

PRIOR LAKE – SPRING LAKE

WATERSHED DISTRICT

Citizen Advisory Committee

Thursday July 25, 2019

6:30-8:00 p.m.

Prior Lake City Hall

4646 Dakota Street SE Prior Lake, MN 55372

Attendees:

- **CAC Members present:** Steve P., Elizabeth S., Woody S., Adam F. Marianne B., Christian M., Jerry M., Larry R.
- **Others present:** Board Member: Curt H., Board Secretary: Bruce L. District Staff Director, Diane L.

- I. Call meeting to order 6:30 pm – President Steve Pany
- II. Introduction of newest CAC member, Christian M.
- III. Agenda-additions-Approval of Agenda & April meeting minutes.
 - a. Approved minutes.
 - b. Approved agenda.
- IV. Marianne's summary of the MAWD Summer Tour
 - a. Review of tours taken
 - b. Discussion around some of the projects' applications
 - c. Steve mentioned – 60 minutes ran a 15 minute show on the flooding in the Netherlands and how they handled it.
 - d. Interesting the budgeting they used to complete the projects. Common theme, it takes time and money to run the projects.
 - e. An idea brought out was to maybe restore wetlands in the watershed.
- V. Watershed District Projects update / Discussion topics
 - a. Lakefront Days booth volunteers (questions, locations of storm drains for adoption)
 - i. Volunteers needed
 - ii. Only one day this year
 - iii. Watershed has enough questions, but share more if you like!
 - b. Accelerated carp control strategies. Cost share with PLA / SLA.
 - i. Reviewed the Watershed's management strategies.
 - ii. CAC in favor of pushing these items forward.
 - iii. Push traps would be most effective
 - iv. Move towards a removal policy and away from a 'study' policy.
 - v. This topic will come up at the August board meeting to hear the timeline and budget for remaining year and 2020.
 - vi. SLA – Christian will request and let Diane know cost-share possibilities
 - vii. PLA – Woody will request and let Diane know cost-share possibilities
 - c. Fish inventory.
 - i. DNR survey is more around the game fish population
 - ii. High numbers of carp remain on upper Prior Lake and are increasing a bit on Spring Lake.
 - iii. Catch and release game fish will help keep the carp population down.
 - iv. South MPLS. Lakes have seen fish kills this year. Similar to what Spring Lake and Upper Prior Lake experience last year.

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- v. It is thought the fish kill that happened last year contributed to the brown water in Spring & Upper Prior Lakes
- vi. There are possibilities to purchase stock fish – May be something that SLA would consider.
- vii. Bull Heads are also considered a rough fish and should be removed.
- d. Sutton Lake Project update. Water levels. Low flow gate, Solutions from SCALE?
 - i. Sutton Lake will hold water back – permitting still in progress
 - ii. Other solutions - Maybe farm land to hold back temporarily; discussed a few options that allow farmers within the tiling of their land to hold the water for a time and then release in a schedule or phased approach.
 - iii. CAC would like to see the weir open in the fall to lower the lake a bit before going into the winter-spring season.
 - iv. Culvert pipe at Hwy 13
 - 1. Overcoming some pipe installation concerns a new plan to install will begin - Watershed is seeking out what the new plan will be, but understand that the crew is doing what was permitted.
 - 2. Ferric chloride setup is protected and remains intact.
 - 3. Water flow containing silt should be managed. Prior Lake City is stating that all is being upheld. Watershed also has staff checking on progress.
 - 4. The 5 foot pipe is being replaced with 6 foot one, and may handle more flow. Will the additional flow be handled through the system? Carl and Pete assured watershed that this will be ok and project is following permit.
- v. Water Levels
 - 1. Five years since the 2014 flood, project to help future floods is not in place, water levels on Prior Lake this year is not dropping below 902.5
 - a. Would it be possible to ask DNR for control to drop the water during times of the year(s) until we have a working storage plan in place?
 - b. Request to invite person who reviews all of our permits at the DNR and have her talk to us about the process and guidelines. Diane will check her availability.
 - c. Concerns around the sediment from erosion – seems to be happening on Prior Lake by the wake sent from larger boats that now utilize the lake.
- e. WD 50th year anniversary work group.
 - i. Reviewed list of activities and potential costs
 - ii. Pelican Lake Watershed brochure will be sent out via email.
 - iii. Gala event was voted down by CAC
 - iv. CAC to review and email Diane & Kathryn their top 3 events
- f. More citizen outreach? Public involvement. 1-5 (5best) rating system for citizen lakeshore.
 - i. How to reach the adult population and have them more engaged in clean water for our lakes?
 - ii. Thought – setup a rating system for shoreline owners to be more lake friendly – to help educate shoreline owners who ask for help on being more shoreline friendly offer to go out and rate their existing shoreline and provide insight in how to improve.
- g. CAC has advised? New process to account for implementation.
 - i. What is a good process to track our action items of suggestions to the board with results of completion?
 - ii. A historical, on going record of CAC advisement to Watershed

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1. Past notes may have this information – but would need to be scoured to capture them.
 - h. CAC goals for 2020.
 - i. Need to come up with some goals.
 - i. 2020 budget possibilities. Eligible costs.
 - i. Budget needs to be approved by September 15th
 - ii. Past CAC budget \$350 per year
 - iii. Water Quality Award was part of the budget
 - iv. Liz provided training opportunities previously
 - v. 50th anniversary events need to be in the budget
 - vi. Diane will send out a email around this topic and our action needed.
 - j. Proposed project: Shoreline stabilization/path to beach. Boat landing to Sand Point beach.
 - i. Rugged terrain, many boats, approx. 100 feet.
 - ii. Possible project to restore/stabilize this area. Will need to be planned and scheduled.
 - iii. Who owns this parcel of land. DNR? City? Diane will ask Pete who may own this.
 - k. Spring Lake housing proposal / boat slips.
 - i. Developer is proposing new homes with lake access
 - ii. Up to 100 boat slips; to 100 homes
 - iii. Need a more comprehensive plan for all lakes and reduce or mitigate association docks.
 - iv. There is criteria that needs to be met – more is forthcoming.
 - v. If the DNR guest can speak at one of our meetings, we can pose the question around this topic and get their perspective.
 - l. Next CAC meeting: September 26. (will not meet in August)
- VI. Comments, suggestions, questions.
- VII. Adjourned 8:09pm

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, workshops, project cost share, Water Quality Improvement Award, Fish Point Park, Raymond Park, Indian Ridge Park, Sand Point Beach Project, Watzl's Beach shoreline restoration.