. by videoconference. Ms. Willems asked for any announcements or updates. There were none.

II. Public Comment for Issues Not on the Agenda

Ms. Willems asked for comments not on the agenda. There were none.

III. Approval of Agenda

CAC 20-36 Motion: *To approve the CAC December 9, 2020 agenda*

Duerre/Weil
Unanimously approved

IV. Approval of Minutes

A. November 10, 2020 CAC Meeting Minutes

CAC 20-37 Motion: *To approve the November 10, 2020 CAC Meeting Minutes.*

Arbeit/Duerre

Unanimously approved

V. District Initiatives for Review, Comment and Recommendations

A. Como Lake Management Plan Implementation Update (Belden)

Ms. Belden presented an update on implementation of the District's Como Lake Management Plan. Ms. Belden highlighted the April 2020 curly leaf pondweed herbicide treatment project, which overall was very successful, and the May 2020 alum treatment of Como Lake, focusing on treating deeper parts of the lake. Ms. Belden provided the CAC with a project video on the alum treatment process in Como Lake. Ms. Belden reported that in 2020 the District has seen a massive drop in phosphorous and chloride concentrations in Como Lake. Ms. Belden stated in response to Mr. Arbeit's question regarding future project effectiveness that the alum treatment should have 5-20 years' longevity.

VI. CAC Initiatives

A. Citizen Advisory Committee Name Change (Doneux)

Mr. Doneux introduced the topic of the CAC's considering a CAC name change from Citizen Advisory Committee, to Community Advisory Committee. Finding there is no statutory prohibition in Minnesota Statutes section 103D.331 to changing the Committee's name as proposed, the CAC determined that a more inclusive name change to "Community Advisory Committee" is preferred. The CAC by motion proposed the name change to the Board of Managers for its consideration.

B. Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion Update (Gardner)

Ms. Gardner reviewed the District's Diversity, Equity and Inclusion Plan, encouraging CAC involvement with the District's Diversity Committee. Ms. Willems and Ms. Soderholm volunteered to consider actions for future involvement. Mr. Elko volunteered to be Ms. Cavanaugh's Alternate representative on the Diversity Committee.

C. Watershed Stewards Award Update (Bromelkamp)

Ms. Bromelkamp presented the Watershed Stewards Award update, recommending the CAC forego a District-wide nomination process and consider top recommendations for the following three categories: Citizen, Partner and Outreach Program. The award ceremony would be virtual, held in late January or early

February 2021. Ms. Bromelkamp asked for CAC volunteers to help with presenting the awards in virtual format. Ms. Willems congratulated Ms. Bromelkamp on her innovative work in developing this virtual awards program.

VII. Project and Program Updates

A. MAWD Annual Conference Review (Doneux)

Mr. Doneux reviewed the MAWD Annual Conference, with CAC member attendees commenting the virtual meetings and presentations went well. Mr. Doneux's presentation on watershed district bond financing and Ms. Gardner's presentation on the District's Diversity Plan were highlighted.

VIII. CAC Observer Update

Mr. Duerre reported on his attending the Board's November 30, 2020 regular meeting. Mr. Duerre noted the Board considered a number of permit applications and permit closures, including approving a certificate of completion for the St. Anthony Park Elementary project. Among other actions taken the Board also awarded a stewardship grant to Bang Brewing for raingarden construction to improve water quality. Manager Collins added that at this meeting the Board approved the updated COVID-19 Response Plan presented by Mr. Doneux, including a Work From Home Allowance Policy to offset employee costs associated with their working and meeting offsite.

IX. Discussion

A. New & Old Issues

None

B. CAC Observer for December 16, 2020 Board of Managers Meeting

Mr. Simonet volunteered to attend the Board's December 16, 2020 meeting.

X. Adjourn

CAC 20-38 Motion: *To adjourn the December 9, 2020 CAC Meeting.*

Simonet/MacDonald

Unanimously approved

The meeting was adjourned at 8:58 p.m.

Respectfully submitted, Michelle Ulrich