



**BROWN'S
CREEK
WATERSHED
DISTRICT**

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Minutes

**Brown's Creek Watershed District
Citizen Advisory Committee Meeting
Monday, August 8th, 2022 at 6:30-8:00 p.m.
Hybrid Meeting**

Location: Stillwater Public Library – Conference Room

CAC Members Attending:

Jyneen Thatcher
Anne Maule Miller (attended virtually)
George Vania (attended virtually)

Others Attending:

Cameron Blake, BCWD Assistant
Celia Wirth, BCWD Board Liaison (attended virtually)
Joe Pallardy, EOR Staff (attended virtually)

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- 1) Called the meeting to order at 6:35 PM.
 - 2) The agenda was approved with no changes.
 - 3) There were no comments received for the minutes from June 13th, 2022. The minutes were approved as final.
 - 4) Joe Pallardy presented the educational topic for the evening: Upcoming lake vegetation surveying and in-lake harvest potential.
Joe said there were upcoming vegetation surveys on several lakes in the watershed district; Benz, S. School Section, and Goggin's. The goal of S. School Section surveying is to evaluate the impact of the Curly-Leaf Pondweed herbicide treatments the district has been conducting on the native aquatic vegetation community. Another goal of the surveys is to evaluate the in-lake harvest potential of Benz Lake. Benz lake has been recognized in the Lower St. Croix 1W1P as a candidate for internal loading reduction projects. With in-lake harvesting, essentially the top 3ft of aquatic vegetation would be harvested and removed from the lake. The goal would be to improve the recreational function, while not harming the native plant community, with an additional benefit of internal phosphorus removal. Literature values have shown this can be a cost effective internal phosphorus removal technique if done over the course of 5 years. One consideration is whether there are any invasive species present that would benefit from in lake harvesting through vegetative propagation (such as Eurasian watermilfoil). Another consideration is avoiding influencing the lake to switch from a clearwater state back to turbid (algae dominated). The CAC discussed equipment sharing in terms of the harvester and Joe confirmed a contract would be made for this service.

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5) 2022 Open Yard Event Schedule

Month	Date/Time	Rain Date	Event	Location	CAC Member
April	April 9 th 9am	April 23 rd	Birding	Long Lake trail, parking end of 62 nd	George/Anne
Starting in spring			Long Lake walking trail boxes posts		Anne
May	May 18 th		Wildflower Walk	BC Trail	Jyneen
June	June 15 th		Habitat Restoration	BC Park (IESF, diversion drainage, Millbrook)	Jyneen/Yihong
July	July 20 th		Post-buckthorn removal weeding/planting workshop	Long Lake trail, parking end of 62 nd	Jyneen/Yihong
August	August 13 th	N/A	Stormwater Tour	Settler's Glen	George
September	September 10 th	N/A	Community Event		All CAC
September	September 24 th	N/A	Buckthorn	62 nd St	Anne
October	October 1 st	N/A	Buckthorn	62 nd -St	Anne

Cameron will be sending the remaining materials needed to George for the August Open Yard event occurring on Saturday morning.

Anne requested the buckthorn event promotional materials be sent to her by the beginning of September to begin distribution. Anne will not be available to lead the buckthorn removal event on October 1st and neither will BCWD or WCD staff. The event was cancelled.

6) Community Event Planning

The CAC reviewed the current event status list (in the meeting packet) and which organizations are confirmed to be attending. The following topics were discussed:

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- The CAC agreed with Tim (EMWREP) having a table focused on Emerald Ash Borer
- The table assignments were discussed with some still pending based on other organizations and WCD staff availability
- Cameron will check back in with Laurie at the Pollinator Friendly Alliance to see if any of their volunteers are available to table. Otherwise they can provide materials as they have done in the past
- Celia suggested asking Nature's Nectar if they would provide a demonstration hive for the event as the Stillwater Bee Club did not have any available, but this will not be an option due to the new owner's work schedule. A discussion about other Beekeeping groups participating was had. If a date for 2023 is set early there is a better chance of a Beehive demonstration.
- Celia will post the event flyer on the BCWD's SPLASH page and volunteered to help put signs up along the trail a week in advance
- Jyneen requested the CAC have nametags for the event and suggested adding squares to the bingo card with the increased number of tables this year to encourage circulation

7) Long Lake Outreach

The CAC approved of the Long Lake topics (in the meeting packet) for the proposed mailing to residents around the lake. Cameron will confirm whether the City of Stillwater has filled the absent Natural Resources Technician position to coordinate this mailing with them as they have the enforcement responsibility for the Long Lake buffer and are the ones who would coordinate with the DNR on any suspected in-lake activities.

8) CAC Position Updates

- **Graphic Design and Promotion**
Cameron asked the CAC for input/direction for the modernized/simplified BCWD Logo. The CAC felt comfortable with Sapryna taking the lead on this as she has graphic design experience. Celia suggested they coordinate as they have worked together in the past and Celia has the IT and Website background that will offer great help in the effort. Celia identified some goals such as something that would work well in color as well as black and white. The current logo is a good representation of the historic stone arch bridge over Brown's Creek but is a can be difficult to apply to some situations and is not always identifiable/recognizable. Jyneen suggested Karen communicate the potential logo change to the landowner where the bridge is so she is aware.
- **Education and Community Engagement**
There have not been many applicable events since the spring of 2022 to table at.
- **Habitat Restoration**

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George and Jyneen both shared their observations at the Brown's Creek Conservation Area (110th St). They will email the CAC with upcoming days/times they plan on surveying and anyone is welcome to join.

- BCWD Board Activities

The board has continued to discuss the approach the BCWD takes to single family homes and storm water management permitting requirements. The 2023 budget is another recent topic.

9) CAC Meeting format for October CAC meeting

The CAC would like another hybrid meeting as this worked well tonight.

10) Meeting adjourned at 7:40PM.

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