

**MEETING NOTES OF THE
COMFORT LAKE-FOREST LAKE WATERSHED DISTRICT
CITIZEN ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Tuesday, October 18th, 2022**

Present: Ted Hansen, Randy Schumacher, Jerry Grundtner, Geneva Kubal, Curt Sparks

Others: Manager Jackie Anderson, Mike Miron, Jessica Lindemyer, Aidan Read

1.) **Change to Meeting Schedule**

Chair Ted Hansen pointed out that our next scheduled Committee meeting was on election day. A motion was made to change the next meeting day to the following Tuesday, November 15th. This change was made unanimously.

2.) **Watershed Update**

Aidan Read, Land Management Specialist, provided an overview of District activities to the Committee. Updates included the LSOHC selecting the South Bone Lake project for partial funding, and the end of the monitoring season. Randy Schumacher asked what the plan was for partial funding of the South Bone Lake project. Mr. Read promised to provide an update as more information became available, but that the District was exploring partnering with other entities to acquire the parcel.

3.) **Logo and Branding Update**

Jessica Lindemyer, Operations and Outreach Specialist, briefed the Committee on the new website and logo design. The response from the Committee was positive. Ms. Lindemyer informed the Committee that they would be asked to test the website as part of the process, and to expect an update later in the year.

4.) **Shoreline Program Update**

Mr. Read gave the Committee an update on shoreline program activities, providing details on the planning discussions as well as the work of the new GreenCorps member, Jess Held. As part of this update Mr. Read led the Committee through a presentation of various shorelines. These shorelines were ranked according to the metrics in the DNR's "Score Your Shore" criteria. Mr. Read discussed some of the issues that have been identified with the metrics, and how staff are exploring alternatives.

In addition to the example shorelines, staff are working on preparing educational materials and a shoreline toolkit for use in the next season, as well as a series of workshops targeted at contractors. Jerry Grundtner stated that the more targeted a workshop is, the more successful it will likely be. Curt Sparks seconded Mr. Grundtner's comments and added that

he has seen these workshops be successful in the past, and that contractors may also have ideas that are useful to the District for restoring shorelines. Mr. Grundtner added that at these workshops it is necessary to have a funded cost-share programs to offer. Randy Schumacher agreed, having funding to offer is a good way to make potential restorations happen faster.

5.) **Chloride Program Discussion**

One component of Ms. Held's work plan is to provide education and outreach support in addressing chloride pollution. Mr. Read gave a brief presentation on chloride pollution that Ms. Held had prepared and solicited ideas from the Committee. Geneva Kubal brought up the point that information about the issue is likely very effective as this is an issue not many people know about. Educational initiatives targeted at individuals in priority areas would likely be effective.

Ted Hansen asked if certain roadways had restrictions on salt application rates, TH8 for example, which runs over Comfort-Little Comfort lakes. To the knowledge of those present, there were no restrictions on application in areas such as TH8, although there is an effort to include some treatment of all runoff from roads. Mr. Grundtner mentioned that road maintenance either by the city, county, or state accounts for a large portion of salt applied, and that the City of Forest Lake has already made changes to their applications. This is a potential area that Ms. Held could follow up with. Mr. Sparks added some background on the MPCA's consideration of chlorides as a pollutant of concern, and mentioned that there had been success in the past at creating social pressure campaigns around salt application.

6.) **Closing and Election of October Chair**

Geneva Kubal was elected Chair of the November meeting.

Next regular meeting of the Citizen's Advisory Committee will be Tuesday, November 15th at 5:00pm. The meeting will be held remotely via Zoom.