

Community Advisory Committee (PAC) Meeting Ten
Minneapolis Park and Recreation Board
Pesticide Advisory Committee Meeting

May 13, 2019 5:00 – 7:00pm
Board Conference Room

PAC members present Kari Christianson, Mike Lynch, Alex Roth, Russ Henry, Jim Calkins and Jack MacKenzie,

One member of the general public attended the meeting.

Staff, commissioners, and speakers present:

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

1. Updates

Review of the 4/23/19 meeting

Committee members discussed items that were recently uploaded to the committee google docs page.

- a. Pesticide Free Golf & Athletics Update - A committee member discussed the available resources to possibly begin the pilot program of transitioning a portion of Fort Snelling golf course and a ball field at the same location to be pesticide free. Here are the considerations that were discussed;
 - I. A committee member indicated that there is a grant available from Bee Safe Minneapolis for in-kind services that will help the MPRB with setting up the work for the transition pilot.
 - II. Chip Osborne, a board member from an organization called Beyond Pesticides would work with the park board to set up the pilot practices and plan design and would provide monitoring services for 18 months beyond the transition period.
 - III. Beyond the 18-month period, Chip Osborne would plan and design a program to be maintained by MPRB staff going forward.
 - IV. The pesticide advisory committee is possibly interested in beginning biological data gathering Fall 2019 with the pilot transition slated to begin in the Spring 2020.
 - V. Committee indicated they would need current practices and plans from MPRB staff if Fort Snelling golf and a ball field are to be the chosen sites for the test pilot.
 - VI. A committee member also indicated an education symposium (with curriculum and planning still to be worked out) that would be used as an education opportunity for staff and community stakeholders.
 - VII. Committee members also had additional questions regarding the pilot;
 - Has Chip Osborn successfully transitioned a golf course before?
 - Is it possible to leave half the ball field and golf course untouched by the new pilot program for comparison purposes?
 - What is the measurement of success going to look like?
- b. Education/Promotion/Outreach of current practices



Current MPRB practices do not advertise nor designate parks that are currently Pesticide free as such. The committee will be working with the MPRB communications department to create a pesticide free park branding that would be updated on all virtual medium (website, twitter and Facebook) along with signage at the actual parks. Committee additionally discussed developing an icon that would appear on the main page of the website along with the list of amenities and park listings that would designate a park as pesticide/herbicide free. The committee is also interested in finding a third-party organization/governing body that may have a set of standards that the MPRB could follow within the park system to be able to have parks designated as pesticide free.

c. **Pesticide & Herbicide Free Parks**

Staff liaison reviewed current parks that are pesticide and herbicide free. Staff will provide a map of these locations for the committee's review and marketing efforts.

d. **Biological data**

MPRB staff will provide current practices for the committee's review, and the committee will do more research on what will be the baseline metrics that will be used in the pilot program.

2. Committee Next steps

- a. The committee has decided to continue under the current resolution and complete the two-year term with the possibility of an outcome to remain a permanent committee of the MPRB.
- b. The committee will look to choose a standing meeting day and will schedule meetings approximately once a month.

3. Open comment time:

- a. A member of the public expressed their thanks for the committee's work and indicated the community groups that she works with have indicated that the measure of success for this committee in their view would be zero chemical usage in the park system.

4. Thank you and adjourn

Meeting was adjourned at 7:02pm