

MEETING DATE: July 30, 2015

TITLE: Approval of 2015 Watershed Heroes Awards Recipients

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 15-063XXX

PREPARED BY: Telly Mamayek

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REVIEWED BY: Administrator Counsel Program Mgr. (Name): _____
 Board Committee Engineer Other

WORKSHOP ACTION:

<input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Advance to Board mtg. Consent Agenda.	<input type="checkbox"/> Advance to Board meeting for discussion prior to action.
<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to a future workshop (date): _____	<input type="checkbox"/> Refer to taskforce or committee (date): _____
<input type="checkbox"/> Return to staff for additional work.	<input type="checkbox"/> No further action requested.
<input type="checkbox"/> Other (specify): _____	

PURPOSE or ACTION REQUESTED:

Approval of recommended Watershed Heroes Awards recipients for 2015.

PROJECT/PROGRAM LOCATION:

The 2015 Watershed Heroes Awards will be presented at the Bayview Event Center, Excelsior, MN on October 1, 2015.

PROJECT TIMELINE:

- Staff issued a news release calling for nominations on June 5. The deadline for nominations was June 26. In addition to distributing the news release to the District’s list of media contacts and subscribers of the District’s Splash e-newsletter and Watershed Partners list serve, staff also posted it on the District’s Facebook and Twitter sites and the District website.
- The District received 4 nominations from the public, the rest were generated by board members and staff.
- A committee of District staff and board members discussed the nominations on June 29.
- The MCWD Board of Managers will determine award recipients at the workshop on July 9 with final approval at the board meeting on July 30.
- In August, a press release will be issued announcing the award recipients and invitations will be mailed.
- The event will take place on October 1.

PROJECT/PROGRAM COST:

Fund name and number:	Communications, 4003
Current budget:	\$12,000
Expenditures to date:	\$ 750
Requested amount of funding:	\$ 0

Is a budget amendment requested? No
Is additional staff requested? No

PAST BOARD ACTIONS:

On March 8, 2007, the MCWD Board of Managers appointed Managers Keeley and Smith to a 40th Anniversary subcommittee which will work with staff to plan the events series. In August 2007, the MCWD Board of Managers authorized the 2008 work plan for the Education and Communications program, which includes “Watershed Events, including Watershed Heroes Award Event.” On February 14, 2008, the MCWD Board of Managers directed staff to plan an awards ceremony event of less magnitude than the “Blue Tie” gala of 2007. On February 21, 2008, the MCWD Board of Managers approved resolution 08-010, 2008 Events: Watershed Events: Watershed Awareness campaign.

On June 26, 2008, the MCWD Board of Managers approved the 2009 Education Work Plan, which includes the Watershed Heroes event. On January 15, 2009, the MCWD Board of Managers assigned Managers Keeley, Blixt and Klingelhutz to the Awards Committee.

On July 16, 2009, the MCWD Board of Managers approved the 2010 Education Work Plan, which includes the Watershed Heroes Event.

On October 7, 2010, the MCWD Board of Managers approved the 2011 Education and Communications Work Plan, which includes the Watershed Heroes event and Manager Bill Olson filled the vacancy on the Awards Committee left by Manager Klingelhutz’s resignation.

On July 7, 2011, the MCWD Board of Managers approved the 2012 Education Work Plan, which includes the Watershed Heroes event. On April 5, 2012, Manager Davis White filled the vacancy on the Awards Committee left by Manager Keeley’s departure from the Board of Managers.

On July 26, 2012, the MCWD Board of Managers approved the 2013 Communications Work Plan, which includes the Watershed Heroes event.

On June 13, 2013, the MCWD Board of Managers approved the 2014 Communications Work Plan, which includes the Watershed Heroes event.

In September 2014, the MCWD Board of Managers approved the 2015 District budget, which included the 2015 Communications Work Plan and budget for the Watershed Heroes event

SUMMARY:

The intent of the Watershed Heroes award is to recognize citizens who performed outstanding public service related to water resources in the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District.

The board has identified seven categories of Watershed Heroes Awards with the following criteria:

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|---------------------------------|---|
| Excellence in Development Award | Given to a development that successfully protects water quality through the use of Low Impact Development, innovative stormwater management, and natural resource conservation techniques in the Minnehaha Creek Watershed. |
| Innovation in Government Award | Given to a government body or individual that has implemented innovative policies, programs, or projects to protect and improve quality of water, quality of life in the Minnehaha Creek Watershed. |
| Outstanding Partner Award | Given to an individual or group who has effectively leveraged their assets in partnership with the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District to achieve exceptional results in natural resource management. |
| Youth Naturalist Award | Given to a young person or group of young people who have demonstrated excellent commitment to the environment. |

Citizen Engagement Award	Given to an individual or organization that effectively engaged citizen participation and initiative in efforts to improve natural resources in the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District.
Outstanding Contribution Award	Given to an individual or group who has made an outstanding contribution that resulted in the protection or improvement of natural resources in the Minnehaha Creek Watershed.
Lifetime Stewardship Award	Given to an individual who has, during his or her lifetime, played a significant and lasting role in watershed management and demonstrated leadership in natural resources stewardship. Staff received the following nominations for Watershed Heroes Awards.

