Minutes

Brown’s Creek Watershed District
Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting
Monday, February 13, 2017  6:00-8:00 p.m.
Location: Stillwater Public Library – 2nd Floor Conference Room

CAC Members Attending:
Karen Richtman, CAC Chair
Paul Richtman
Jyneen Thatcher
George Vania

CAC Members Absent:
Rick Vanzwol
Larry Timmerman
Jim Norton

Others Attending:
Anne Maule Miller, BCWD Board
Sharon Schwarze, BCWD Board
Karen Kill, BCWD Administrator

1) Chair Karen Richtman called the meeting to order at 6:00 PM
2) Approved Agenda
3) Committee/Team Building
   i) Pairs Discussion to discuss the following questions:
      (1) What drives your passion/why are you here?
      (2) What skill sets do you want to share with this group?
   ii) Large Group Discussion
      (1) Introduce each other to the Group and discuss the groups background, skills and interests:
         ▪ Why Here:
            • Strong interest in restore and protecting the environment for future generations
            • Well/septic connections and preventing groundwater contamination
            • Pond or Lake shore residents (Long, Brewer’s Pond, and Heifort Pond) –interested in their water
         ▪ Backgrounds:
            • Wetland restoration expertise
            • Mechanical Engineering
            • Legal background

Managers:
Craig Leiser, President  •  Sharon Schwarze, Vice-President  •  Connie Taillon, Treasurer  •  Gerald Johnson, Secretary  •  Anne Maule Miller,
• Biological Sciences background
• Wastewater Engineer
• Connections to scouting (Stillwater, Mahtomedi), Cities of Grant and Stillwater, Washington County recycling, Master Gardeners, Wild Ones, Stillwater Water Board
• Skills/Interests:
  • Native plant/ Various Habitats
  • Big Picture thinkers
  • Detail thinkers
  • Leadership
  • Facilitation
  • Education expertise – youth services, recycling, community education gardening & tree care
  • Tree care advisor
  • Knitting
  • Sewing/quilting
  • Baking
  • Building
  • Photography
  • Birding
  • Trout Fishing

4) Mission Statement for CAC
   a) The group did not develop a formal mission statement but did identify the role of the group as both advisory and advocacy to support the BCWD mission.
   b) Resources to meet the mission
      i) Additional membership – each CAC member will bring back a suggestion for additional skills they would like to see in additional CAC members and/or suggestions for specific CAC members. The group felt that about 12 members would be ideal. Additional connections to the horse community, 4H, and/or the Gateway/Brown’s Creek Trail Association were suggested as possible for additional CAC membership. Event planning would be a valuable skill for additional membership.
      ii) CAC Training – the group would like a portion of each CAC meeting (approximately 5-10 minutes) for a training topic based on current BCWD activities. Examples included the Iron Enhanced Sand Filter, wetland restoration, fish barrier removals, results of the macroinvertebrate and fish surveys, watershed overview of big picture issues, and 110th street property management plan.

5) CAC 2017 Activitie
   a) Newsletter (develop March for early May distribution) – suggested including an interview of a Neal Ave raingarden homeowner
   b) 110th Street Property Public Input Process - CAC will facilitate small group breakouts at an April 18, 2017 public input meeting at 6-8pm (location still to be determined)
   c) Open Yard Series (monthly 3rd Wed May-Sept ~6:30-8pm) – Jyneen Thatcher has developed a list of topics for the monthly series and the East Metro Water Resource Education Program (the BCWD’s education program partnership) will promote and coordinate. Jyneen has agreed to host the May and August topics of buckthorn management/woodland regeneration and prairie restoration. Although Larry Timmerman was not able to attend the CAC meeting, Larry has agreed to host the July topic of shoreline restoration. Karen and Paul Richtman have agreed to host the September urban yard topic highlighting their raingardens and shoreline restoration. A site is still needed for the June topic of large lots options and septic plantings.
   d) 20th Anniversary Community Event Sept 16, 2017 at 10am-1pm: Possible location discussed was the Brown’s Creek Park in Stillwater. The CAC felt that this is likely the main event for CAC activity and main focus of the June and August meetings. Reviewed draft list of possible activities: music, cupcake “stream”, singing ranger, fly casting/fly tying, kids crafts with recycled materials. Possible activities suggested included high school students showing Brown’s Creek macroinvertebrates, explanation of the Brown’s Creek Park Rock Crib project,
guided walk to the Brown’s Creek Cove and Millbrook trail section to explain the storm water management for those developments, a free raffle/sign up for Brown’s Creek quilt.

6) Next Steps –
   a) Homework Assignments
      ii) Review list of groups to invite to 110th street public input meeting – Karen Kill will send. Respond with any additional groups or specific contacts for listed groups.
      iii) Determine additional skill sets we would like for CAC and/or recruit additional CAC membership – contact directly or pass information on to Karen Kill
      iv) Suggestions for a June Open Yard Series location/host.
   b) CAC tour of 110th Street Property on Monday, April 3rd at 10am…carpool information will be sent out a week in advance
   c) CAC meeting on Monday, April 10th, 2017 6-8PM at the Stillwater Library Conference Room: topics will include the 110th Street Property Planning – Discuss the Draft Natural Resource Management Plan and provide input to the Usage Plan and a CAC Training – 2016 Annual Report and Watershed Overview

7) Adjourn at 8pm