



LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

Executive Summary for Action

Lower Minnesota River Watershed District Board of Managers Meeting

Wednesday, October 18, 2023

Agenda Item

Item 4. D. – Report on Citizens Advisory Committee

Prepared By

Linda Loomis, Administrator

Summary

The Citizen Advisory Committee held its October meeting at Dred Scott Park in Bloomington. After the meeting they visited the cost share project at Sutton Place II Condominiums. The project turned out very nice. The rain gardens have managed the recent rains well, although the dry weather prior to the recent rains have stressed some of the plantings.

The next meeting of the CAC will be held November 7th and the CAC plans to tour the Black Dog Energy generation plant in Burnsville.

Attachments

October 2023 CAC meeting packet – minus the budget information

Recommended Action

Motion to receive and file September 2023 CAC meeting minutes.



LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

Agenda

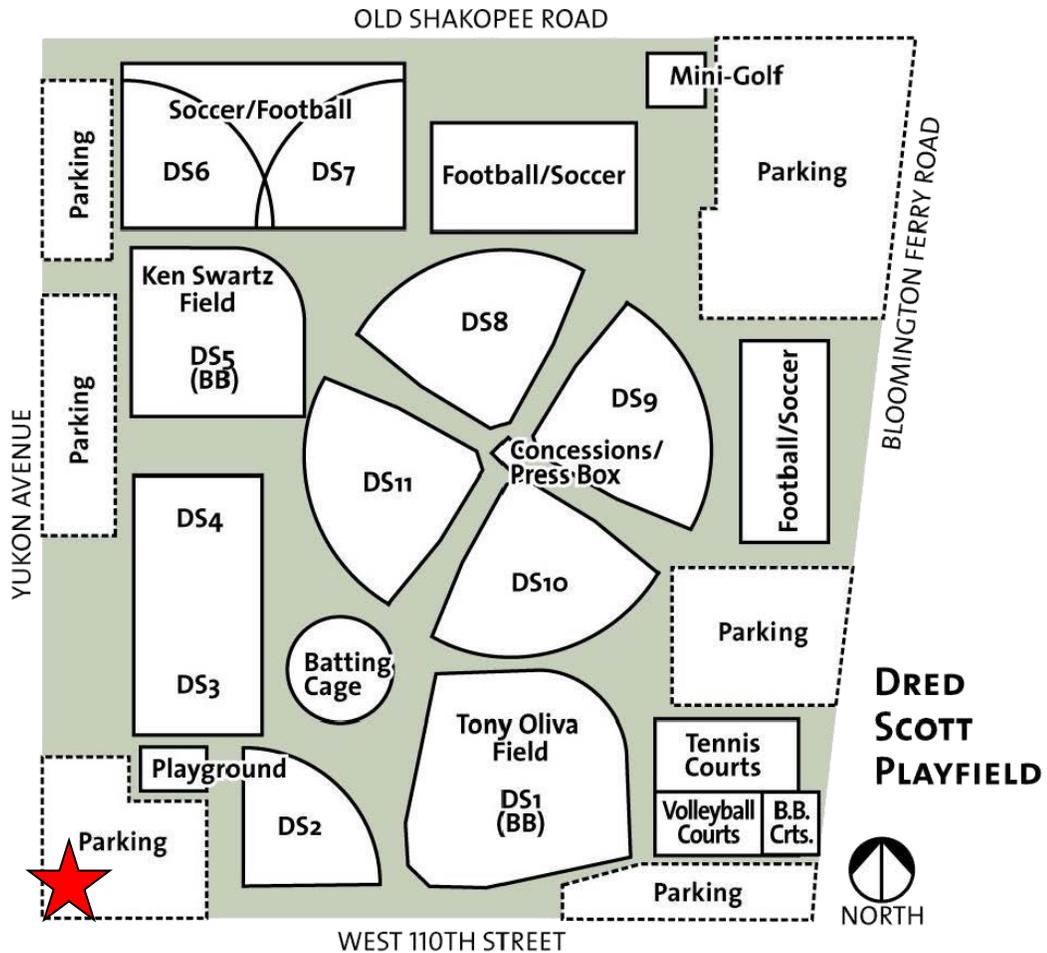
Citizen Advisory Committee

Tuesday, October 3, 2023 | 4:30 p.m.

