

CAC Meeting

December 1, 2015

Agenda and Minutes

- Review Nov 3rd meeting minutes (corrections or comments)

- Update on Members
 - Attending: Nicole Meis, Kris Mann, Curt Sparks, Mike Kinney, Angie Hong, Jerry Grundtner, Sam Hathaway, Laura Jester - Keystone Waters LLC, Eric – Bufflehead Web Design, Bruce Anderson

- Laura Jester – Keystone Waters LLC
 - New Website
 - Feedback:
 - Include map – do I live in the district?
 - Include job postings
 - New map is interactive. Can click through to lake info.
 - Suggestions – make AIS and cost-share / lake-friendly landscaping more prominent & feature on front page. Change “waterbody info” to “lakes.” Make sure calendar is prominent. Include info about wetlands and who to contact with wetland questions – city and WCD.
 - Need more photos. Could CAC member contribute their lake and water recreation photos (especially cute kids on and in the water)? Should CLFLWD have a photo contest? It wouldn't be very difficult – could advertise with press releases, email and social media & offer a small prize (\$50). Three categories – wildlife, water recreation, landscape.
 - The new website will be mobile-ready and responsive for phones and tablets.
 - Hopefully the new program assistant will create a Facebook and Twitter account for CLFLWD.
 - CAC can offer feedback until Dec. 8. Email eric@bufflehead.com and laura.jester@keystonewaters.com

- Communication and Education
 - The plan that Laura created for the district addresses communication issues with city staff/councils and developers, not as much about communications for education and behavior change.
 - Concern expressed that news articles aren't appearing in local papers as often as they should. Denise from Chisago Press said they have used a number of articles submitted by Angie, though sometimes they incorporate the content into a staff-written article. Jerry has also been seeing articles occasionally in the Forest Lake Times. Angie will follow-up with Jason DeMoe, staff writer with ECM Publishers, about how to get more articles in the papers about lakes and watershed projects. (Jason is on the new Lakes and Parks Committee for FL and came to the recent workshop with FL, CLFLWD and RCWD.)
 - Jerry suggested that Laura and Angie stay involved with CAC as they continue conversations about education and communications.
 - Brief conversation about working with schools. Forest Lake ISD will be doing lots of construction in the near future and it will be a good opportunity for stormwater retrofits.

- Update on CLFLWD activities
 - Feb. 2 joint meeting of CLFLWD, CMSCWD and BCWD with Warner Nature Center to talk about collaborating on watershed education.
 - District might install some signage along the Hardwood Creek Trail.
 - Awarded Bixby Park Project to contractor at last board meeting. Will be completed over the winter.
 - Submitted four applications for Clean Water Funds – Moody Lake, Bone Lake, Third Lake, and wetlands restoration in Chisago County.
 - Projects with BWSR funding include operations and maintenance plans.
 - District has always done a very good job of monitoring the performance of projects they've installed. If CLFLWD hadn't monitored the Broadway Ave. project, for example, they wouldn't have discovered a blockage downstream that was preventing the iron-sand filter from functioning properly.
 - Moody Lake aerator going in this week.
 - Equipment going in at Bone and Comfort Lakes to monitor lake elevations in real time. Data can be fed into website.
 - Curt asked when the district will send a newsletter. Mike and Laura said soon?

- AIS Action recommendation review
 - No comments

- Native Shoreline Plantings recommendation review
 - Jerry distributed a document prepared previously and asked for feedback from the rest of the CAC
 - Last time the group talked about generating a list of 4-6 BMP samples (#8 on the document) for land owners to do. Curt wondered if we have estimates on the relative benefit on the various practices and what they would be.
 - Kris asked to clarify that funding to repair ice heaves should only happen for BMP projects funded by the district. Curt wondered if the district should even help people to fix ice heaves since they are natural and beneficial. The issue has come up at many recent board meetings and people on Forest Lake talk about this issue a lot – there is concern about spending lots of money on shoreline landscaping and having it ruined by ice heaves. Emergent plants and trees help to reduce erosion and lessen the impact of ice heaves.
 - Angie shared feedback about cost-share for shoreline projects in other watershed districts: BCWD and CMSCWD don't have a cap on total funding for shoreline projects and offer 75% cost-share because the projects are usually quite expensive.
 - Curt and Bruce suggested that #3 should be deleted. WD and WCD staff are more qualified to meet with landowners about BMP projects than CAC members.

- Upcoming WSD board meetings
 - Dec. 17, 6:30pm in FL council chambers
 - Jerry will be attending

- Next meeting:
 - **Jan. 5, 6-7:30pm** - focus on education and communications