



Friends of Cedar Lake Minutes

December 17, 2014

Attendees: Dale Todd, Felicia Wyrick, Martin Smith, Charlie Visek, Ryan Anderson, Ron Gonder, Tim Moran, Gregg Stark, Gary Thompson, Nate Whipple, David Andrews, Daniel Gibbins, Sandy Pumphrey, Mike Kuntz, Mary Meisterling, Kurt Nilsson, Kate Hawkins, Dan Miller

Meeting was called to order at 5:05 p.m.

Minutes from 11/20/14 were approved.

Outreach

Letters to the editors have been running and we need to keep them coming. Most of our outreach has been with the City and County regarding a Memorandum of Understanding. (MOU)

MOU

A first draft of the MOU was shared with the group. It's important for all involved to understand that this document doesn't address any financial obligation on anyone's part. It is simply an agreement that the City, County and FCL will work together on the next step of discovery. Existing data from the DNR, Alliant, City, County, etc. will be assembled so we can decide on next steps from a more knowledgeable position.

Kurt (Terracon) gave an overview of what a Phase I study might be. It would be a standard real estate due diligence assessment involving physically walking the site, historical and regulatory research. Takes 3 -4 weeks to complete and would cost approximately \$3000-\$3500. This would help alleviate apprehension on the part of elected regarding risk.

Phase II would likely be more concrete assessments such as core samples of the bottom of the lake, water quality studies, etc. so we really know what we're dealing with. The County will likely pass it once Jim Houser joins the Board of Supervisors. The City will likely pass it after the first of the year as well. The City is in the process of assembling an internal team. This agreement will likely to be similar to the Bluestem model.

Mary shared that Alliant is having internal discussions about testing, determining whether they want to do it while they still own it or if they transfer ownership to the City and let them manage it. This is a different position from where they were a year ago.

Status of Alliant plant demolition

In the process of getting all of the demo permits they need. Learned that there is a City ordinance that all demo'd basements have to be removed and the building has a 30 ft. foundation so that's a setback. Dale suggested that perhaps the funds that Alliant is putting into the demo process might be used as matching funds for future grants.

Removal of debris from the lake

There doesn't appear to be any DNR rule preventing removal of debris. Alliant would simply have to make the DNR aware that debris was going to be removed. There might be some restrictions in the MOU, however. We'll investigate what options might be available to allow volunteers to help with the cleanup and present it for consideration in the spring. While liability is a concern, there may actually be more danger to paddlers if the re-bar is left in the lake, for example.

Fish tissue testing

There was some discussion and the status of DNR testing of fish tissue. Their last report indicated that chlordane levels have been decreasing and that the fish consumption limit was going to be eliminated. Tim talked to DNR reps when they were testing last and was told the bottom feeders were still suspect but croppies and other species were clean.

Flood protection open house

The meeting is tomorrow and the group was provided talking points so that we're all on the same page as far as flood protection for the lake. The number one reason is that we have to have it in order to apply for the DNR Lake Restoration Program. We reached out to the Moundview Neighborhood Association so their members would be sure to attend.

Dan (Stanley Group) reported that they are working with the City along with Anderson Bogart and Confluence on the East side plan while H.R. Green is working on the West side plan. They're using the Army Corps of Engineer plan as a starting point. Mayor Corbett and City Manager Jeff Pomerantz met with the Army Corp in D.C. last week and he doesn't believe that discussing other options, i.e. adopting the City Council adopted plan which protects the lake, jeopardizes our funding. Dan qualified this by saying that the concern isn't about the funding as a whole, it's about not stirring the pot until the appropriations actually start coming our way.

The meeting adjourned at 5:55 PM

Next meeting: January 15, 2015 at 5:00 PM

Respectfully submitted by Felicia Wyrick