

ENVIRONMENT COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, February 16, 2017 – 7:00 p.m.

Edgumbe Recreation Center, 320 South Griggs Street, Saint Paul, MN

Meeting began at 7:02 p.m. January minutes were approved.

Capitol Region Watershed District Grant Planning: MGCC will host three events on April 27, June 22, and September 9 at MacGrove Fest. The first two events will be at MacPlymouth Church from 6:30 pm to 8:30 pm. The focus of the April 27 meeting will be Climate Change Resiliency and Stormwater Management with Dr. Christie Manning. The June 22 event will be titled Stormwater Management in Your Backyard with Mr. David Pasiuk. This series of programs offered by MGCC and funded by the Capitol Region Watershed District will be entitled *Water As Our Resource*. At the first two meetings we will provide food and water and environment committee volunteers will fill whatever roles would be helpful to the presenters or to make the workshops run smoothly. We will ask participants to RSVP ahead of time if they want childcare, and will recruit people to provide childcare, if needed. MacPlymouth Church volunteers are also likely to support the workshops. Participants' names will be entered into a drawing for 5 free 2-hour consultations with a certified master water steward. At MacGrove Fest, we will also hold drawings for donations from businesses; we hope to collaborate with CBC to incorporate a water-related theme for MacGrove Fest this year. So far we have secured 5 donations from two businesses. Craig and Melanie will pick up the donations. We would like to make sure our advertising for the events is citywide, so will distribute the info to be shared by City Councilmembers' staffs, *Pioneer Press*, MPR, other district councils.

Mac-Grove Moves: Britta will share the Google Doc of jobs. Environment committee members, please sign up to help with the program! You could pick up donations, hide golden shoes, write clues for the shoes, etc.

Other Program Updates:

- **Organics:** Republic Services is the new hauler for the organics compost site on Grand Avenue. They have shared their list of items that they haul, which is the same as the previous list from Troje's, so there is no need to an education campaign for participants. Republic hauls the organics to Rosemount and the mulch is sold to mulch stores.

- **Organized Trash Collection:** The third proposal from the hauler consortium was to be submitted to the City of St. Paul during the week of Feb. 13, 2017. We have heard that they have come to agreement on 17/20 goals that the City has laid out for the negotiations.

Other business: MGCC will share the City website that has information about ash trees, emerald ash borers, City approaches to emerald ash borer infestations, and the green plastic rings that the City has placed on trees.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:20.