Dred Scott Playfield at the corner of Yukon Avenue & West 110th Street near playground
10951 Yukon Ave S, Bloomington, MN 55438

1. Call to Order and Roll Call
2. Consent Agenda
 - a. Approval of the October Agenda
 - b. Approval of the September Minutes
3. Citizen Input on Non-agenda Items
4. New Business
 - a. LMRWD budget
 - b. Review summer tabling events. Plan for 2024.
5. Old Business
 - a. Bi-annual newsletter review
 - b. Video storyboard review
 - c. MN River Journey video update
6. Communications
 - a. Update on watershed activities
 - LMRWD projects
 - Projects by others
7. Adjournment
8. Optional
 - a. Cost Share site visit at Sutton Place II Condominiums | 11073 Oregon Circle, Bloomington, MN 55438

****Please RSVP to confirm a quorum****



10951 Yukon Ave S, Bloomington, MN 55438

Please bring your own chair.

* In case of inclement weather, the meeting will take place at Savage City Hall in the McHenry conference room. 6000 McColl Dr, Savage, MN 55378. Jen's cell phone 612-730-1058.



LOWER MINNESOTA RIVER WATERSHED DISTRICT

Minutes Citizen Advisory Committee (CAC) Tuesday, September 5, 2023 Savage Library

1. Officer Election

Jen Dullum opened nominations for Board officers. Judy Berglund was nominated for chair by Patty Thomsen. Tom Hartle seconded this nomination. Jen Dullum asked for any other nominations. There were none. Kevin Kedrowski was nominated for vice chair by Judy Berglund. Tom Hartle seconded this nomination. Chair Berglund asked for any other nominations. There were none. Patty Thomsen was nominated for secretary by Tom Hartle. Kevin Kedrowski seconded this nomination. Chair Berglund asked for any other nominations. There were none. Upon taking a roll-call vote, the following individuals voted in favor of the nominations: Berglund, Hartle, Thomsen, and Kedrowski. The following voted against: none. CAC members decided that newly appointed officers will serve the remainder of 2023 and will also serve for calendar year 2024. At the January 2024 meeting, officers will be voted in by acclimation to continue their terms.

2. Call to Order and Roll Call

Chair Berglund called the meeting to order. The following CAC members were present: Judy Berglund, Tom Hartle, Kevin Kedrowski, and Patty Thomsen. The following individuals also attended the meeting: Linda Loomis (Naiad Consulting, LLC, and the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District [LMRWD] Administrator) and Jen Dullum (representing Young Environmental Consulting Group, LLC).

3. Consent Agenda

a. Approval of the September Agenda

- April notes included – not official minutes

Kedrowski moved to approve the consent agenda, and Hartle seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken, the motion carried unanimously.

4. Citizen Input on Non-Agenda Items

There was no input.

5. New Business

a. Update bylaws with new meeting time

The bylaws update was voted on under the consent agenda and will be updated to reflect the new meeting time of 4:30 p.m. CAC meetings will continue to be held the first Tuesday of every month.

b. Review adjacent watershed district citizen advisory committees

This was not reviewed during the meeting but was accepted under the consent agenda.

c. Bi-annual newsletter

A robust discussion on public outreach directed most of the CAC meeting. Loomis noted that under Minnesota State Statute an annual communication is required. In the past this has been done in an executive summary from the annual report, which can be a standalone document. It can be printed out and brought to tabling events. A bi-annual newsletter could be developed in its place and posted to social media, placed on the LMRWD website, and sent via email to a distribution list. Currently there are 85-90 individuals on the distribution list used for meeting agendas and plan reviews.

The conversation on newsletters included:

- Partnering with local cities to share email distribution lists for a wider audience;
- Include articles in city newsletters and local newspapers;
- Using sign-up sheets at local events to increase an electronic distribution list; and
- Creating a tab on the website that takes the user directly to the newsletter.

This conversation flowed into a discussion about the best tool for engagement and messaging. The CAC members considered one-on-one engagement, handouts, displays, and videos. Messages included seasonal topics that are kept simple and easy to understand.

CAC members decided to draft a simple fall newsletter focusing on leaves, salt, and the Educator Mini-Grant Program. Kedrowski will bring a draft newsletter to the October meeting for review.

The conversation turned to videos for social media. Hartle brought up idea of producing short, local, branded content videos that could be placed on Instagram and Facebook. These videos would be developed, filmed, and edited by the CAC members. CAC members decided that salt, leaves, pet waste, and the Educator Mini-Grant Program would be good topics for short videos. Hartle will be bringing back story boards for these topics to the October meeting for review. If it is decided to move forward with videos, scripts will be developed. The Board of Managers will have final approval before public viewing.

d. Minnesota River Journey video

During the June CAC boat trip down the Minnesota River from Carver to the confluence, Thomsen took video on her phone of many of the sites along the way. She inquired of the CAC about creating a "journey down the Minnesota River" video. The CAC was receptive and offered suggestions to build the video in chapters. Chapter suggestions include history, indigenous people, farming, tributaries, birding, fish, commerce, hatcheries, and flooding. These small segment videos can then be placed on social media and the website.

