

**MINUTES OF THE REGULAR MEETING OF  
THE MINNEHAHA CREEK WATERSHED DISTRICT  
CITIZENS ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
Wednesday, April 14th, 2021**

**Members Present**

Balogh, Bushnell, Flo, Girard, McGovern, Nyquist, Ordway, Otlmans, Rechelbacher, Rosenberg, Salditt

**Managers Present**

Manager Miller

**Others Present**

MCWD Staff: Trevor Born, James Wisker, Becky Christopher, Kim LaBo

**Approval of Agenda and Minutes**

Tenth virtual meeting of the 2021 Citizen Advisory Committee.

Meeting chaired by Salditt and called to order at 6:30 p.m.

Bushnell motioned to approve the agenda, Girard seconded, motion approved.

Girard motioned to approve the March 3rd, CAC meeting minutes, seconded by Flo, minutes approved.

**Discussion Item:**

**CAC Assessment –Process Update: Born**

Purpose: Born discussed the operational considerations which need to be defined based on the CAC's core value proposition.

Background: The CAC is in the midst of a process to define the core value proposition of the committee and align the committee's work and operations around this value.

This process, which is entering its final phase, includes the following steps:

- Defining the problem or opportunity
- Gathering data and drawing insights
- Defining the core value proposition of the program relative to the organization
- **Defining operational considerations based on value proposition**

To complete this final phase of the process, Born stepped through the why, what, and how of the CAC realignment with the committee.

- Why: The value proposition of the CAC
- What: What that value proposition suggests about the CAC's scope of work
- How: Operational considerations for optimizing the CAC for this type of work

The identified value proposition of the CAC generally resonated with CAC members. It was felt the memo did a good job of outlining the strengths of the CAC and direction and strategies the CAC can take.

The CAC helps staff better communicate their work publicly, whether to residents, city officials or other external audiences, by serving as a test audience. This role helps fill a current gap within the organization. It also provides an opportunity for CAC members to get up to speed on a key initiative.

The CAC also provides situational feedback to the District by informing staff about on the ground situations in various District communities such as noticing carp kills in a community. Geographic distribution of the CAC is strength.

CAC has the capability and ability to shift midstream. The committee can shift and pivot to focus on a big question or strategy that needs to be examined. Both approaches are important – identifying the center mass of the focus of the committee yet flexibility to be called when needed. Other types of advisory committees are called when needed and the CAC could be on call for work that falls outside the scheduled meetings for the year.

CAC members reinforced the District Board needs to ultimately determine the CAC's role. They are a group of willing volunteers who want to be helpful and they need clarity on how they can best assist the District.

#### Next Steps:

LaBo provided an overview of the next steps in the CAC realignment process which follows the below timeline:

May 13 <sup>th</sup>	Board of Managers discussion on operational recommendations
May 19 <sup>th</sup>	CAC review of the operational recommendations
June 10 <sup>th</sup>	Board action on the recommended strategic orientation of the CAC and committee operations

#### Updates:

##### **CAC Member Updates:**

Girard reported on a winter fish kill, which included a large number of carp, in a pond in his community. Unclear how fish got into the pond since its elevation is above Lake Minnetonka. Most fish killed were carp. It raised questions about the aeration strategy in Halstead Bay and whether more carp would be killed via winter kill rather than by the aeration strategy.

**Manager Update:** Manager Miller thanked the CAC for their service.

##### **Staff Report:**

Wisker: District staff are in the process of finalizing the Nokomis white paper and are also developing a roll-out plan for the plan either mid-year or 3<sup>rd</sup> quarter. Staff also submitted a proposal to develop a 2-D model to LCCMR and hope to secure a hearing on the proposal in June. Gray's Bay Dam remains closed. The District Administrator and Board President have been meeting with Hennepin County Commissioners as part of their regularly scheduled check-in with the County. The restoration and redevelopment project at 325 Blake Road in Hopkins is moving toward a preliminary design proposal.

Oltmans motioned to adjourn the meeting, Girard seconded. Meeting adjourned at 8:22 p.m.

**Next Meeting is Wednesday, May 19th, 2021 at 6:30 p.m.**

Board of Managers Liaison: Manager White