The following nominations are proposed for 2015 Watershed Heroes awards:

Excellence in Development Award – Presbyterian Homes – Promenade of Wayzata

For its commitment to water resource protection on the 14-acre redevelopment of the Wayzata Bay Center site. Presbyterian Homes exceeded the City of Wayzata’s regulatory requirements and applicable elements of the District’s regulatory requirements with a stormwater management plan that includes underground filtration and infiltration systems, the reduction and replacement of 1.1 acres of impervious surface with green roofs and hydronic snowmelt tubing in streets and sidewalks that reduce salt use from 32 tons/year to 0 tons/year.

Innovation in Government Award - City of Minnetrista

For its leadership and vision on working with the Mader Family Trust and the MCWD on a development plan that achieves multiple goals. The City’s spirit of collaboration resulted in a project that protects and restores 42 acres of wetland and upland, increases the city’s tax base, maximizes the family’s return on the sale and creates the first wetland bank in the MCWD.

Outstanding Partner Award - Minnesota Department of Natural Resources, MN AIS Research Center, City of Shorewood, Christmas Lake Homeowners Association

For their partnership on the response to the August 2014 discovery of zebra mussels in Christmas Lake. Working together with the MCWD, the organizations acted swiftly to coordinate a multi-pronged treatment plan that utilized all known tools in the battle against zebra mussels. The collaborative response exemplifies the significant impact of working together toward a common goal.

Youth Naturalist Award

No award

Citizen Engagement Award - Master Water Stewards Program of the Freshwater Society

For their commitment to protecting local waters from stormwater runoff by installing best management practices and educating their neighbors and others about their benefits. Funded with a grant from the state’s Clean Water Fund, the Master Water Stewards is a partnership between the Freshwater Society and the District that recruited and trained 80 Master Stewards across the watershed district from 2013-2015.

Outstanding Contribution Award - Florian and Linda Mae Kerbers and Dr. Glen Nelson

For their individual achievement in implementing stormwater management features on their property to protect lakes in the MCWD's upper watershed from polluted stormwater runoff.

The Kerbers conserved 10.2 acres of farmland they own in Laketown Township and planted it with native grasses and installed three vegetated swales which significantly reduce the amount of sediment and phosphorus entering Pierson Lake.

Using innovative techniques, Dr. Glen Nelson is restoring 5.6 acres of uplands and wetlands on his property and his neighbor's property in Orono near Lake Minnetonka. The project, which includes a deep marsh and wet meadow, two rain gardens and native trees, shrubs and plants, will diversify the plant and wildlife populations and improve runoff management.

Lifetime Stewardship Award - John Barten

For his dedication to protecting water resources, which has had a lasting impact on lakes, rivers, streams and wetlands across the region and the state. Hired as Three Rivers Park District's first Water Quality Manager in 1989, Barten developed and implemented a water quality management plan to protect the Park District's surface and ground waters while increasing public awareness of water quality. He worked with municipalities and citizens groups on water quality issues and took a leadership role in regional efforts to combat the spread of aquatic invasive species.

~~Perhaps Barten's greatest contribution to improving water quality was his work to confirm the relationship between fertilizer use and impaired water quality, which led to~~ also played an important role in the passage of a state law in 2002 restricting use of phosphorous fertilizer on residential lawns in an effort to protect water quality. Minnesota was the first state in the nation to pass such legislation and it became a model for other states to follow.

Barten retired from Three Rivers Park District in June 2015.

In the past, Watershed Heroes Awards have been given to:

2014 Awards

Excellence in Development
Tiny Diner

Innovation in Government
Hennepin County

Outstanding Partner
Three Rivers Park District

Youth Naturalist
Boy Scouts of America

Citizen Engagement
Peter Rechelbacher

Outstanding Contribution
Minnetonka and St Louis Park Sunrise Rotary
Clubs

Lifetime Stewardship
Eugene Hickok and Mike Panzer

2013 Awards

Excellence in Development
No award

Innovation in Government
Carver County/Minneapolis Park and
Recreation Board

Outstanding Partner
City of St. Louis Park

Youth Naturalist
Students of El Colegio High School

Citizen Engagement
Ken Gothberg

Outstanding Contribution
Liz Weir

Lifetime Stewardship
Lee Keeley

2012 Awards

Excellence in Development Award
Woodland Cove, LLC and The Bancorp
Group, Inc.

