

PRIOR LAKE - SPRING LAKE

WATERSHED DISTRICT

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District Citizen Advisory Committee

Thursday June 25, 2015
6:30 p.m.
Prior Lake City Hall

Our mission is to manage and preserve the water resources of the Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District to the best of our ability using input from our communities, sound engineering practices, and our ability to efficiently fund beneficial projects which transcend political jurisdictions.

CAC Members present: Jim Weninger, Liz Schramm, Joe Schramm, Jodi See, Roger Wahl and Jim Goodchild

Others present: Curt Hennes, PLSLWD Manager; Jaime Rockney, PLSLWD staff; Liz Weninger, LAC

The Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) consists of residents who provide input and recommendations to the Board on projects, reports, prioritization and act as the primary interface for the Board to address the current issues of concern of the local citizens.

- I. 6:30 p.m. Meeting called to order – Acting Chair, Jim Weninger
- II. Agenda approved
- III. Introduction of new CAC member James Goodchild
- IV. Advisory Group for the Storm water Management & Flood Mitigation Study update.
 - Two of the three public forum meetings have been held. The last meeting is in late July or early August. Barr Engineering will give a final report. Everyone is encouraged to attend the last meeting as this is our last opportunity to provide input.
- V. Projects update:
 - PLSLWD Spring Lake property: Great River Greening received a grant that will be used for this project. Volunteers to help will be needed. The District will notify the CAC and LAC when it needs volunteers. Members will notify their respective associations. There will be 3 different shoreline demo areas to show options for shoreline owners.
 - Spring Lake phosphorus levels: Three Rivers Park District takes measurements every other week from ice out to ice in. Jaime showed a bar chart of May measurements for the last 11 years. 2015 is the best at 37. The highest was 2013 at 114 - cause was possibly low water levels, so higher concentration. The alum treatment was done in fall of 2013. Jaime has much more data from Spring Lake and the other water bodies in the watershed and Jim W. is interested in seeing that information – he can get it at the watershed offices. Next alum treatment scheduled for fall of 2016 if needed. The District is trying to get Spring Lake's water quality standard to be 60 micrograms per liter instead of 40 --from previous measurements it is believed to be a more realistic goal. It is designated as impaired. If a lake is designated as impaired it can be disqualified for specific funding, etc.
 - Results of the carp tournament: 540 lbs. from Prior Lake, none from Spring Lake (it was windy), tie for biggest was 2 each weighing 39 lbs. and caught on lines. Knotty Oar did a great job of hosting the tournament. Next year Knotty Oar may sponsor a night tournament, since more are caught/shot at night and the hunters/fishermen are requesting it.
 - Carp seining: The District will ask the DNR to change the rule about exclusivity for seiners so it can contract its own. (Don Geyer. has the permit to work in our watershed and he doesn't show much interest in doing it anymore).

- Carp gates: The 12/17 wetland is getting a carp gate. Curt indicated he hopes to have gates on every inlet/outlet in the watershed area. A grant from the MPCA was received to electronically tag carp, monitor and map their movements, and prioritize gate installations. Note, Spring Lake has 2.5 times the acceptable rate of carp and Artic has 1.5 times the acceptable rate.
- Legislative action regarding flood damage in the PLOC (outlet channel): This passed. The District will use the State bonding authority to pay for upfront costs of repairing bank erosion and emergency damage. The first priority is to get trees out of the channel. Diane is putting out RFPs as it has the money to hire this out. Other actions will follow but most likely will be in the winter. In addition the buffer width for ditches, etc., was changed from 50 feet to 30 feet. Note that Senator Pratt and Representative Albright will be at the July 14 PLSLWD managers meeting and it would be good to attend.

II. Discussion items:

- Jodi See proposed an annual contest for Spring and Prior Lakes residents that participate in "Restore your Shore" practices. Can award a "Lake Friendly" yard sign to winners and publish before and after photos on website, Facebook (<https://www.facebook.com/cleanwatercleanup>), etc. Purpose is to advertise best practices for lake stewardship and encourage more to participate. Liz/LAC noted that residents that have put in rain gardens and shore line restoration are discouraged by the washouts they've had due to last year's heavy rain. Some have given up and put in rock instead.
- Spring Lake Regional Park plan: Plan is to have rustic campsites such as are on Cleary Lake and a public beach and nature center. No swimming to be allowed but there will be fishing, a dock, and walking trails.
- Spring Lake Estate docks/slips: 54 slips is the maximum for the lake in total. Spring Lake Estates has a length exception for 54'. Otherwise the length is 20' maximum. There is a committee reviewing this.
- Aquatic mapping: Jaime is doing the aquatic mapping again this year and will compare to last year. She is interested to see what effect the alum treatment has had on aquatic plant growth.
- Spring Lake aquatic vegetation survey was not done this year because it was not recommended by Steve McComas of Blue Water Science, since the curly leaf pondweed was not determined to be a nuisance in prior years. However, Jim W. and others now feel that was a misjudgment. It is too late for treatment now as it can only be done when the water temp is less than 60F. Prior Lake Curlyleaf pondweed was treated by PLM (not treated within 150' of shore).
- Roger would like some brochures he can put up in his neighborhood to encourage residents not to blow grass cuttings into the street. The brochures are available and will be provided to Roger by Liz Weninger.

III. Adjourned at 8 p.m. and photos were taken afterward