



MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Monday, April 5th, 2021

7:00 p.m.

Virtually via Go-To-Meeting pursuant to and in compliance with City Council Ord.
20-05

Commissioners Attending: Sarah Hurst (Chair), Amanda Stebbins (Vice Chair), Kimberly Bastress (Secretary), Kerry Devine (City Council), Damien Cobey (Clean Subcommittee Chair), Holly Chichester (Green Subcommittee Chair), Robert Courtnage (Sustainability Subcommittee Chair), Cristi Carver, George Solley

Ex-officio Members Attending: Mike Ward (Parks and Rec), Diane Beyer and Scott Rae (Public Works), Tyler Gelles (Planning), Diane Jones and M.C. Morris (R-Board)

Additional attendees -- Review affiliation & names:

Caller 02, Bruce Saller

Not present (were one of these "Caller 02" noted above?)

Carolyn Helfrich (Arborist), Ray Regan (Public Works)

Minutes from March 2021 meeting approved.

Sustainability Award for 2021 Launch - Sarah Hurst

Several marketing efforts to launch the Sustainability Award are underway. Sarah and Robert visited with B101.5 News Director, Ted Schubel on Tuesday to launch the awards. Also, the Awards web site was launched:

<https://www.cleanandgreenfxbg.com/sustainabilityaward>. There are five applicants and award winners. Bill Freeling will feature the awards on his "Freeling Finds" on April 21st. Additionally there will be a write-up in the Free Lance Star newspaper on Sunday. Sarah reached out to Main Street Today to see if they will do a feature and she will be reaching out to additional businesses about applying. There was some discussion around businesses that were not able to meet the award criteria and what those reasons were.

Sarah will send out information on the award recipients to date to the committee members.

Commission Priorities for 2021 – George Solley

The Commission reviewed several items that were changed or added for 2021. George walked through changes and noted where there were outstanding questions and asked for the Commission's feedback. There was discussion in several areas including: rooftop solar; the City's new Sustainability Manager; the addition of environmental justice to the priorities list; and transitioning the City's vehicle fleet away from fossil fuels.

George will incorporate all changes and send out to the Commission for review and then Sarah will forward to City Council for approval.



CSX Rail Cars

Kerry Devine provided an update on City Council's efforts regarding the reduction of stationary rail cars in the Mayfield area. The Council met again regarding the rail cars on March 19th and has been monitoring the number of tanker cars in conjunction with the fire department. The highest number of cars was observed on March 19, with 85 cars. They are now seeing an overall improvement with about 20 cars daily. Councilor Devine noted the City Manager and Fire Chief will be staying involved. They would ultimately like to have CSX take responsibility for keeping the volume of cars low.

Clean and Green Budget increase – Kerry Devine

There was a budget increase for the Commission in 2021 based on larger budget request from last year. There was discussion around areas where the increased funds might be used. One area that gained consensus was additional funds to support the new responsibilities the intern has been working on such as the Sustainability Award monitoring and increased social media responsibilities. Mike Ward said there is a slight increase in the budget which will allow for some additional hours and that he has already reached out to Shelby and she indicated the additional workload would be fine. At this time Shelby is working approximately 8 hours/week. Mike requested that taskings go through him so he is able to keep track of her work and hours. Mike recommended the Commission select a second intern so there is a more seamless transition when Shelby graduates.

Canal Clean-Up - Diane Beyer

Diane Beyer provided an update on the clean-up taking place on Wednesday. There will be four Parks and Rec and Public Works boats on the canals with a dump truck and other Parks and Rec vehicles. The clean-up will take place from 8-9AM. There will be City trucks and uniformed staff to let people know what is going on. Diane is hoping that by fall they will be able to organize another big clean up with Parks and Rec with prizes. But now, they will do these smaller efforts due to COVID safety. They will look into weighing plastic to see if there is an impact as a result of the proposed plastic bag tax.

Subcommittee Updates

- Clean Committee – *Damian Cobey*
 - On March 3rd, the subcommittee met with school officials about improving the school's recycling program. The meeting included representatives from all four schools. As a result, the schools have selected a representative and he will be taking action to provide equipment such as bins and appropriate bags and coordinating communication with custodians to ensure recycling processes are followed.
 - There is a clean-up planned for April 24th at Old Mill Park to focus on litter hot spots. Adam Lynch from Friends of the Rappahannock is helping determine locations to focus on. Damian mentioned the idea of including a cleanup in Mayfield this year. Diane Beyer will coordinate with



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Councilor Frye to determine best locations and local volunteers for the clean-up. M.C. will reach out to her point of contact who previously did community service in Mayfield and may be interested in joining the effort.

- Shelby received approval to move forward with mapping cigarette butler locations and maintenance information.

- Green Committee – *Holly Chichester*
 - Expressed gratitude to George Solley for work on setting committee priorities.
 - Provided an update that 32 new trees were planted at the new baseball stadium.
 - Noted that Parks and Rec will be working with UMW and Community Outreach to do a Cossey Pond clean-up and mulching project which Shelby will be leading.
 - The tree giveaway in March went smoothly and that there was high demand for the trees.

- Sustainability Committee– *Robert Courtnage*
 - On Wednesday Robert will be meeting Joe Buchanan, a national expert, regarding the use of solar energy on closed landfill cells.
 - On April 13th, Robert will be part of a UMW climate energy series with David Cooper on the Brisben Center solar initiative. He'll provide an update of where they are now and the plan for the future.
 - The committee is currently working with the Fredericksburg Nationals on post-LEED certification.

Closing Discussion

- Amanda Stebbins requested the Commission work on updating its description/mission in an upcoming meeting.
- M.C. reminded the commission of Earth Day activities on Saturday, April 17th in conjunction with Parks and Rec.
- Holly reminded the commission Arbor day will be on Friday, April 30.

The meeting was adjourned on 8:05 p.m.