Innovation in Government Award
City of Shorewood

Outstanding Partner Award
City of Hopkins

Youth Naturalist Award
Youth of the Mooney Lake Storm Drain
Project

Citizen Engagement Award
Lake Minnetonka Bay Captains

Outstanding Contribution Award
Dr. Peter Sorensen

Lifetime Stewardship Award
Herbert J. Suerth, Jr.

2011 Awards

Excellence in Development Award
Solution Blue

Innovation in Government Award
MN Department of Veterans Affairs

Outstanding Partner Award
Minnesota Waters

Youth Naturalist Award
Youth of the Pierson Lake Association
(APPLE)

Citizen Engagement Award
Lake Action Alliance

Outstanding Contribution Award
Bob & Jan Halverson

2010 Awards

Excellence in Development Award
Duke Realty

Innovation in Government Award
City of Minneapolis

Outstanding Partner Award
Tina Plant of Hedberg Landscape & Masonry
Supplies and the Go Blue! Team

Citizen Engagement Award
Metro Blooms

Outstanding Contribution Award
MCWD Rule Making Task Force

Lifetime Stewardship Award
Ginny Black

2009 Awards

Excellence in Development Award
Stonehenge USA

Innovation in Government Award
City of Mound

Outstanding Partner Award
Jacob Leinenkugel Brewing Company

Youth Naturalist Award
K.I.C.K. – Keep it Clean Kids

Citizen Engagement Award
Mike Shouldice

Outstanding Contribution Award
Mary Nolte

Lifetime Stewardship Award
Gabriel Jabbour

2008 Awards

Excellence in Development Award
Methodist Hospital

Innovation in Government Award
City of Minnetonka

Outstanding Partner Award
Bachman's

Youth Naturalist Award
No award given in 2008.

Citizen Engagement Award
Dave Oltmans & the Friends of Diamond
Lake

Outstanding Contribution Award
Sandy Colvin Roy

Lifetime Stewardship Award
Woody Love

2007 Awards

Excellence in Development Award
Locust Hills Development, LLC

Innovation in Government Award
City of Orono

Outstanding Partner Award
Minnesota Landscape Arboretum

Youth Naturalist Award
Gleason Lake Environmental Ambassadors

Citizen Engagement Award
Nokomis East Neighborhood Association

Outstanding Contribution Award
Raymond Haik

Lifetime Stewardship Award
Richard G. Gray, Sr., P Sc. and Richard P.
Caldecott, Ph. D.

Prior to 2007:

Nina Cole Valley View Middle School & Elizabeth Crist, Valley View Middle School:
For their vigilance in discovering a puddle of mercury adjacent to Minnehaha Creek and contacting the Pollution Control Agency of emergency containment and removal (April 26, 2001).

Representative Wes Skoglund, Representative Dennis Ozment & Senator Julie Sabo:
For helping to protect the water resources of Camp Coldwater Springs through their legislative efforts and leadership on the springs issue. (December 19, 2002).

Victor Gilbertson, local painter and retired architect:
For immortalizing the bridges and the natural environment along Minnehaha Creek in a book of collected watercolor paintings, Watercolors of Bridges over Minnehaha Creek (December 19, 2002).

Boy Scout Troop 6 of the Church of the Good Shepard, Boy Scout Troop 110 of Mount Olivet Lutheran Church & Troop 196 of Diamond Lake Lutheran Church:
For removing more than 1,100 pounds of waste and debris from a stretch of Minnehaha Creek (October 28, 2004).

RESOLUTION

RESOLUTION NUMBER: 15-063XXX

TITLE: **Approval of 2015 Watershed Heroes Award Recipients**

WHEREAS, the MCWD has established the Watershed Heroes Awards to recognize individuals and groups that have made significant contributions to the quality of water, quality of life in the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District; and

WHEREAS, the MCWD has published a request of nominations and solicited nominations from the public, board, and staff; and

WHEREAS, a committee of staff and board members have reviewed the nominations and made the following recommendations for award recipients;

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED that the Minnehaha Creek Watershed District Board of Managers hereby recognizes the following individuals and groups for their outstanding contributions to watershed management:

Excellence in Development Award

Presbyterian Homes – Promenade of Wayzata

Innovation in Government Award

City of Minnetrista

Outstanding Partner Award

MN Department of Natural Resources, MN AIS Research Center, City of Shorewood, Christmas Lake Homeowners Association

Youth Naturalist Award

No award

Citizen Engagement Award

Master Water Stewards Program of the Freshwater Society

Outstanding Contribution Award

Florian and Linda Mae Kerbers, Dr. Glen Nelson

Lifetime Stewardship Award

John Barten

BE IT FUTHER RESOLVED that the District Administrator is authorized to purchase appropriate awards to be given to the award recipients at a ceremony on October 1, 2015.

Resolution Number 15-XXX was moved by Manager _____, seconded by Manager _____.
Motion to adopt the resolution ___ ayes, ___ nays, ___ abstentions. Date: _____.

Secretary Date: _____