

## Minutes: Monday July 17, 2017

RPBCWD Citizen's Advisory Committee Monthly Meeting  
Location: RPBCWD new offices: 18681 Lake Street, Chanhassen

### CAC Members

Anne Deuring	P	Peter Iverson	P	Joan Palmquist	P
Jim Boettcher	U	Matt Lindon	E	Dorothy Pedersen	P
Paul Bulger	P	Sharon McCotter	P	David Ziegler	P

### Others

Michelle Jordan	District Liaison	P
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### Summary of key actions/motions for the Board of Managers:

1. The CAC requests some time on the agenda of the August Board of Managers' meeting, so the CAC Storm Drain Subcommittee can inform the Board of their efforts in this area, review their recommendations and ask for approval to use staff time.

### Meeting

1. **Call to Order:** President Pedersen called the July 17 meeting of the CAC to order at 6:36 p.m. Attendance noted above.
2. **Approval of the Agenda:** Agenda approved with additions of several new business topics, noted in minutes, below. Motion was made (Ziegler/Iverson) and passed.
3. **Approval of meeting minutes from June 2017:** Motion to approve minutes, as drafted without amendments, made by Ziegler/McCotter and passed unanimously.
4. **Matters of General Public Interest:**  
**Lori Susla, President of Lotus Lake Association, and former CAC member:**
  - Their board is concerned that:
    - Lotus Lake has seen little spending over the years, relative to others, and
    - There is a misperception that the district has spent money on lakes but *not* on rivers and creeks and so now the focus is shifting to rivers/creeks.
  - She created and shared a spread sheet (spending report) to show what has been spent by the district from 2000 to 2016. Data sources were Claire and published treasurer's reports.
  - Note: The spread sheet does not identify projects that cities were doing anyway where the watershed got involved, nor other funding sources.

**Motion to close the public comment made by Dave, seconded by Sharon.** During a follow up discussion the CAC agreed:

1. To thank Lori for her time and for bringing this additional tool (spread sheet) to us, and to let her know that we will use it as we look at the 10-year plan and prioritization tool, etc.

2. It is not our role to allocate funds, and even if it were, the distribution of funds is not done with a goal of equality, but based on need and impact, so the data presented is interesting but not prescriptive.

**5. July Board of Managers meeting, if any questions. (Pedersen)**

- A new summary of the various projects and how they are rated was distributed.
- **10-year plan**
  - The current timeline for 10-year plan review calls for the CAC to get the plan on Sept. 7. and prepare our feedback in time for our Sept. 25<sup>th</sup> meeting. At that time, the plan will be presented and there will be discussion/feedback.
  - Feedback at the Board meeting: Perry was concerned that it was not reader friendly, too complex and requested an executive summary. Others (Jill) liked the detail.
  - Mary felt it should include information about groundwater, groundwater recharging and wetlands management.
  - Also, someone asked for information on low impact building, and Dorothy shared that there are so many different rules by city, area, etc. and confusion as to who to go to. Sharon has also heard complaints that people are afraid of asking questions, don't know who to go to, and that the Watershed, City and DNR are hard to work with and not well coordinated. This may represent an **opportunity for us** to find a way to make it easier for people to do the right thing. Dorothy thinks going through builders' associations or educational associations for landscapers/architects may be best approach for general education.
  - Claire mentioned some shifts to the 2018 budget based on 10-year plan, as it won't be finalized when the 2018 budget is due.
- There will be a parcel exchange with 9 Mile, Carver County and Lower MN to reallocate spaces where the hydrological boundaries don't line up with the legal boundaries. The net is a gain in our district.
- Terry, the new staff permit person, reviewed the permitting process and is working on some changes/improvements which will be brought to the CAC in Sept. for our input. The goal is to have these implemented in January of 2018.
- Discussion on apartment complex going in by SW Station (old Ruby Tuesday's site): This is a large project on a small site. The watershed district's part of this approval is small and we must enforce the rules we have. However, as in this case, the rules and regulations get parsed out, with us concerned about water, the City about development/transit or other issues, and it is not clear who/if anyone, is looking at the bigger picture and whether this is in fact a good idea. The City is supporting it for residential mass transit zone—new standards they've just created due to light rail—and their desire to create a pedestrian-friendly apartment complex.

**6. Old Business**

- a. Update on 10-year plan, E & O Plan Appendix (Michelle) (INFORM)

- Michelle distributed the first draft of Education and Outreach Plan which is required, by statute to support the goals of the 10-year plan. This is designed to serve as a tool to do E and O, being specific enough but with flexibility as priorities change, etc. She will also send it to us electronically so track changes can be used.
- Discussion:
  - Resources used: IAP2 scale for language about the continuum
  - Questions: These are the guiding questions that frame messaging—the things that people want to know about. She is using this framework for the website, too.
  - Topics: Michelle went through goals and objectives to align them into topics which we will then address in programs.
  - Implementation includes six broad programs. Every year as part of creating the workplan, two major topics are chosen as focus for the year, based largely on the projects the district is implementing that year (like stream restoration).
  - Paul suggested a resource library so if something is not a current year priority the website could still direct them to previous, most recent work. Goal for website to be a robust repository.
  - Evaluation: Joan asked about tracking of people or activities, if there is a database. Michelle said now this is done mostly with spreadsheets, and with ARCGIS online maps, but software for tracking volunteer hours are available. Sharon and Matt found one system in use in Minnetonka, as an example.
  - Dorothy asked, as educators, how do we best create change? Michelle talked about several resources she uses and trainings she has attended that she calls upon for best practices, including:
    - The Art of Hosting: <http://www.artofhosting.org/trainings/event-listing/>
    - Community based social marketing training, Doug McKinzee: <http://www.cbsm.com/>
    - Water Words that Work (presentation to water stewards): <http://www.waterwordsthatwork.com/>
    - MacArthur Foundation: <https://www.macfound.org/>
    - Frame Works institute: <http://www.frameworksinstitute.org/>



