

PRIOR LAKE – SPRING LAKE

WATERSHED DISTRICT

Prior Lake-Spring Lake Watershed District Citizen Advisory Committee

Thursday June 29, 2017
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 Silvernagel, Jodi See, Jim Weninger, Elizabeth Schram

Others present: Diane Lynch, District Administrator; Marianne Breitbach, PLSLWD Manager; Curt Hennes, Manager and Bill Kallberg, formerly of the LAC.

- I. Meeting called to order at 6:30pm
- II. Agenda-additions-Approval of Agenda & May meeting minutes.
- III. Watershed District Projects update / Discussion topics:
 - a) Carp management project.
 - a. Gates-
 - i. Rolling carp barrier by the desilt pond. It has been moved to be more in the channel – having a difficult time with getting it to ‘roll’ properly. There is also a PIT tag reader there.
 - ii. Barrier at the ferric chloride plant that will read the fish PIT tags as they move back/forth – this is working very well.
 - iii. Carp barrier at the Ferric Chloride plant at the weir but the tines are bent; working to get them fixed.
 - iv. There is a PIT tag reader at Spring Lake channel near Prior Lake.
 - b. Carp Tournament- Sherriff had taken some complaints but Diane has not heard any feedback.
 - i. Fishermen seem to want to continue; Thane Tandy is taking on more and more ‘ownership’ of the contest.
 1. Notify lakeshore owners next time? Thane may have done this as well.
 - c. Better ability to hire carp seiners –
 - i. Focus is on Upper Prior; fish are so dispersed and not bunching up...consideration to bait them with corn into one area.
 - ii. Discussions with DNR over a year ago and still in discussions...rule has not changed. Tony has a good relationship with DNR and is still working on this.
 1. Will Mr. Geyer take on Upper Prior if it has zebra mussels?
 2. Seining nets are very expensive- should the watershed purchase a couple to loan to the seiners? (This is envisioned in the LCMR grant proposal)
 3. The District asked MAWD to support this and they did. The District could ask them to lobby this in 2018.
 - iii. Seining on Artic turned up very little carp again--maybe because it is a deep lake.
 - iv. LCCMR grant is still in progress. Both the U of M and EOR put in grant proposals.

- b) High water status / concerns.
 - a. Low flow gate has been closed.
 - b. Curlyleaf Pondweed on the outlet structure was a problem over this past high-water time.
 - i. Watershed is pulling off once a day at this time, but in the past it was done 2x per day. City helps with the removal.
 - ii. Interns helped, so did the Prior Lake Association.
 - c. Also working on a Spring Lake dam policy-some modeling is being done. Final form coming soon, in the next meeting or two.
 - d. Jim W. brought up a past discussion on a dam on Spring Lake and shared some homeowners concerns about this.
- c) Rating of lakeshore property. Lake friendly rating 1=good 4=poor.
 - a. How to rate a lakeshore? Should we rate homeowners' lakeshore?
 - b. Interns are taking pictures of lakeshore for another purpose and maybe can use that for contacting the owner to suggest updates.
 - c. Maybe the watershed could make it available to lakeshore owners?
 - d. Would need a fact sheet and suggest the workshops and water quality improvement award.
 - e. Maybe put this on Facebook to provide the information? Or at the City's new Outreach committee meetings to spread the awareness.
 - f. Maybe incorporate this into the water quality improvement award for next year's guidelines?
 - g. Consider other ways to encourage lakeshore owners to do better.
- d) Strategies: more membership PLA & SLA for future cost share projects.
 - a. Why does PLA contribute to the fireworks? Very expensive, could that money be used to better the lake quality?
 - b. Membership on other lakes is sometimes increased when face-to-face contact is made. Associations also provide the membership with information on how the money is being used.
 - c. Could the person doing the boat inspections hand out materials?
 - d. List of suggestions and a card to promote them is another way to get the word out on the associations.
 - e. Invite a member from either association to speak at a board meeting. This would be at the front of the agenda.
- e) New management Spring Lake Township.
 - a. Kathy Neilsen is now working on a SCALE project. Melissa Hanson is the new clerk.
- f) Report: Fish Point Park party Tuesday June 20.
 - a. Curt was able to attend.
 - b. Gave a prize for kids game on 'bugs'
 - c. The 'bugman' was there and had presentations for the kids.
 - d. Seemed well attended
 - e. New trees that were planted look good.
 - f. Water quality award information was not displayed as most organizing thought this was geared more towards kids activities.
 - g. Indian Ridge Park looks nice.
 - h. Fairlawn Shores Park will be worked on soon.
- g) Spring Lake access is going to close in Sept-
 - a. Notification to owners is not part of watershed's work, should come from DNR.
 - b. Watershed did post this information on their website.
 - c. Plans for improvements are still TBD-
 - d. Maybe include SLA to gain support for what type of improvements are needed.
- h) Impact of 400 new homes N.E. Prior Lake.
 - a. At last CAC meeting, Bill assured that the water run-off needs to start on that new development property. i.e. holding ponds

- b. New establishment to seed; owners can use phosphorous- now a days most people use sod. But Bill also confirmed that all of the water run-off would get contained in the water retention ponds.
 - c. Vierling cattle are gone...what might be happening to this land?
 - i) Lakefront Days booth citizen engagement strategies promo items.
 - a. Aug 3 & 4 (first weekend in August)
 - b. Diane will send out volunteer day/time.
 - c. Hand outs or trinkets...many being considered; a few are can cozies, wild flower seeds, rain gauges, printed water bottles etc.
 - d. The District should use the SWCD's groundwater demonstration teaching activity again this year.
 - e. Would like to have all the traffic go by the booth to the Midway vs. having a second entrance.
 - j) Water Quality Improvement award update
 - a. Diane provided Liz and Jodi with a list of individuals to be contacted (~18 total)
 - b. Jodi is interested in attending the park parties to provide the WQ Improvement Award.
 - c. Jodi will provide a press release for Scott County Scene and another publication.
 - d. Diane will capture the list of people who attended the smaller programs such as rain garden classes.
 - k) Management plan
 - a. Will be updated by 2019
 - b. New rule passed requires cities to have their Comprehensive and Water Plans done by the end of 2018.
 - c. The District will start its revision process in late August.
- IV. Next CAC meeting is July 27.
- V. Comments, suggestions, questions.
 - a. Next month, Jodi would like to have an update on the buffer law.
 - b. Jim had a question on Raymond Park upgrade-
 - i. First herbicides have been put down.
 - ii. Great River Greening will be involved to do their work & will have volunteer events as well.
 - iii. Diane will confirm when it is happening so Jim can let the SLA members know.
- VI. Adjourned at 8:06 pm