

PRIOR LAKE – SPRING LAKE

WATERSHED DISTRICT

Citizen Advisory Committee

Thursday October 25, 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., Jim G., Marianne B, Liz S, Larry R, Joe S, Jim W, Jerry M.
- **Others present:** District Water Resources Assistant: Kathryn Keller-Miller, District Manager: Curt Hennes, District Treasurer: Woody S.

- I. Call meeting to order 6:31pm – President Steve Pany
- II. Introductions of CAC members to newest member, Jerry M.
- III. Agenda-additions-Approval of Agenda & June meeting minutes.
 - a. Approved minutes.
 - i. One item about the crappie die off – caused by 2 different types of bacteria; it is also on tonight's agenda.
 - b. Approved agenda.
- IV. Watershed District Projects update / Discussion topics:
 1. Review of last CAC meeting. Water Resources Management Plan Meeting with EOR
 - i. A lot of good feedback came from CAC meeting and the public meeting too.
 - ii. EOR is now compiling the common themes.
 - iii. December 13th, EOR will return to the CAC meeting to talk about the next steps/items.
 - iv. Water resources plan is a 10 year plan.
 - v. Carl from EOR noted there were not as many concerns around flooding, which seems surprising for our area and lakes. The board is continuing to work on this area.
 - vi. Work is being considered for the Sutton lake area to use this as a holding area. Maybe the wetlands should be considered – or more studies into a 'temporary' holding area.
 - vii. Jim W expressed that the Watershed should have a clear statement that they are taking a lead on the water planning/water volume.
 2. Removal of debris at Crystal Bay Upper Prior Lake. Fall carp seining?
 - i. A chain was drug on the bottom towards the south end but no obstructions were found. Now commercial fishermen feel more confident that if the carp congregate there, they could seine the area.
 - ii. Going forward- this is a spot that they now are willing to seine.
 - iii. Will be tracking the carp this fall and winter to hopefully do a winter sein.
 - iv. Mary is working on tagging a couple more carp as some of the older tags batteries are dying (hit their life expectancy).
 - v. The carp removed from last Upper Prior Lake seining was in around 20% of total population. The goal is to get the population below or to the acceptable level.

PRIOR LAKE - SPRING LAKE

WATERSHED DISTRICT

- vi. Carp contest this past year was not done as the ROI was low. Tournament was passed off to the Knotty Oar and they did not organize the event this year.
- 3. Crappie die off update. Exotic aquarium fish released into lake?
 - i. Articles have indicated it was 2 different type of bacteria, but unlikely to have been an aquarium fish released- - the disease from released koi that affects carp is caused by a virus and not a bacteria.
 - ii. Nobody wants the exotic or aquarium fish released but this was not the cause.
- 4. Upcoming MAWD conference.
 - i. Marianne from the CAC has signed up
 - ii. Deadline might be passed but information will be sent to Jerry so he knows what it's about.
 - iii. Additional funds from the unused Water Quality Improvement Award money
 - 1. Can this money be moved over to next year if not used? - Woody indicated if money is in the budget it might be available.
 - 2. Note: update from Diane after the meeting is – the Watershed accounting is on a cash basis, so we cannot move the WQIA money over to 2019.
 - iv. Marianne provided insight into what the conference is about.
 - v. Steve is going to look for old information on the MAWD summer tour that was hosted in Prior Lake
- 5. Zebra mussels on Upper Prior Lake- fewer on dock/lift after removal this year – did anyone else notice this?
 - i. Woody and Jim noticed a more average year.
 - ii. Curt and Jim W have not seen any in Spring Lake.
 - iii. Spring doesn't have the traffic coming on /off the lake and maybe reducing the introduction to this lake.
 - iv. Upper PL access has the stations to clean the boats coming off the lake.
 - v. Hennepin county has stations, could we work with the county to add more to the other lakes to help clean boats that might travel to other nearby lakes?
 - vi. Jim W noticed other states (such as Utah) he traveled to had big signs publishing information to notify boaters of the need to clean boats of invasive species.
 - vii. Note from Diane after our meeting: Prior Lake is the only lake in Scott county that has zebra mussels. The District put up the signage at our lakes.
- 6. Review of: Sand Point Beach Park project Grand Re-opening event 10/3.
 - i. Went well, very warm day- with rain at the end. But everything looked really good.
 - ii. Some comments around the project that so many trees cut down; there are plans to replace some. But not in the prairie planted area.
 - iii. Good turnout.
 - iv. Great project- congrats to the watershed for pushing this one along.
 - v. Trees around the lake – Larry R asked if they should be limited due to the phosphorous produced from the leaves that fall? Trees may absorb the carbon and keep erosion away, it is a balancing act. Kathryn explained that some phosphorous is a necessary nutrient for plants, but it is the excess amount of phosphorus that causes the algae. There is a water quality standard for phosphorus in the lake. Question raised to understand what measurements are being done on the lakes. This is the partnership the watershed as with Three Rivers.
 - vi. Spring and Upper are impaired lakes and that is why projects to lower the phosphorus levels are important.

