

# PRIOR LAKE – SPRING LAKE

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## WATERSHED DISTRICT

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### **Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC)**

**Thursday, May 26 2016  
Prior Lake City Hall**

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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.

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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.

**CAC Members present:** Steve Pany, Kim Silvernagel, Jim Weninger, Jodi See, Liz Schramm and Joe Schramm

**Others present:** Marianne Breitbach, PLSLWD Manager and Diane Lynch, District Administrator

- I. Meeting called to order at 6:34pm
- II. Agenda approved
  - a. Shoreline restoration projects were added
- III. Watershed District Projects updates/Discussion topics
  1. Water Quality Improvement Award # of applicants.
    - No applicants at this time, however, they can apply at the end of the season.
    - Prior Lake American article shared.
    - Extra application and flyers made available.
    - Volunteers have been attending workshops and having flyers placed around town.
    - Jody has applied to have the City run information on the electronic message board.
    - Any other ideas to get the message out is welcomed.
    - Unused funds do not roll over.
    - In the future, we might be able to get sponsors for the program and grow the award payout etc.
    - Reach out to the Master Gardener program to get the word out.
  2. Lake Irrigation program
    - Pump water from the lake fund has started slow, but has grown over time.
  3. Master Water Steward Program (Freshwater Society)
    - Modeled after Chesapeake Bay program

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- Takes participants through materials and hands-on learning
  - Has a Capstone Project to complete in order to get the certification
  - The prairie and raingarden workshops and the Water Quality Improvement award are good for us at this time.
4. Outlet repair update.
- FEMA has not yet paid the District.
  - Sediment hasn't been removed yet due to Shakopee. Will be done in the winter time.
  - Culverts are being reviewed.
  - Downed trees work is done.
  - Meetings with TAC and others to make sure we use this opportunity to do repairs that are most helpful since now is the right time. This would be above what FEMA would be funding.
5. Carp contest on May 21. Cost / benefit thoughts for 2017 contest.
- Someone captured a coy – still a carp so it was removed.
  - Diane pulled up the website pictures and results.
  - Cost benefit analysis was asked for to consider for 2017.
  - Jim has volunteered and believes it is a good PR, program overall, and the CAC supports this too.
  - Volunteers to run program for next year may need to be considered.
  - Date for next year should take into consideration the Cedar Lake tournament.
6. Spring Lake shoreline restoration project. How did it go?
- Very good program and the transformation is tremendous.
  - Need to confirm that the buckthorn stumps have been treated so they do not regrow.
  - Jim W has heard very many good comments from people in the area.
  - They provided statistics through a thank you emailed to the volunteers that Jody S. will forward to Diane L.
  - Impressed at the organization of this program.
  - Spring Lake association attendee had a great experience.
  - Great followers from as far away as Mankato to help.
  - Congrats to the staff who organized the Great Rivers Greening involvement.
  - Exposure in the Prior Lake American is a nice add.
7. Sunday May 1st Clean Water Cleanup event. How did it go?
- Sand Point Beach Park
  - Marianne, Steve and Diane attended.
  - Someone brought their leaf blower instead of a rake.
  - Prizes were handed out at the end.

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- Saturday vs. Sunday for the fall event – comments were heard.
  - Thoughts were that Amber may have done some research that Sundays were better attended by volunteers.
  - Good PR as this is a popular beach and heavily used.
  - Should have a rain date advertised in advance
  - A bit later start on a Sunday may be good; or communicate that you can come and go at any time during the start and finish.
  - Start the BBQ earlier so those who need to leave early can participate in lunch.
8. Flood Study update.
- Waiting for consultant to provide the draft – due early June
  - Then hand off to the technical advisors to make sure this committee is all in agreement before presenting to the decision makers.
  - Last public meeting is targeted for July.
9. Alum application schedule update. Water quality Spring Lake.
- This may be a bad year due to the lack of snow coverage.
  - Curlyleaf pondweed treatment seems to be now starting to work.
  - Phosphorous reports from 3 Rivers are still be captured and Diane will check to see if it is posted on the website.
  - Status of Alum treatment, Barr Eng will take a core sample to see how much alum is left to collect the phosphorous in the fall.
  - Upper PL core sampling will be done in June, in time for budgeting.
10. Artic Lake Carp gates update.
- Installed in Crystal Bay (Mud Bay).
  - City will make changes to the downstream weir.
11. Strategies for engagement of community for lake stewardship.
- How to get people involved in LAC, CAC, and other associations?
  - Tap into the wetland habitat program to get the younger kids involved.
  - Maggie did Science Night at the school last year.
  - Joe's thought is that it won't happen overnight, but activities could be listed on Facebook and social media; schedule a lake day at the school, start the programs in the schools and keep it going every year to establish the commitment to the Lakes.
  - Look at what Great River Greening is doing to attract interest.
  - City is ready to do the stenciling, but need to line up the volunteers and the neighborhoods. Marianne will talk to Pete and see what the status is.

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### 12. Carp seining for fin clipping

- Started seining at 7:30 am and pulled the net at 1:30. Only got 25 carp. This was done for population estimation.
- Will go back to the same spot in the winter.
- Carp management grant goes through 2018.
- Used sonar to see where there were obstructions that could rip the net.

### IV. Comments, suggestions, questions.

- WSUM updates
- Draft of a checklist for next meeting

### V. Adjourn at 8:01 pm