- **CAC Action Item: All members to review Michelle’s E&O Document and provide feedback directly to her by July 25. Note, refer to the goals and objectives of the 10-year plan, as the E&O is designed to support them.**

**b. Storm Drain Subcommittee update (Sharon and Matt) (INFORM)**

- Feedback solicited so this can go to August Board of Directors.
- Sharon presented five opportunities identified through interviews with city leaders and asked for help in two areas:

- Dorothy will take the Shorewood grass clipping awareness program and Dave and Anne will pursue work on the Minnetonka monitoring program.
- Sharon will do the introductions to facilitate these hand-offs.
- Matt and Sharon will cover the other two recommendations: Fall storm drain clean-up program (Chanhassen and Shorewood) and a storm drain stenciling program (Chanhassen).
- Aside: Dorothy has good friend at Acxiom who volunteered to help on analytic projects.
- Dave made a motion to support the recommendation of the Storm Drain Subcommittee and request time at the August Watershed Board meeting to present recommendations and get approval for use of staff time. Joan seconded and the motion passed. (See Actions for Board at top of this).

**c. Review of subcommittees—moving forward (All) (Discuss)**

As a reminder, CAC members indicated the following areas of interest:

- **Dorothy:** Groundwater, wetlands, climate change, lake associations
- **Dave:** Lake association, also in-depth reviews of project/permits (e.g. draft UAA)
- **Matt:** Lake matrix/water quality review, the lake water quality restoration efforts, groundwater. He is also the CAC TAC representative.
- **Anne:** Ten-year plan, volunteerism, citizen monitoring, climate change, groundwater and a special project (silt sock to provide 24/7 storm drain hygiene)
- **Paul:** Groundwater, major reports, website
- **Pete:** Wide interest including groundwater, lake associations and hopes to add other things
- **Joan:** Interest in speaker’s bureau, volunteerism, and marketing issues (which cross many of the outreach/education and volunteerism topics and the website, etc.)
- **Sharon:** Volunteerism, Earth Day clean up every year, and Anne’s silt sock project
- **Jim:** TBD

It was agreed that the groundwater subcommittee will meet to review the portions of the 10-year plan dealing with groundwater, before our discussion on the 25<sup>th</sup> of Sept.

**7. New Business**

- a. Ideas for 2017 Water Quality projects: “Water Week”? (All) (Discuss)
  - i. **Groundwater:** Dorothy thinks that we don’t know much about groundwater and should do a project or event focused on it to educate and engage people. Use the Groundwater Foundation as a resource.
  - ii. **Wetlands:** Dorothy also suggested that we take a wetland tour, perhaps having an Arboretum specialist take us on a tour of their wetlands so we can better understand the ecosystem to begin/further our education.

iii. **How to care for green infrastructure:** Dorothy went to a Metro Blooms workshop recently on BMP maintenance. They have put together a manual (e.g. for teaching and work with kids), which show pictures of the 25 worst weeds and 25 most common native plant materials. They are still working on the book, and it is structured to allow inclusion of the Lake Phalen and Lakeshore Weeds books. It would be great to be able to give one of these to each recipient of a rain garden or shoreline restoration cost share grant.

Metro Blooms also developed an evaluation form for site visits. They would be willing to do a workshop for us here, and Dorothy suggested two sessions would be best—the first to learn and the second to bring your books and tools and apply learning, working on a public site.

iv. **Curb restorations and other smaller projects:** Dave commented that people seem to understand shoreline restoration, but are less informed about what happens to water that runs into the street. He suggested that we do a couple of small demonstration projects (e.g. curb buffer, or property line restoration), and see how they work. Dave offered his curbside and Dorothy agreed to do the design. They will do a site visit as part of the July 31 Watershed Tour.

b. **Presentation of special project:** Storm Drain Screens/Silt Socks: Anne has been working on an idea, trying to perfect it as a way to provide diligent care for storm drains. After trying several approaches, she came up with the idea of a silt sock or silt dam which keeps debris out of the storm drain. She brought one to show us what it is like, and response was very positive. Next steps are to install three of them on her street. She will keep us posted on progress.

8. **Adjournment:** At 9:28 the motion to adjourn was made by Joan seconded by Sharon, passed and the meeting was adjourned.

### **Upcoming Events**

Watershed tour, 10-year plan highlights, July 31, 4:00 pm (56 people so far)  
Board of Managers Meeting and Workshop, Wednesday, August 12, 5:30 pm,  
District Office  
Next CAC meeting: August 21, 2017, District Office, 6:30 pm

### **August topics for CAC:**

- Draft groundwater report: Paul will try (again) to get a copy of this report (which has been issued) so we can work on it in August
- Update from groundwater subcommittee if they meet before Aug. meeting
- Speaker's bureau proposal: Joan will submit to Dorothy and Michelle in advance
- Possible draft of fall cleanup from Storm Drain subcommittee from Sharon/Matt.
- Website update from Michelle
- Update/review of Governor Dayton's 25 in 25 initiative from David and Paul

Respectfully submitted by Joan Palmquist, recorder