

**DRAFT MINUTES**

Citizens Advisory Council (CAC) Meeting  
**6:00-8:00 p.m., Monday, December 12, 2022**

ADVISE \* ACT \* LEARN \* LEAD

ATTENDANCE STATUS: P = Present, E = Excused, A = Absent without notification

**CAC Members**

Andrew Aller	P
Rodey Batiza	E
Jim Boettcher	P
Heidi Groven	P

Michelle Frost	P
Peter Iverson	A
Terry Jorgenson	P
Sharon McCotter	P

Marilynn Torkelson	P
Jeff Weiss	P
Jessica Willey	E

**Others**

Liz Forbes	<i>RPBCWD Staff</i>	E
Eleanor Mahon	<i>RPBCWD Staff</i>	P

Tom Duevel	<i>RPBCWD Manager</i>	P

**CAC Motions for the Board of Managers**

Marilynn made a motion in support of asking staff to investigate grants for the purchase of the Duck Lake and/or the Frederick Miller Spring properties with grants. Seconded by Sharon. Approved unanimously.

**Key CAC discussion items from the Board of Managers**

None

**I. Opening – 6:00 – 6:15**

- a. President Aller called the meeting to order at 6:03pm
- b. Attendance noted above
- c. Staff/Manager introductions
- d. Matters of general public interest: None
- e. Approval of the Agenda by Sharon and Heidi
- f. Designate timekeeper- Andrew served as timekeeper
- g. Approval of previous CAC meeting minutes Michelle and Sharon. Motion passed unanimously.

**II. Board Meeting Recap and Discussion (Dec BOM regular mtg attendee: Jeff, Marilyn)**

- a. Highlights from most recent Board of Managers meeting:
- b. MERA (Minnesota Environmental Rights Act) was discussed as a means to oppose the development of fragile habitat or steep slopes.
- c. Discussion on the value of retaining mature trees for water quality (stormwater runoff, evapotranspiration, soil stability).
- d. Discussion on the District’s scope of authority for planning and development.

**III. Program and Project Updates**

- a. District Updates
  - i. General – The watershed district won 2 awards at the MAWD Conference: Hennepin County Chloride Initiative (promoting 'Low Salt, No Salt Minnesota') won Program of the Year. RPBCWD is 1 of 11 organizations involved with the initiative. District also won Best Educational Booth at the Trade Show. Tentative date of January 20<sup>th</sup> for a Volunteer Appreciation Night, location TBD. Raingarden and Shoreline Buffer Workshop was held on 11/29. 10 people signed up and all 10 people zoomed in (switched from in-person

because of bad weather).

ii. E&O updates Volunteers will be needed for the Feb. 4, 2023 Chanhassen Feb Fest and Eden Prairie Everything Spring Saturday March 11, 2023. Andrew would like to take advantage of opportunities to promote the Adopt a Drain Program.

- b. Highlights from MAWD- Terry Jorgenson attended the WD management workshop presented by Louis Smith. It was informative about Open Meeting Laws and Use of Base Level Information to gauge progress. He enjoyed hearing perspectives on urban versus suburban & city water concerns. Jeff Weiss reported that RPBCWD having CAC members attend is rare but other WDs thought it was a good idea. Sharon submitted notes and learned a lot at the Drainage workshop. It was noted that Chanhassen has received money for an advanced street sweeper and a question raised the question of how to encourage more cities to conduct timely and smart street sweeping. It was reported that a presentation advised we design better so less salt is needed to maintain ice-free sidewalks. One example is to Locate buildings, entrances, parking lots to leverage the sun angle and prevailing winds. It was also suggested that the CAC could consider submitting a video for the MAWD video competition.
- c. Manager Duevel also attended MAWD and reported that Cities would most likely be taking a larger role in nomination of any potential applicant to the Board of Managers. He stated that the relationship between watersheds and cities is evolving and that the RPBCWD is cutting edge and in January progressing again by having towards two meetings per month, one being a workshop to allow for more open discussion but no decisions will be made. Manager Duevel is encouraging CAC members to attend the workshops.

#### IV. CAC Process and Function

- a. Exit interviews of CAC members will now be conducted by BOM personnel committee.
- b. Heidi reminded us that we've made a commitment to add diversity to the CAC. How can we promote CAC application & membership to a diverse group of people?
- c. Youth members? Michelle willing to look into incorporating a CAC youth member further, starting with notes from pre-pandemic discussions. Eleanor says there is interest among Minnetonka HS Environmental Club in joining the CAC. A request was made to place topic this on next month's agenda.

#### V. Running List for Future Meeting Ideas

- a. Feb 2023: Part 3 of Rules application (Terry/Scott) - Go through a project plan sheet & highlight rules triggered
- b. March 2023-tentative: Josh Maxwell 2022 water quality update
- c. TBD: Alaina Portoghese (AmeriCorps) soil project
- d. TBD: Importance of native plants
- e. TBD: Climate change & watershed impacts
- f. 10 Year Plan Update: Overview/requirements
- g. CAC/community education approach (idea: incorporate work Alaina is doing with soil health)

#### VI. Upcoming Events and Adjournment

- a. Board of Managers – Jan 4; 7 pm regular meeting- \_\_\_\_ to attend
- b. CAC Meeting – Jan 16th; 6:00 PM – Zoom meeting
- c. TAC meeting – to be determined
- d. January 20<sup>th</sup> Volunteer appreciation; lake summit in Feb; annual mtg in Apr