6. Old Business

None

7. Communications

a. Update on watershed activities

Loomis updated the group on watershed activities. A public hearing will be held for the 2024 watershed district budget and will be brought to the Board of Managers for consideration at the September 20 Board meeting.

The riverbank stabilization project in Eden Prairie, also known as Area 3, received \$2.75 million in state funding. The LMRWD needs to match this funding so will use bond sales. This project will reduce sediment entering the Minnesota River at river mile 19.2.

Lastly, the Vernon Avenue road repair project at the dredge site is upcoming. The LMRWD receives \$240,000 annually in state funds to manage dredge material. This money will go towards the project near river mile 14.2 between Cargill and CHS.

8. Adjournment

Hartle moved to adjourn the meeting, and Kedrowski seconded the motion. Upon a vote being taken, the motion carried unanimously.

Next meeting: October 3, 2023, at 4:30 p.m. Location TBD.

Criteria for Attending Local Events

Local events are defined as events organized or sponsored by a partner (i.e. local unit of government, non-governmental organizations, or non-profit organizations) who are wholly or partially encompassed within the Lower Minnesota River Watershed District (District).

Criteria for attending:

- Must be organized or sponsored by a local partner
- Focus of local events should be on water and natural resources
- Must have a theme supported by the mission of the District
 - Manage and protect the Minnesota River, lakes, stream, wetlands, and groundwater and to assist in providing river navigation.
- Must align with the goals of the current watershed plan or help to facilitate a District strategy or policy
 - Manage the different and changing roles of the District.
 - Protect, preserve and restore water quality.
 - Protect and promote groundwater quantity and quality.
 - Protect and manage unique resources.
 - Protect and preserve wetlands.
 - Protect, preserve and restore surface water quality.
 - Manage floodplains and mitigate flooding.
 - Manage erosion and control sediment discharge.
 - Protect and promote groundwater quantity and quality.
 - Maintain and improve navigation and recreational use of the Lower Minnesota River.
 - Increase public participation and awareness of the Minnesota River and its unique natural resources.

2023 Tabling Events

City	Event	Date/Time	Comments	Volunteer	Display
Eden Prairie	Everything Spring Expo	Saturday, March 11 9:00 a.m. -3:00 p.m.	With Riley Purg and Nine Mile Free this year but will have tabling cost in 2024	Judy (9-noon) Theresa (noon-2)	Handouts
Eden Prairie	Arbor Day Walk and Green Fair	April 29, 2023 10:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.	With Riley Purg and Nine Mile	Judy Theresa Linda - staff	NMCWD root puller
Burnsville	Burnsville Native Plant Market	Saturday, May 20, 2023 9:00 a.m. to noon		Judy Theresa	Vermillion Pollute or Protect
Bloomington	Bloomington Public Works Open House	Saturday, May 20, 2023 9:00 a.m. to noon	With Nine Mile	unstaffed	Handouts
Eagan	Eagan Market Fest	Wednesday, June 21 4:00-8:00 p.m.		Patty Greg Erica - staff	NMCWD root puller Bring own tent.
Chaska	Chaska Farmers Market	Wednesday, August 16 5:00-8:00 p.m.		Judy Patty Erica - staff	NMCWD root puller Bring own tent, table, chairs.
Bloomington	Bloomington Farmers Market	Saturday, September 9 8:00 a.m. - 1:00 p.m.		Judy Theresa Linda - staff	NMCWD root puller Bring own chairs.
Bloomington	Buzz Fest	Saturday September 16 10:00 a.m.-1:00 p.m.	With Riley Purg and Nine Mile	Tom Jen - staff	NMCWD root puller Bring own chairs.

Comprehensive Event List

City	Event_1	Event_2	Event_3	Event_4
Bloomington	Public Works Open House	Farmers Market	Buzz Fest	
Burnsville	Native Plant Market	Farmers Market		
Carver	Public Works Open House	Farmers Market		
Chanhassen	Farmers Market			
Chaska	Native Plant Workshop/Walk (fall) with Carver SWCD	Farmers Market		
Eagan	Eagan Garden Club Plant Sale	Arbor Day Celebration	LakeFest	Farmers Market
Eden Prairie	Everything Spring Expo	Eco Expo - Rotary (2024)	Arbor Day Walk and Green Fair	
Mendota Heights	Tree Sale	Resident Tree Pickup & Rain Barrel/Compost Bin Pickup		
Savage	Arbor Day Celebration	Farmers Market		
Shakopee	Tree Sale			
Carver County	Carver County Fair			
Dakota County	Dakota County Fair			
Hennepin County	Hennepin County Fair			
Scott County	Scott County Fair			
Scott SWCD	Outdoor Education Days			
Carver County WMO	Metro Children's Water Festival			