

**MEETING NOTES OF THE
COMFORT LAKE-FOREST LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, November 6, 2018**

Present: Jerry Grundtner (Chair), Bruce Anderson, Randy Schumacher, Jack MacKenzie, Sam Hathaway
Others: Jackie Anderson, Jen Oknich (CLFLWD Board Members); Jessica Lindemyer (CLFLWD Staff)

1. Update on Watershed District Activities

A. General

Watershed Assistant, Jessica Lindemyer, provided the Committee with an update on the District's activities since the last CAC meeting on October 2nd. She highlighted the recently completed alum treatment on Moody Lake, the permitting presentation given to the Board at the October 25th regular board meeting, and the hands-on storm drain educational activity completed with the 4th graders at Lakes International Language Academy. It was also noted that Jen Oknich, previously a member of the CAC, is now on the District's Board of Managers.

B. Administrator Report

The October 25th Administrator's report was handed out to Committee members present.

2. Updates from Jack MacKenzie

Committee member, Jack MacKenzie updated the group on the outcome of the Forest Lake High School's Environmental Club stenciling event which was scheduled for early October. He noted that while he was able to go in and speak with the club about the importance of keeping storm drains and stormwater clean, the event itself was cancelled due to inclement weather. Ms. Lindemyer noted that since Mr. MacKenzie's visit to the school, students have stopped by the District office in small groups to check out kits and stencil storm drains.

3. Status of Watershed Champion Award

This item was last discussed by the Committee at the October 2nd meeting. Ms. Lindemyer handed out drafts of the award program description and nomination form. There was discussion about the timing of the program and what an appropriate deadline for nomination submissions would be. Manager Anderson reminded the group that this award program is part of a larger event that the District will be hosting in April of 2019. In light of this information there was general consensus for a nomination deadline of March 1st. The discussion moved on to what the award review committee would look like, how many members it would have and who those members would be. The group settled on a makeup of one board member, one staff member, and three CAC members.

It was noted that during his update at the October regular board meeting, CAC Chair, Jerry Grundtner, expressed the Committee's wish to have the award program added to the November 15th regular board meeting for review and approval by the Board so that promotion of the program may begin. Ms. Lindemyer confirmed at that the item has been added to the agenda, and that she will update the materials with the CAC's recommended changes from the meeting to bring forth for Board approval.

4. 2019 Potential Projects

Mr. Grundtner reminded the Committee of the October 2nd project discussions and provided updates on two of the previously-discussed projects. It was noted that discussion on this topic will continue at the December CAC meeting after which time the topics will be presented to the Board.

A. Adopt-a-Drain

Mr. Grundtner summarized the purpose of the Adopt-a-Drain program which is to encourage citizens to take an active role in keeping pollutants out of storm drains by allowing individuals to assign themselves as the caretaker for one or more specific drains in their neighborhood. This program has been successful in the Twin Cities metro area and will be expanded out to the suburbs this winter. Mr. Grundtner noted that he would check in with Angie Hong from the East Metro Water Resource Education Program to get the latest information on what the District could expect to see from this program in the spring and how the CAC could be involved in promoting it.

B. District Tour

There was discussion about what elements an event such as this should include. Mr. Grundtner and Manager Anderson agreed that pairing a tour with a lunch or dinner discussion session improves the value of such an event by facilitating meaningful outcomes. Ms. Lindemyer made note that staff would follow up with the Board regarding the date for such a tour at the December regular meeting when the Board sets its meeting schedule for 2019.

Manager Oknich reminded the Committee of some of the other potential projects discussed at the October meeting including educating local officials and encouraging local government units to establish environmental committees. Sam Hathaway suggested the CAC consider maintenance and new native plantings at the dead-end street locations. Manager Anderson suggested including the Minnesota Department of Natural Resources' Natural Shoreland Program in community outreach efforts.

5. McGregor Lakes Foundation

This agenda item was tabled until December due to the absence of Committee member Curt Sparks who had introduced the topic at a meeting earlier this year.

6. Other Discussion

A. Lake Association Liaisons

There was discussion regarding which Committee members would serve as liaisons to each lake association. The liaisons would be included on lake-specific communications that are sent out to lake association presidents in order to help spread information. The following members volunteered: Mr. Grundtner (Forest Lake Lake Association), Mr. Hathaway (Bone Lake Association), Mr. Anderson (Comfort Lake Association). Mr. Grundtner noted that he would share this information with the CLFLWD Board as part of his update at the November regular meeting.

B. BMP Programs

Mr. Grundtner asked the Committee to share their thoughts on the topic of how to best promote best management practices (BMP) to the communities. Manager Anderson voiced her opinion that everything the CAC has been talking about tonight, in terms of potential projects, is a large part of promoting best management practices. She also noted that the District has a need for more dynamic education programs such as the Blue Thumb – Planting for Clean Water program. There was discussion about utilizing watercraft inspectors to disseminate information at boat launches.

7. Change in CAC makeup

In the interest of time this discussion item was skipped.