



MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Monday, May 3rd, 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), Kerry Devine (City Council), Damian Cobey (Clean Subcommittee Chair), Robert Courtnage (Sustainability Subcommittee Chair), Kimberly Bastress (Secretary), Christi Carver, George Solley
Ex-officio Members Attending: Mike Ward (Parks and Rec), Diane Jones (R-Board), Carolyn Helfrich (Arborist), Tyler Gelles (Public Works), Shelby Bourquein (UMW Intern)

Minutes from April 2021 meeting approved.

Business Items:

Sustainability Award updates – Sarah Hurst

Advertising of the Sustainability Award continued with an interview with Economic Development Director, Bill Freehling in his “Freehling Finds” video series. Logos have been provided to awarded businesses. There are currently two new applicants. Shelby Bourquein will be meeting with each of the award winners to create write-ups for the website and social media. Interested applicants can go to the following website to apply: <https://www.cleanandgreenfxbg.com/sustainabilityaward>

Braehead Farms – Robert Courtnage

A letter from the Commission was sent in support of preserving green space in the parcel near Braehead Farms. The parcel includes approximately 60 acres adjacent to Braehead including four acres that have been requested for use by the city shop. There is currently an applicant interested in purchasing the property. Councilor Kerry Devine provided a brief update and said the Economic Development Authority is directing the effort. Community support for preserving the green space was noted and it was also noted that this issue would likely continue in other remaining green spaces of the city.

Earth Day – Sarah Hurst/Robert Courtnage/Damian Cobey

Earth Day activities included the Earth Day Festival and the community Clean-up. Both were well attended. Damian provided an update on the cleanup, which stretched from areas of Fall Hill to the Walker-Grant field area. Parks and Recreation and Friends of the Rappahannock provided equipment and/or donations. Thirty large bags of garbage were collected in addition to some miscellaneous items. Damian noted that he is in communication with Councilor Frye about doing a future cleanup in conjunction with the Mayfield Civic Association in the Mayfield community. Shelby created a post with several photos from the event on social media.



CLEAN & GREEN COMMISSION

Budget – *Sarah Hurst*

According to Parks and Recreation, the Commission's budget will see an increase for the coming year and allows for continued internship support as well as maintenance of the cigarette butlers.

Mission Statement – *Sarah Hurst*

Amanda has reworked and modernized the Commission's Purpose and Mission Statements. She will email a draft to the Commission for review and comments.

Subcommittee Updates

- Clean Committee – *Damian Cobey*
 - The April 24th Cleanup at Old Mill Park was a success.
 - The Committee is planning to check in with the City Schools again before the end of the school year regarding progress on updating the recycling program.

- Green Committee – *Carolyn Helfrich*
 - Provided update on tree giveaway
 - Various areas of the city were spruced up and mulched including the train station area, museum, and visitor's center.

- Sustainability Committee – *Robert Courtnage*
 - Provided update on the UMW climate energy series with David Cooper.
 - Noted that Rock the River will occur during the first week of June.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:38 p.m.