



MONTHLY MEETING MINUTES

Monday, July 12th, 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), Damian Cobey (Clean Subcommittee Chair), Robert Courtnage (Sustainability Subcommittee Chair), Kimberly Bastress (Secretary), Christi Carver, George Solley

Ex-officio Members Attending: Diane Beyer (Public Works), Diane Jones (R-Board), Shelby Bourquein (UMW Intern), Holly Chichester and Anne Little (Green Subcommittee), Ashley Dennie (Generation Compost, Presenter)

Meeting called to order at 7:00 p.m.

Minutes from June 2021 meeting approved as submitted.

Business Items:

Mission Statement Updates & Bylaw changes – Sarah Hurst

Commissioners attending unanimously approved updated documents.

Intern Update/Turnover – Sarah Hurst/ Shelby Bourquein

In concurrence with the commission, Shelby will continue on in the internship role for a couple additional months. Additionally, she has identified two possible intern candidates for the future.

Generation Compost – Ashley Dennie

Special guest Ashley Dennie provided an overview of Generation Compost (www.generationcompost.com), a Fredericksburg area composting company she started with her husband. The company launched a month ago with the mission of diverting food waste from landfills and creating nutrient rich soil. She began within her Stafford neighborhood and expanded the business to include two subscription services. Home pick up customers are provided with a 5-gallon gamma sealed/lidded bucket with pick-ups twice a month. Drop off customers provide their food scraps to a local hub (Fredericksburg Co-op). Services are \$20/\$10 per month, respectively.

They have begun working with the Co-op on picking up commercially compostable products and are looking to expand this offering to other businesses. The commercial composting facility they work with accepts items from meat and dairy to greasy cardboard boxes.

They are open to ideas and feedback in ways to help expand access to composting locally. They can be reached via their website contact or adennie19@gmail.com.



CLEAN & GREEN COMMISSION

Sustainability Award updates – Sarah Hurst

Awardees for 2021 included 9 applicants. Shelby will be highlighting three of the businesses in upcoming social media posts. Robert will be working with the Free Lance Star to highlight the award and recipients. Award winners will also be listed on the Clean and Green web site. The next cycle of awards will be for 2022.

[At 7:24PM, the meeting resumed via Zoom due to technical difficulties.]

Sustainability Coordinator – Diane Beyer

Candidate applications have been forwarded to Diane and an initial review has completed. They are looking to extend the search so they are able to get additional candidates, particularly with experience in grant writing and sustainability. The commission will share the job posting to social media.

City Recycling Cans – Sarah Hurst

Discussion around the history and cost associated with recycling bins in public spaces. Sarah and other commissioners will follow up with Diane to discuss revisiting the idea of adding recycling bins in public spaces.

Plastic Bag Tax, Next Steps – Amanda Stebbins

In response to a recent FLS editorial, the commission is providing input for a rebuttal to include the full costs and impact of plastic bags on the local economy and environment.

Subcommittee Updates

- **Clean Committee – Damian Cobey**
 - *Looking into a program to recognize environmentally conscious residents with a Green Citizen Award.*
 - *Discussing increasing the number of cleanups to a quarterly schedule. Considering a survey to see if we are meeting the needs for cleanups.*
 - *Reaching out to City Schools before school starts to ensure recycling needs have been met.*

- **Green Committee – Anne Little**
 - Coordinating with JMHS and the city to remove trees along the canal with plans to replant the area next year.
 - Will be mulching in the park areas.
 - Tree Fredericksburg has an intern who will be joining shortly.
 - Projects include planting trees and shrubs at Nationals Stadium and working on the River Front Park.
 - Working on tree canopy goals with a 40-person task force. They are set to deliver their report by the end of October. They will be meeting with Diane Beyer about the tree canopy and grants for the urban forest.



CLEAN & GREEN COMMISSION

- **Sustainability Committee – Robert Courtnage**
 - The Energy Alliance is starting another Solarize campaign in August/September timeframe and is currently seeking a contractor. They are working with city planning to ensure a successful and seamless process.
 - Requested that the city’s new Sustainability Coordinator join meetings and subcommittee meetings when brought onboard.
 - Planning to connect with Hope House regarding potential for installing solar panels.
 - Continued work on Post-LEED certification for the Nationals Stadium.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:00 p.m.