



Item 7D.
BCWMC 3-19-20

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MINUTES

February 11, 2020

A meeting of the West Metro Water Alliance (WMWA) was called to order by Diane Spector at 8:32 a.m., Tuesday, February 11, 2020, at Plymouth Creek Center, 14800 34th Avenue N, Plymouth, MN.

Present were: Laura Jester, Bassett Creek WMC; Doug Baines, Elm Creek WMC; Shelley Marsh, Brooklyn Center; Amy Riegel, Plymouth; Catherine Cesnik, Coordinator; Mary Amdsdan and Sharon Meister, Educators; Diane Spector, Wenck Associates; and Amy Juntunen, JASS.

1. Motion by Baines, second by Riegel to approve the **agenda*** as presented. *Motion carried.*
2. Motion by Baines, second by Marsh to approve the **minutes*** of the January 14, 2020 meeting, changing Amy to Riegel in all references. *Motion carried.*
3. **Watershed PREP.**
 - a. A **list** of scheduled classes to date for the 2020 calendar year was provided to members. The schedule should be provided at the next Commission meetings to allow interested Commissioners to schedule a time to view a class, if so desired.
 - b. Juntunen will send the Educators information and a link to the WaterShed Partners **Adopt-A-Drain** program website.
 - c. The **promotional video** for the program was created at a recent school visit and is in the editing process now. Staff will make it available to member watersheds and cities, as well as post it to the website.
 - d. **Testimonials** from teachers participating in the program would be appreciated for the website and social media.
4. **Coordinator Update.**
 - a. Cesnik provided the **draft questions** for the City Water Resources staff. Surveys will be conducted via telephone call. Once the surveys are completed the Education and Outreach Plan will be reviewed for potential updates. An additional question was added to ask if they are currently using or promoting the Adopt-A-Drain program, 10 Things brochure, Commercial Maintenance brochure or other materials generated by either the City, County or WMWA. Ask if the City is interested in partnering to host and promote Resilient Yard, Raingarden Maintenance or Salt workshops. General nutrient management questions are missing from the draft. Cesnik will add the gaps in question format and a list of other question ideas.
 - b. Juntunen will inquire about borrowing the RCWD's **pull-out roots display** at the upcoming Blue Thumb partner meeting to obtain photos and specs, and potentially bring to a local sign design company for replication. Spector also suggested soliciting a tech school for design and manufacture of additional displays.
5. **Website/Social Media reports*** Monthly reports were reviewed. Cesnik now has access to edit the WMWA website and will begin the process of updating the site. Juntunen will invite Cesnik to be an editor on the Facebook Page. Juntunen and Spector currently have access to post to the Facebook page. Cesnik noted that other social media platforms, such as Instagram and Next Door, could be beneficial to piggy-back posts. Next Door will not allow the watershed to have a page since they span too large an area, only cities.

**in meeting packet*

BASSETT CREEK: Crystal • Golden Valley • Medicine Lake • Minneapolis • Minnetonka • New Hope • Plymouth • Robbinsdale • St. Louis Park
ELM CREEK: Champlin • Corcoran • Dayton • Maple Grove • Medina • Plymouth • Rogers
SHINGLE CREEK: Brooklyn Center • Brooklyn Park • Crystal • Maple Grove • Minneapolis • New Hope • Osseo • Plymouth • Robbinsdale
WEST MISSISSIPPI: Brooklyn Center • Brooklyn Park • Champlin • Maple Grove • Osseo

The **website update** should include a revamp of the Things You Can Do page to house information on what citizens can do including Lawns to Legumes, Adopt-A-Drain, organizing cleanups, volunteering for monitoring, as well as the brochures and other materials.

6. Other Business.

a. A **Master Water Steward** in Golden Valley has started working with Hennepin County to create water-related pieces to be included in welcome packets for new residents. Master Water Stewards might be a good connection with WMWA for outreach opportunities. Jester will send Juntunen contact info for the County Master Water Steward coordinator.

b. **Business Outreach Opportunities.** Cesnik will contact a person at the TwinWest Chamber of Commerce to see if they would be interested in a chloride training or other types of outreach to their business members.

c. The **Lawns to Legumes** individual grant program is currently open and taking applications until February 28, 2020 for spring projects with grants awarded in March/April. The second round of individual grants will open on March 1, 2020 for fall projects. Individuals can apply for up to \$350 to be used toward technical assistance and/or installation of pollinator-friendly plantings. BCWMC and SCWMC both applied for a Neighborhood Demonstration Project grant. BCWMC has been awarded a grant.

d. The last **Hennepin County Chloride Group** meeting discussed the primary finding of the survey, which is that Applicators understand the environmental impacts but end-users/public insist on over-salting for various reasons. The next meeting is scheduled for February 18 at 1:30 p.m. at Riley/Purgatory/Bluff Creek Watershed District.

7. Announcements

a. BCWMC is hosting a **Parking Lot/Sidewalk Salt Workshop** on March 6 and is currently at 43 of a max 45 registrants, including people from as far away as Iowa.

b. The **Discover Plymouth event** is scheduled for Saturday, April 25. Educators may be asked to table at this event.

c. The **Brooklyn Center Shingle Creek Cleanup** event is scheduled for April 22. Educators may be asked to table at the **Earl Brown Days** event at the end of June.

d. BCWMC will host **three open houses** on different projects. The first open house will be held tomorrow evening at Plymouth City Hall re the Mount Olivet stream restoration project and Parker's Lake drainage improvement project. The second will be held on February 27 at UROC in Minneapolis re dredging lagoons in Bassett Creek within Wirth Park. The third will be held on April 8 at Brookview re Sweeney Lake.

e. BCWMC has been **awarded at \$400,000 grant** for the Bryn Mawr Water Quality Improvement Project.

f. The Victory Neighborhood will host a **Lawns to Legumes workshop** at Webber Park on March 21.

g. Cesnik will attend the **WaterShed Partners meeting** tomorrow 9:30-11:30 a.m.

h. **The next WMWA meeting** is scheduled for 8:30 a.m. on Tuesday, March 10, 2020 at Plymouth City Hall.

7. Adjournment. There being no further business, motion by Baines, second by Riegel to adjourn. The meeting was adjourned at 10:09 a.m.

Respectfully submitted,

Amy Juntunen
Recording Secretary

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