PRIOR LAKE – SPRING LAKE

WATERSHED DISTRICT

- vii. Stormwater runoff also brings in phosphorous, and not just the leaves. Filtering is important and contributes to lowering the phosphorus levels.
 - viii. Fish Point Park was a good project - Larry would like to have the phosphorous levels measured in the pond. Kathryn will check with Jaimie who has more interaction with the measurement program itself.
 - ix. Confirmed the city still does street sweeping. Which is good.
 - 1. Note from Diane after the meeting: The city still has a rigorous street sweeping routine and the District contributed \$10,000 towards its new sweeper.
 - x. People sweeping leaves into the lake – might be a good time to run an educational article that indicates there is a city ordinance against this.
 - xi. Hard to determine at these types of gatherings who is on the committees, suggestion to wear shirts/jackets that indicate you are a part of watershed/CAC etc.
7. Water Quality Improvement Award update.
- i. Results from Liz – no one applied this year.
 - ii. Was advertised in The SCENE.
 - iii. There is not the hoped for impact to inspire people to do good work.
 - iv. SWCD might be the starting point to have them create the awareness with people who are taking on such projects. Liz indicated they have gone to these meetings to promote the award.
 - v. There is a line item in the budget for this again.
 - vi. Idea was to try to educate through the schools as the next step in this programs evolution.
8. Review of Prior Lake Association meeting.
- i. Woody is the treasurer, Marianne attended.
 - ii. 60 people in attendance which is considered well attended.
 - iii. Tax assessor talked about the taxation process.
 - iv. Diane and Jaimie represented the watershed nicely.
 - v. Sheriff from the water patrol was in attendance.
 - vi. Both associations contribute to cost share projects and it is greatly appreciated.
 - vii. Meetings are now live (on cable) and replay versions now have a better quality. At this time, they are not on the website, but people can find the cable viewing times on the city website.
 - viii. Suggestions made - At the meetings (board/associations) for the public, have a do's and don'ts tips delivered.
 - ix. Volume in the room during the board meetings – Curt has mentioned this to the person who might be able to correct this.
9. Annual election of CAC officers.
- i. 3 officers, Chari/Vice Chair/Secretary – Larry nominated the 3 existing to remain. Jim W seconded and all accepted.
10. Fall Cleanup Event Sand Point Beach Park Sunday October 28, at 9:00-11:30 a.m.
- i. Weather is spotty rain, but stay tuned to postponement notices.
 - ii. If date changes it will be posted on the website – those signed up will receive an email.
 - iii. If you aren't signed up, still can do so. And it is encouraged.
 - iv. Quite a few leaves down and buckthorn to be taken care of.
11. Next meeting date: November 29th & December 13th

PRIOR LAKE – SPRING LAKE

WATERSHED DISTRICT

- i. Dates will be confirmed.
- 12. Comments, suggestions, questions.
 - i. Marianne – commented from the metro MAWD meeting- Emily provided an exercise – Moving the Watershed Forward – interacting with your connections - Marianne will provide copies to the CAC.
 - ii. Woody noticed more eagles flying around this year. And Larry and Woody have seen Golden Eagles.

V. Adjourn 7:57pm

PLSLWD: 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: 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

Projects: ferric chloride treatment facility, alum treatments, carp seining, carp management program, carp mapping, carp contests, carp barriers, easement enforcement, permits, 12/17 wetland, Lower Prior Lake protection program, outlet channel, outlet channel repair, invasive aquatic plant control, NW Spring Lake shore project, lake and stream water monitoring, flood reduction plan, Farm Led-Council, partnerships with other agencies, work shops, project cost share, Water Quality Improvement Award, Fish Point Park, Raymond Park, Indian Ridge Park, Sand Point Beach Project, Watzl's Beach shoreline restoration.