

Draft Regular Meeting Minutes – June 19, 2024 RPBCWD Citizen Advisory Committee Monthly Meeting
Location: RPBCWD Office

ATTENDANCE

Present: Andrew Aller, Bonnie Nelson, Dave Paulson, Jim Boettcher, Marilyn Torkelson, Sharon McCotter, Manage Ziegler, Eleanor, Liz, Rachel (presentation only)

Excused: Andrew Peterson, Michelle Frost, Terry Jorgenson

CAC MOTIONS for the Board of Managers: None

Key CAC discussion items for the Board of Managers:

1.

I. Opening (5 min)

- A. Meeting called to order by Andrew Aller at 6:00 p.m.
- B. Manager David Ziegler attended on behalf of the BOM
- C. Matters of general public interest. No one from general public was present
- D. Approval of the agenda.
 - 1. Andrew Aller moved to amend agenda to provide the correct date for the CAC meeting of June 17, 2024. Sharon McCotter seconded
 - 2. After group discussion, Andrew Aller moved to amend agenda to add section V.D.i “continue water conservation discussion”
 - 3. Amended agenda approved by unanimous consent.
- E. Designate timekeeper – Andrew Aller agreed to be timekeeper.
- F. Previous CAC meeting minutes approved by unanimous consent.

II. Learning Presentation – Rachel Whittington – GreenCorps/RPBCWD project

Recorded

III. Board Meeting Recap and Discussion – Report by Andrew Aller

- A. Highlights from most recent BOM meeting; recording on YouTube channel
 - 1. Many items were pulled out of the consent agenda to make points that were previously made.
 - 2.outdoor courts approved
 - 3. Manor Road...rule j rate
 - 4. City of Chanhassen Regional Stormwater Reuse variance...
 - 5. No change to insurance provider, price went down
 - 6. BOM went into closed session to discuss court case “Larry Koch vs. RPBCWD”, at which point Andrew left meeting

- B. No CAC recommendations to Board at their last meeting
- C. No New Advisory Topics from the Board
- D. CAC members: Please sign up to attend a Board meeting [July-Dec is OPEN]

IV. Program and Project Updates

- A. General (Liz)
 - 1. Stewardship grant program has stopped accepting applications because the funding is used up by the applications already received.
 - 2. Changes to next year's grant program are being considered. Will bring to CAC, BOM in July
 - a. want to physically align with shoreland health program
 - b. next year considering offering specific incentives to improve shoreline health to individual property owner, and beachlots.
 - c. Finalizing Score the Shore website page, need to do this first
 - 3. Manager appointments – Carver County will be appointing June 18, Hennepin County next week
 - 4. Did not get another Green Corps member for next round.
 - 5. Administrator Jeffrey will provide updates to the CAC in September.
- B. E&O updates (Eleanor)
 - 1. I table at the Minnetonka Farmer's Market on Tuesday every other week from 2-6. (Ridgedale Commons). Helpers appreciated.
 - 2. Will have a table at Chanhassen 4th of July from 4-6 p.m. Don't need a helper, but stop by.
 - 3. Creek Week was fun. We'll keep it in the spring. Allowed us to coordinate with garlic mustard pulls and the rainbarrel workshop.

V. CAC Process and Function

- D. Opportunity for discussion items/motions from CAC members
 - i. Continue water conservation discussion
 - Dave Paulson will write up a discussion item for the next agenda about educating folks why restrictions on common-use resources, like water, is important. For example, explaining the basis for the city's water restrictions.
 - Manager Ziegler suggested that folks could consider using lake water for shoreland buffer irrigation or more. 4 folks do this at Duck Lake. Discussion followed
 - How would this be impacted by water levels? Or during drought conditions
 - Are there any laws about water appropriation?

- Minnetonka registers wells
 - DNR water appropriation levels are high
- Marilyn Torkelson opened discussion on water conservation opportunities.
1. Implementing or partnering with cities to support a Water Conservation Audit. Similar to energy audits such as this one provided at a discount by the City of Eden Prairie to its residents, the watershed can work with cities to offer water conservation audits: (https://www.edenprairie.org/Home/Components/News/News/7291/28?utm_medium=push_notification&utm_source=rss&utm_campaign=rss_VWO+Engage¬ification_source=pushcrew_rss&fbclid=IwAR2TngETB4PENKr2HpggVFvpV9Y4T9RcAmrR54EieHsqOrLgohoWHKRJVMU&npage=16&arch=1)
 - *2"Home Energy Audit" Save money on energy bills by scheduling a [Home Energy Squad](#) visit. The first 200 homeowners who sign up beginning April 1 receive a \$50 discount. During the visit, trusted energy consultants install energy-saving materials, perform diagnostic tests and help residents develop a customized plan for saving energy. Visits normally cost \$100 and are valued at more than \$600. [Find out more about how you can save on energy costs with a Home Energy Audit.](#))"*

Residential Water Conservation Audits could include:

- Fix leaky faucets and check toilets for leaks.
 - Install low flow valves on faucets and showerheads.
 - Check for leaks in irrigation systems if in use. Check that they are not watering impermeable surfaces such as sidewalks, driveways and streets. Install Smart Watering sensors.
2. **Business Water Audits and/or Training** for maintenance departments that manage plumbing systems, irrigation etc. Similar to Smart Salt training, we could certify businesses that have gone through water conservation audits and/or training.
 3. **Plant native landscapes to replace turf:** In May we discussed how an established native planting does not need supplemental watering (not discussed- in extreme drought it might be recommended to help provide nectar for pollinators better to have bees that pollinate 30-40 percent of our food survive than turfgrass.)
- The group discussed that we should have **Key Discussion Items** identified at the top of our meeting minutes for presentation at the Manager's Meetings. Bonnie Nelson will submit an agenda item for next meeting to discuss a process to identify KEY DISCUSSION ITEMS in the Minutes.

VI. Running list of PENDING priority motions/key discussion item to share with BOM

No change

D. Adjournment - Meeting adjourned at 8:00 pm by quorum.

From May minutes: Marilyn to review list of motions to revisit the springs/seeps motion back to CAC for discussion and review. Reminder in case you want to add to next Agenda.