

DRAFT Regular Meeting Minutes – August 21, 2023
RPBCWD Citizens Advisory Committee Monthly Meeting
Location: Virtual via Zoom

ATTENDANCE

Status: P=Present, E=Excused, A=Absent without notification

CAC Members

Andrew Aller	P	Jeff Weiss	P	Marilynn Torkelson	P
Arne Bjork	E	Jessica Willey	E	Michelle Frost	P
Bonnie Nelson	P	Jim Boettcher	P	Savanna Larson	E
Dave Paulson	A	John Tyler	A	Sharon McCotter	P
		Louise Ludford	E	Terry Jorgenson	E

Others

Liz Forbes	RPBCWD Staff	P	Manager Tom Duevel		P
Eleanor Mahon	RPBCWD Staff	P	Alaina Portoghese		P
			Zachary Dickhausen		P

CAC MOTIONS for the Board of Managers:

1. none

Key CAC discussion items for the Board of Managers:

1. CAC reviewed past motions for the BOM, most are in the process of being resolved or resolved but a couple need follow up from the staff. Bonnie will prepare a spreadsheet and put on the agenda for the BOM meeting.

I. Opening – 5 minutes

- A.** Call CAC Meeting to Order: Andrew called meeting to order at 6:04pm
- B.** Attendance: *As noted above*
- C.** Matters of public interest: none
- D.** Approval of the Agenda: adopted without objection
- E.** Designate timekeeper: Andrew
- F.** Approval of previous CAC meeting minutes: adopted without objection

II. Learning Presentation (45 minutes) - Alaina Portoghese will give a presentation about her RPBCWD GreenCorps project Recorded subject to Alaina’s ability to remove. Going to join the WD full time.

- Soil data collection Learn & collect
- Development of soil database
- Soil Education

- K-8 lesson plans
- Soil Educational pamphlets for landowners
- Next Green Corp Member will pick up where Alaina leaves off with her help

III. Board Meeting Recap and Discussion - None; no CAC member present

- A. Highlights from most recent BOM meeting; recording on [YouTube channel](#)
- B. Response on CAC recommendations to Board at their latest meeting
- C. New Advisory Topics from the Board: none
- D. CAC members: Next BOM meeting has been rescheduled to Sept 13 [Please sign up to attend a Board meeting](#)
 1. Sharon asked about our past motions list and are we asking the BOM for a status report. No

IV. Program and Project Updates – 20 minutes

- A. General (Liz): EHAP update by Terry on YouTube <https://youtu.be/V9aOeA7-jxE>; EHAP webpage <https://rpbcwd.org/about/ehap>
 - a. 44% of the district is lawn
 - b. Heat island effect is worse near the mall where a lot of POC live so need to address inequities
- B. E&O updates (Eleanor) – See [events and trainings webpage](#)
 - a. Registration open for [buckthorn workshop](#).
 - b. Tour date TBD visit ecosystem types within the district. Transportation to be provided. Open to the public but transportation not provided for them.
 - c. Brittle Naiad discovered on Mitchell Lake. Clean watercrafts.
 - d. Zebra mussels discovered on Lake Ann near the boat launch. Copper sulfate treatment was applied last week.
 - e. Build Your Own Rain Barrel Workshop.
 - f. October 7 Cycle the Creek focusing on Riley Creek. Will be 8-13 miles with lunch and free t-shirts.
 - g. Smart Salting Training workshops being offered
 - h. Photo contest due September 30th.

V. CAC Process and Function 15 minutes

- A. Committee/project interest/ideas (leadership needed) - Marilynn is going to try to set up a tour of Manager Pederson's HOA project for CAC. Liz plans to arrange a tour of The Preserve next spring for CAC and BOM.
- B. CAC Friends Subcommittee – nothing new to report
- C. New motion by CAC members: Consider resuming CAC meetings in person

VI. Running List for guest speakers for Future Meetings

- A. TBD: Dave Hansen or Jack Distel, City of Bloomington – Natural Areas Restoration
- B. TBD: Importance of native plants
- C. TBD: Climate change & watershed impacts

- D. TBD: 10 Year Plan Update: Overview/requirements
- E. TBD CAC/community education approach (idea: incorporate work Alaina is doing with soil health)

VII. Upcoming Events and Adjournment

- A. CAC Meeting – September 18, 6:00 PM – may change due to potential tour
- B. TAC meeting – as needed
- C. View District calendar at rpbcwd.com/calendar
- D. BOM Regular Meetings (1st Wednesdays @ 7 pm): September 13 Sharon to attend
- E. BOM Workshops (3rd Thursdays @ 7 pm): September 21
- F. Review of past CAC Motions for the BOM. Motions to be organized in a spreadsheet by Bonnie before the next BOM meeting. Open items are
 - a. CAC asks the BOM to Direct WD staff to compile spring and seep data for the lower valleys of RPB creeks to input into the MN DNR's Spring Inventory.
 - b. The CAC asks the BOM to look at the definition of steep slopes in view of climate change and the possibility of large rain events leading to more slope instability and how this could be addressed in District Rules.
 - c. Key Discussion Item: After a robust discussion on permitting rules, the CAC suggested the managers/Staff develop a pipeline with other metro watersheds around permitting rules. When a metro watershed updates its rules, it would be great to be in the loop on the changes. It could save time and money in the long run, provide consistency between the watersheds and help make sure we don't miss something. RPBCWD would reciprocate by sharing our permitting rules and changes as well.
- F. Adjournment: Meeting adjourned at 7:56 pm by general consent