

Community Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting Nine

Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board Pesticide Advisory Committee Meeting

April 23rd, 2019 5:00 – 7:00pm
Board Conference Room

PAC members present: Kari Christianson, Mike Lynch, Alex Roth, Simba Blood, Russ Henry and Christy Dolph

One member of the general public attended the meeting.

Staff, commissioners, and speakers present:

Jeremy Barrick, (MPRB), Kait Ryan (MPRB) and Roberta Groening (MPRB)

Opening: 5:05pm

The Ninth Pesticide Advisory Committee Meeting was called to order.

1. Updates

Review of the 4/17/19 board presentation and feedback

- a. Committee members reviewed and discussed the newly updated Community Engagement Policy with the committee paying attention to items relating to committee structure and how they might move forward. Options discussed were;
 - I. Continue the committee as currently structured and complete the two-year term under the umbrella of the previous community engagement policy
 - II. Recommend to the Board that the committee reconstitute as a permanent standing Committee, similar to the Tree Advisory Committee, and aligning with the new Community Engagement Policy.
- b. Committee members also had a discussion on how to replace committee members who have resigned or did not attend meetings, and consensus was that some of these conversations would be dealt with in a bylaw structure, but no decisions were made because of the committee member turnout at this current meeting.
- c. Committee members agreed to schedule a poll to determine a next meeting in the next week and possibly go to meeting on a monthly basis going forward.

2. Next Step

- a. Staff liaison discussed three strategies to move the committee forward;
 - I. Board Resolutions – resolution to move forward as a standing committee of the MPRB like the Tree Advisory Committee, more concrete
 - II. IPM Policy – would affect changes in practice and more dynamic
 - III. Practices – change practices through policies or through IPM

3. Committee Discussions on moving forward

- a. The committee would investigate testing a pilot pesticide golf course at Fort Snelling beginning in the 2020 growing season which would combine testing on a golf course and



athletic fields. The committee would look at experts who would be willing to do detailed biological study and baseline to prepare for test next year (2020).

- b. A committee member would investigate ways to Educate, marketing promotions and cultural practices around Pesticide free parks.
- c. Declare parks that are currently herbicide and pesticide free parks to the public.
- d. Investigate other parks that can be transitioned to pesticide free
- e. Invite staff back to the pesticide advisory committee meeting to find out how the committee could be more helpful with their work.
- f. The committee members then divided some of the work for next steps in the following ways;
 - Committee members are going to each reach out to their known experts who do biological studies to see if they would be willing to do this work with the MPRB
 - Committee might investigate Turf management at Target Field which may be considered an organic field?
 - A contact of one of the committee members Chip Osborne, who works with an organization, Beyond Pesticides that works on transitioning to pesticide free parks, to see if they would be willing to work with the committee to pilot the test program. A committee member indicated that this work would happen with a grant from Stonyfield yogurt who have offered “the city of Minneapolis” a \$10,000 grant to start.
 - The committee also requested from staff detailed management practices at Fort Snelling so they can be aware of what species the work would be looking to eliminate.

4. Open comment time:

- a. A member of the public expressed their thanks for the committee’s work and their dedication to offering recommendations and working towards a possible pesticide free park system.

5. Thank you and adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 7:08pm