



Wednesday, January 19, 2022

CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE MEETING

Virtual Meeting

www.minnehahacreek.org

Board of Managers:

Sherry White, President; William Olson, Vice President; Jessica Loftus, Treasurer; Eugene Maxwell, Secretary; Richard Miller, Manager; Arun Hejmadi, Manager; Steve Sando, Manager

Board Liaison: Manager Maxwell, Steve Sando

CAC Members Present:

Emily Balogh, Bill Bushnell, Dan Flo, Laurie Goldsmith, John Iverson, Shannon Martin, Rich Nyquist, David Oltmans, Cassy Ordway, Peter Rechelbacher, John Salditt

CAC Members Absent:

Lisa Fowler, Drew McGovern, Marc Rosenberg

Staff present: James Wisker, Helen Schnoes, Tiffany Schaufler, Kayla Westerlund

- 1. Committee Meeting Call to Order and Roll Call (6:30pm) – Called to order at 6:33pm**
 - 1.1 Member introductions – *Members introduced themselves*

- 2. Approval of Agenda (Additions/Corrections/Deletions) (6:35pm) Item 2 began at 6:45**
 - 2.1 Approval of January 19, 2022 Agenda (*Motion made by Bushnell, seconded by Rechelbacher – All approved*)

- 3. Approval of Minutes (6:38pm) Item 3 began at 6:46pm**
 - 3.1 Approval of December 8, 2021 CAC Minutes (*Motion made by Flo, seconded by Nyquist – All approved*)

- 4. Action Item (6:40pm)**
 - 4.1 2022 Executive Committee Elections
 - Salditt and Schnoes facilitated a discussion of members interest in serving on the Executive Committee. Flo, Goldsmith, Nyquist, Rechelbacher, and Salditt each said a few words about their interest in serving on the CAC Executive Committee. Bushnell was acknowledged for his long tenure and leadership with the Executive Committee.

 - Schnoes presented an overview of the formal nomination process, to unfold by position (Chair, Vice Chair, then Executive Officers). With each position, voting was conducted by member hand raising via video or via the “raise hand” feature. Everyone voted in favor of their preferred nominee as their name is said. A majority of at least 8 was needed for a successful election.

- The elections unfolded as such:
 - Chair: Rechelbacher nominated Salditt
 - Salditt was elected with a majority of votes.
 - Vice Chair. Bushnell nominated Rechelbacher and Oltmans nominated Flo.
 - Rechelbacher was elected with a majority of votes.
 - Executive Officers (2 positions): Salditt nominated Flo, Bushnell nominated Nyquist, Goldsmith self-nominated.
 - Flo and Oltmans were elected with a majority of votes for two positions.
- The 2022 Executive Committee is
 - Chair: John Salditt
 - Vice Chair: Peter Rechelbacher
 - Executive Officers: Dan Flo and Rich Nyquist

5. Discussion Items (6:50pm) – Item 5 began at 7:08pm

5.1 Minnehaha Creek Watershed District – 2022 Year Ahead (Wisker)

Wisker provided an overview of the key work of the District in 2022 and how the CAC can support as advisers to the board and District on key initiatives. He provided a macro planning context, looking at the 2007, 2017, and 2027 Watershed Management Plans. The District is now half-way through the current 2017 plan, and coming out of some major restructuring and alignment of the organization with the plan and Balanced Urban Ecology vision and policy. Key project and water quality impacts were shared from across the watershed.

Looking ahead, the District is focused on setting direction on climate action, charting five-year project priorities, planning for strategic growth (including increased staffing), and implementing work currently occurring.

Discussion unfolded as members asked questions and staff responded.

5.2 Lake Nokomis Area Groundwater and Surface Water Evaluation Briefing (Wisker & Schaufler) (7:05pm) Item 5.2 began at 7:41pm

Wisker and Schaufler provided a briefing on the Lake Nokomis Area Groundwater and Surface Water Evaluation. They reviewed the concerns from homeowners that led to the assembly of a multi-agency team to better understand water issues happening in the area west of Lake Nokomis in Minneapolis. The presentation reviewed the range of hypotheses presented by public, policymakers, and agency technical staff as the evaluation began. The briefing summarized the study methods, which included review of historical documents, collection of new groundwater well data, observation of lake and creek water level data, precipitation records, and evaluation of infrastructure and development. Staff outlined the overall findings. Members provided feedback about how to best communicate detailed, technical information to a general public audience. CAC members asked questions and helped identify areas of confusion and uncertainty that staff will take into consideration when finalizing the communications assets in development to support public rollout of the evaluation later in spring 2022.

6. Information Items and Updates (8:15pm) – Item 6 began at 8:57

6.1 New Member Onboarding (Schnoes)

Schnoes provided an update on the new CAC member on-boarding process. One meeting

was completed in January and another would be planned in advance of the March CAC meeting. There will also be a third activity for all CAC members to participate in a Meet & Greet with the full MCWD Board, likely later in spring. Future events will be planned with the new CAC Executive Committee.

A draft roster and CAC member contact information was announced to be circulated offline for members to confirm accuracy.

6.2 CAC Member Updates

Members provided updates on a variety of related policy and community activities unfolding.

6.3 Board Liaison Updates

Managers Maxwell and Sando complemented the CAC on their feedback generated during the meeting and thanked them for their service.

6.4 Staff Updates

No updates were provided from MCWD staff.

7. **Adjournment (8:30pm)** *Item 7 began at 9:01pm (Motion made by Nyquist, seconded by Rechelbacher – All approved)*

Upcoming Meeting

Wednesday, March 16, 2022 Citizen Advisory Committee (Manager Olson, Board Liaison)