

PRIOR LAKE – SPRING LAKE

WATERSHED DISTRICT

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District Citizen Advisory Committee

**Thursday February 23, 2016
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.

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 Silvernagle, Jim Weninger and Jody See

Others present: Marianne Breitbach; Curt Hennes and Diane Lynch

- I. Meeting called to order at 6:32 pm
- II. Agenda additions: approval of agenda and minutes of December and January meetings
- III. Watershed District Projects updates/Discussion topics
 - I. Watershed District Projects update / Discussion topics/Additions:
 1. Diane- answers to last month's questions:
 - a. Lake associations and the District are tax-exempt, so they can take donations
 - b. Fish – walleye are being stocked in the lakes every other year, and this is the year to stock Spring Lake. The Big Mouth Buffalo fish is in the MN River, not in lakes
 - c. Meeting minutes will also be placed on the website. Diane asked if the Board video links should be on all year. A few members felt that 3 months of links would be sufficient.
 2. Jim noticed that during the Spring Lake seining, several Stripped Base showed up and were returned to the lake. Diane indicated that they are not listed in the DNR's Lake Finder. Marianne indicated that the bass may have come in from another lake or someone's minnow bucket, since they are not native. Jim will check with DNR to see if they have a class for this type of fish as well as other questions Marianne posed.
 3. Diane indicated that updating the Operating and Maintenance Manual for the PL Outlet was recommended in the Flood Study. Jim asked if the Spring Lake weir should have an operations plan, like the Outlet Structure. Diane agreed it was a good point.
 - a. Diane further explained that the option to put a permanent control structure on the weir was considered in the Flood Study, but was not viable because the DNR requires all the shoreland property owners to agree. For a temporary situation, the District has to work with the County on putting up planks, if needed. She will check with the County and the City about writing up an emergency plan.
 - b. Jodi asked where do the storm sewers drain? Diane thought that the City would have that information for both Spring and Prior Lake. She mentioned that the Minneapolis Water Management Organization (MWMO) mapped a portion of the City so that citizens can see drains on an interactive map.

4. Jim wanted to know about the status of a sediment core sampling on Spring Lake to see if another alum treatment was needed. Diane indicated that Barr completed one last year and recommended that one was not needed in 2017. The District will do another sample this year.
5. Jim indicated that If the current conditions continue, the Spring Lake Outlet could stop flowing. That could be early in the year, without heavy spring rains and could result in a lot of algae. He was unsure of its relationship to an algae treatment. Curt indicated it has been 4-5 years since the creek has stopped running, and when it does, it seems that more algae is a problem.
6. Carp seining results Spring Lake.
 - a. Very successful! Estimated ½ the carp in Spring Lake removed. There are a lot of carp near the Spring Lake Demonstration area, but they are inaccessible due to lack of ice.
 - b. Upper Prior Lake seining-fishermen cut a hole and they scattered to Mud Bay. Commercial fishermen will not sein in that area because of the chance to tear their nets.
7. Curly Leaf Pondweed in Upper Prior Lake. Treat or not treat?
 - a. Due to the lack of plants in the lake, it may be better to not treat the lake. The District's engineer will provide feedback to the Board.
8. Carp contest fundraising.
 - a. Marianne spoke to Thane and he is interested in hosting an evening seine, the same night as Cedar Lake's, which is the weekend (Friday) after fishing opener. The District intends to only provide prize money.
9. Clean Water Clean-Up April 23
 - a. The CAC will pick up the donations.
10. Raymond Park project
 - a. The District is working with Great River Greening again for shoreline restoration. A grant was obtained to help with this project. Jim knows the name of the person(s) that may have some ownership to land in the area. He will provide this information to Diane.
11. Water Quality Improvement Award 2017 update.
 - a. Liz and Jody met this week and went through the plan. Applications have been updated. Diane recommended including a map of the watershed so people can assess if they are in or outside of it. Diane has the date of the Scene April newsletter cutoff. How much to give as awards this year? Last year used \$1935 out of a \$3,000, but this year we will reduce the staff time since prototypes are already done. Consideration is to do up to 4 awards of \$500 each. If a smaller project came in that didn't warrant high payout, an honorable mention award could be considered. Members approved this plan.
12. Carp barriers existing and future ones –
 - a. One on Artic Lake, and 12/17 Wetland (3.) Steve asked if one could be put on Fish Lake. Diane will talk to Maggie about it. There will be a temporary barrier placed at the Desiltation Pond. Temporary barriers do not need any maintenance. Maggie is working on a new proposal that may result in a comprehensive plan for barriers.
13. Outlet Channel – Summary of repairs since 2014 flood
 - a. Took care of downed trees, culverts repaired, sediment removal is a bit more challenging and on hold until frost comes back. Bank erosion repair design work is underway. Have until 7/21/2018, or we lose the help from the Homeland support to navigate FEMA.
14. Water storage possibility near ferric chloride station. –
 - a. Table to next meeting.
15. Feedback: review of CAC bylaws. –
 - a. Please continue to review.
16. Next meeting March 30th.

The meeting adjourned at 8:00 p.m.