Community Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting Six

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
Pesticide Advisory Committee Meeting

February 28, 2019 5:00 – 7:00pm
Board Conference Room

PAC members present: Kari Christianson, Janice Gepner, Mike Lynch, Alex Roth, Jim Calkins, Simba Blood, Russ Henry, Patrick Keegan, Vera Krischik, Luna Zeidner and Jack Mackenzie.

One member of the general public attended the meeting.

Staff, commissioners, and speakers present:
Jeremy Barrick, (MPRB), Stephanie Musich (Commissioner), Michael Schroeder (MPRB) and Roberta Groening (MPRB)

Opening: 5:00pm
The sixth Pesticide Advisory Committee Meeting was called to order.

1. Welcome and Introductions
   a. The PAC members were welcomed and introduced.

2. Updates and Housekeeping
   a. A Committee member requested that the chair and committee members consider setting goals and priorities for work that needed to happen between meetings because the committee only has two more scheduled meetings before they update the board on recommendations.

   b. Committee members reviewed upcoming meeting dates, reviewed reference items and discussed items that could be found on the Midwest Invasive Plants Network database.

   c. A Committee member requested that the membership not question the job responsibilities of MPRB staff but keep in mind the goals and objectives before them.

   d. Committee members had a brief discussion on the IPM policy and how it had been revised and contained newly defined thresholds.

3. Bylaws
   a. Committee members discussed adopting bylaws. As part of the discussion, a staff member noted that any inclusion of bylaws for this Committee would have to be approved by the MPRB board.

   b. The Committee discussed bringing clarifying questions to the board after the April 3rd deadline, namely:
a. If the Pesticide Advisory Committee is to continue as directed by the board, the committee would at that time bring recommended bylaws for the board’s consideration.

b. Discussion of consensus and whether online voting would be permitted?

c. Clarification on the Community Engagement Policy of the standard for nominating chair and co-chairs for Community Advisory Committees?

d. Lastly the Committee agreed to have a discussion and nominate a co-chair at the March 18, 2019 meeting, so the work could continue to move forward even if the chair was absent.

4. Workgroups

a. Committee members divided into sub-group discussions and will provide written documentation for the whole group.

5. Open comment time:

a. A member of the public representing a community group from the Lake Harriett neighborhood, spoke to the committee about their quest to reduce Milfoil in the lake. One of the recommendations was a chemical called Fluoridone, and this member distributed fact sheets shared with their group by the MN and WI Department of Natural Resources.

b. A committee member also addressed the audience and indicated that his wish was for the committee to be open to all options that consisted of scientific based findings and to focus on making a real change within the Park Board system.

6. Self-Evaluation

a. Concern for a lack of co-chair.

b. Concern for rehashing of the charge and expressed the strong desire to move forward.

c. Concern for the impartiality of the process.

7. Thank you and adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 6:58pm