

**MEETING NOTES OF THE  
COMFORT LAKE-FOREST LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Tuesday, April 19<sup>th</sup>, 2022**

Present: Curt Sparks, Randy Schumacher, Jerry Grundtner, Ted Hansen, Christopher Loth

Others: Michael Kinney, Garrett Miller, Aidan Read, Christopher Johnson

**1.) Agenda**

In the interest of time the agenda was amended to remove the discussion of the Cranberry Channel Property management plan. This item has been tabled for a later meeting.

**2.) Introductions**

The committee and staff members provided introductions as this was the first official meeting for Ted Hansen. Christopher Johnson was also present as a member of the public with potential interest in joining the Committee.

**3.) Watershed Activities Update**

Land Management Specialist Aidan Read shared updates on District activities with the committee. Mr. Read reported on winter monitoring activities, aerator operation, staff changes, and other ongoing activities.

Jerry Grundtner asked for elaboration on staff assistance with the ongoing survey of the City of Forest Lake's stormwater infrastructure. Michael Kinney, Administrator, was able to elaborate on the status of the survey. The project is currently paused as it requires more funding from the City. The project seeks to inventory MS4 stormwater infrastructure throughout the city, and has been supported by CLFLWD staff as they have been available. It is not known what city fund this project has been using.

**4.) CLFLWD – FLLA – City of Forest Lake Agreement**

Garrett Miller, watershed assistant, provided an overview of the agreement between the District, the Forest Lake Lake Association, and the City of Forest Lake. Mr. Miller discussed the formalization of the existing relationship, as well as summarizing the dollar amounts and percentages each entity had agreed to. Mr. Grundtner added that the agreement was not limited to expenditures on aquatic invasive species but was instead for a wide variety of lake management activities. Members of the Committee expressed their support for the agreement and noted that this could provide a template for future agreements between other local partners and the District.

**5.) Monitoring and Progress Report**

The draft monitoring report and progress presentation were summarized for the Committee by Mr. Read. These materials were distributed to Committee members for further review and feedback. Curt Sparks noted that the delisting process which several lakes are now eligible for is an arduous process from his experience. While he understood District staff not initiating the

delisting process until further projects are completed, Mr. Sparks emphasized that delisting waterbodies represents a great achievement for the District and should be pursued as appropriate. There were no further questions or comments.

**6.) State of the Watershed**

As directed by the Board of Managers previously in the year, Mr. Read asked the Committee for their thoughts on the District hosting a State of the Watershed event. Mr. Kinney provided some context for the event, stating that a State of the Watershed event was successfully held in April of 2019. The Committee was largely in agreement that this event should be held in-person. The limitations of a virtual event would outweigh any benefits from increased accessibility. The Committee's recommendation is that this event be held, and that it should be at a time when an in-person event can be hosted.

**7.) In-person Meetings**

As the Committee had previously discussed a return to in-person meetings, as well as a desire to have meetings at project locations around the District, Mr. Read proposed a May meeting in-person at Shield's Lake Park. The consensus of the Committee was that a return to in-person meetings should be explored, but that visits to project sites should be done separately, or with a separate, limited agenda. It was agreed that meeting outdoors at project sites would be nice but may inhibit conducting the meeting. The May meeting will be held remotely, pending the opening of CLFLWD offices, in which case a hybrid option may be presented. The Committee further directed Mr. Read to pursue planning for CAC visits to project sites in the summer months, separate from the regular monthly meetings.

**8.) Election of Chair**

No chairperson was elected for the month of May. It has been proposed that a regular rotating schedule be adopted for the remainder of the year. Mr. Read will draft this calendar for approval at the May meeting.

*Next meeting of the Citizen's Advisory Committee will be Tuesday, May 17<sup>th</sup> at 5:00pm. The meeting will be held remotely via Zoom. The Manager in attendance will be Manager Jackie Anderson.*