

Citizen Advisory Committee
Thursday April 26, 2018
6:30-8:00 p.m.
Prior Lake City Hall
4646 Dakota Street SE Prior Lake, MN 55372

Attendees:

CAC Members present: Steve P., Kim S., Jodi S., Marianne B., Elizabeth S., Joe S., Jim W.

Others present: District Administrator, Diane Lynch; District Manager, Curt Hennes

- I. Call meeting to order 6:33pm – Chair Steve Pany
- II. Recognize the CAC for the push to have the Watershed revise the low flow gate for the Watershed to have more control. Operation plan revised to give more control to the Watershed.
- III. Agenda-additions-Approval of Agenda & March meeting minutes. Approved minutes. Approved agenda.
- IV. Watershed District Projects update / Discussion topics:
 1. Carp seining results, open water seining? Upper Prior Lake. Carp trap in bay or channel?
 - a. Mr. Geyer was not able to schedule a second seining
 - b. Other factors that prevented as well
 - c. What about an open water seining? What about a channel to cage the carp from the DNR that could then remove the carp – this presents a concern as it captures sport fish as well.
 - d. Fremont barrier is closed and needs to be open for other sport fish to spawn.
 - e. May- do an open water seining near Mud Bay – however, there is a lot of debris that needs to be removed.
 - f. Considering using new technology of ‘bubbles’ to move the carp to an area that they can be seined.
 2. Alum application Spring Lake update.
 - a. In the process of sending out 400+ letters to residents to notify of the treatment. Targeting May treatment.
 - b. The boat launch is being renovated and may not be open at this time. Roads are currently under load restrictions. This is being watched closely.
 - c. Public meeting will be held.
 3. CAC information brochure.
 - a. Looks very nice
 - b. Missed including them in the 400+ alum letters – would have been a nice addition.
 - c. Any feedback – or approval of the draft?
 - d. Join a meeting section – reduce to 1.5 hours.
 - e. How to join – change to ‘fill out the application and submit’
 - f. Typo called out.
 - g. Put the application on the back of the brochure.
 - h. Have them present at the Board meetings
 - i. 2nd bullet added ‘to protect environment’
 - j. MAWD CAC guidelines were reviewed to see if any would apply to our CAC brochures.
 - k. Bullet #3 – Add to ...for the Board ‘of Managers’....
 - l. At the bottom, add to ...Volunteer Opportunities on...
 4. Watershed projects are listed at the end of the agenda – please let Steve know if any are missing.

5. Outreach to public 2018.
 - a. Crystal Lake Park is location for Clean Water Clean-Up – Hats will be given out
 - b. Ice Out party for PL Association – had a good turn out
 - c. Spring Lake Association meeting – had a good turn out
6. Water levels / outlet channel. 903.1 on Prior currently- 911.85 on Spring currently. High water actions:
 - a. What City does? – Diane provided guidelines
 - b. What WD does? – Diane explained from the modeling, will not be asking to put a dam on Spring. Instead will coordinate with the city to get the word out. Still working on the long-term items.
 - c. Anything below 903.0 nothing is needed to be done.
 - d. Diane has reached out to Pete to see if anything is being kicked off now that at 903.1
 - e. Not concerned about the amount of snow, rather the amount of rains that are yet to come. Article in a recent PL American was discussed.
 - f. The river is also high, flooding and peaking later this week or maybe next
 - g. Marianne has asked to post the city's responsibilities to the water levels have a link posted to both the Watershed and City websites.
7. Sand Point Beach Park improvement project with City of PL update.
 - a. Looks different now, but more good things to come.
 - b. Timetable is Birchwood diversion with pond expansions, sand filters
 - c. Targeting completion in May. With a ribbon cutting later in the season
 - d. Is the city working on a brochure to let others know what was done? Not known.
 - e. Grant for the park and its upkeep has tie in to the Watershed for the grant money they contributed.
8. Cost share with Prior and Spring Lake Associations. Contributions?
 - a. Is there a tracking of the watersheds capture of contributions from the associations to the watershed for projects?
 - b. Both typically contribute equal amounts. Steve would like to see the Watershed capture and maintain yearly donations and maybe create a competition for their donations. And to recognize their contributions as well.
 - c. Watershed should not hesitate to ask for contributions as well.
9. Bullhead (rough fish) population? Using Catfish to reduce bullheads.
 - a. Anyone seeing bullheads in Spring Lake?
 - b. Bluegills did a great job on eating the carp eggs
 - c. Should ask the DNR to stock more – or maybe the lake associations to contribute?
 - d. Or ask that the sunfish be released so they can continue to eat Carp eggs
10. Strategies to get Commercial fisherman to sein carp. Required part of TMDL?
 - a. Joint TMDL for Spring, Upper and Lower starting to reap benefits. Lower's water quality parameters are in acceptable range.
 - b. 2019 session looking to see if/what support to change can be done. Would like to see if it can be changed to 'open' to all commercial fisherman just for carp seining.
 - c. What about a right of first refusal?
11. Watershed has a grant from the 319 program to continue on the carp management program.
 - a. total around (\$150k) that will be used for carp management.
 - b. Would like CAC support in this area.
 - c. All CAC members present approved to support.
10. Water Quality Improvement Award 2018
 - a. Bring applications to Sunday's clean-up effort

- b. There was a recent workshop that we can capture names and send information to.
 - c. Raymond park is looking good. Still some buckthorn to remove? Great River Greening will be doing some maintenance this year.
- 11. Clean Water Cleanup date April 29 with alternate date May 6.
 - a. promoted on the video board
 - b. Hats will be handed out, some old event t-shirts are available
 - c. Crystal Lake park will be cleaned up
 - d. 55 people are signed up in advance
 - e. From 12:30 – 2pm
 - f. For the future, consider giving kids a stamp, sticker or some acknowledgement of a passport for our future activities.
- 12. Spring Lake Association feedback from Jim W is that people heard Diane's presentation and were impressed with all that has been done.
- 13. Next CAC meeting May 31.
- V. Comments, suggestions, questions.
 - a. County Ditch 13 – riparian strips discussion
 - i. Buffer law – by public ditches. County ditch 13 is owned by both private and public.
 - b. Steve – from manager's meeting – someone was upset by the sand collecting at the Spring Lake outlet.
 - i. Engineer, Board looked at it as a natural occurrence and not an issue with the weir.
 - c. Nice bulletin to Lake Associations to not add sand to your beach as it impacts other areas.
 - d. Ice ridges happening– not yet.
 - e. Slide presentation that was done to the managers – Diane will bring it to the CAC
 - f. Bog guidelines –have a link to the policy on the city and the watershed websites.
 - g. On May 14 – 9-11am there will be a water management plan kickoff at the city.
- VI. Adjourn 7:58pm