

**MEETING NOTES OF THE  
COMFORT LAKE-FOREST LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT  
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE**

**Tuesday, January 8th, 2019**

Present: Jerry Grundtner (Chair), Randy Schumacher, Curt Sparks, Bruce Anderson

Others: Jackie Anderson (CLFLWD Board President); Jessica Lindemyer (CLFLWD Staff); Tom Furey (Bone Lake Resident, Master Water Steward); Doug Toavs (Moody Lake Resident)

**1. Update on WD activities**

**A. General**

Watershed assistant, Jessica Lindemyer, provided the Committee with an update on the District's activities since the last CAC meeting on Dec. 4<sup>th</sup> of 2018. She noted that the District currently has open postings for two positions: Seasonal Technician and Program Coordinator. Ms. Lindemyer also noted that the Bone Lake SWA project was awarded a 2019 Clean Water Fund Grant in the amount of \$144,000.

**B. Administrator Report**

The December 13<sup>th</sup> Administrator's Report was handed out to the Committee members present.

**2. Status of Champion Watershed Award nominations**

This item was last discussed at the December 6<sup>th</sup> meeting. Ms. Lindemyer stated that the information for the award has been posted on the website and a press release has been printed in two of the local papers. To date, no nominations have been submitted.

**3. 2019 Potential Projects**

**A. Adopt a drain**

Mr. Grundtner reminded the Committee of the previous discussions on this topic. Angie Hong with East Metro Water Resource Education Program (EMWREP) has been working with Watershed Partners to roll out the program throughout Washington County this winter, which will include the Washington county portion of the CLFLWD. A presentation from 9 Mile Creek Watershed District was distributed to Committee members providing more insight on the pilot program in Bloomington. Jerry suggested that the committee members start thinking about how to get residents involved in the program and what recommendations they might want to share with the District Board. Ms. Lindemyer noted that while the framework for the program has largely already been developed, participating organizations will be able to choose their level of participation. The most basic level, which is free, will strictly consist of having access to the program and being responsible for community outreach. The other two levels, which have costs that are yet to be determined, will include welcome kits for each program participants. The

customization of the kits will depend on the contribution amount made by the host organization (i.e. the CLFLWD). Committee Guest, Tom Furey, inquired about how the program might be expanded to incorporate portions of the District that do not have curb and gutter. President Anderson suggested the utilization of ditches as a potential alternative for areas without storm drains (i.e. Adopt-a-Ditch) and suggested there might be some potential to piggy-back with the existing Adopt-a-Highway program. Committee Member, Curt Sparks, suggested that if the District were to pursue the idea of including ditches in the program, he would like to see information on the new Buffer Law brought to the next CAC meeting.

#### **4. Jeffers Foundation – ongoing discussions**

Mr. Sparks informed the Committee that he has asked District Administrator, Mike Kinney, to schedule a meeting with the Jeffers Foundation together to see what potential partnerships might be available to develop a community environmental education program in Forest Lake, or to start foundation to fund a certain aspect of an education program. Mr. Sparks noted that he has met with both Administrator Kinney and Jerry Grundtner on multiple occasions in anticipation of the meeting with the Foundation to develop a plan. After the meeting with the Foundation, Mr. Sparks will bring back an update to the Committee.

#### **5. Communication with Public**

##### **A. CLFLWD Newsletter**

Ms. Lindemyer provided the Committee with a brief update on the status of the new watershed newsletter. She explained that the draft is nearly complete and covers topics such as the new awards program, smart salting tips, and a project spotlight. The goal at this point will be to mail the newsletter to all residents within the District.

##### **B. Thank you to realtors**

Ms. Lindemyer noted that she will be get in touch with Angie Hong regarding the thank you letters to be sent to the realtors who attended the EMWREP workshop last fall.

##### **C. Information to provide to realtors in coolers**

There was discussion about the potential of offering the realtor workshop attendees informational coolers from Committee Member Jack MacKenzie's Turf Talk program in hopes of not only promoting his educational series, but also providing the realtors with a sample of the information the District has to offer. Ms. Lindemyer stated that she would follow up with Mr. MacKenzie on the suggestion.

#### **6. Election of new Chairperson**

Mr. Grundtner, currently serving his last meeting as Chair of the CAC, opened the conversation for the Committee to nominate a new chairperson and discuss how the members sees the Committee moving forward in 2019. Committee Member, Randy Schumacher noted that he would like to see the Committee getting more involved in

technical project-related work. He then nominated Mr. Sparks for the position of Chair who declined due to uncertainty regarding future residency in the District. Given no further nominations the Committee decided to table the conversation until the next meeting.