

Clean Committee

Minutes June 29, 2015

Attendance: Anne Little, Paula Chow, Diane Jones, Nancy Segarra, Faye Hussion, Damian Cobey, Bryan Hoffman, Ann Glave, David Dorsey

Recycling

Diane gave a history since 1989 of curbside and private hauling in municipalities. R-Board did a voluntary audit - 25% recycle rate on paper. 2005 - dual stream, 2007 marketers pushed for single stream with initial increase in volume going to China. In 2012 the market was \$20 flat fee per ton, but it decreased in mid-budget to \$11 a ton, last year with RFP made good money. Currently there is a \$60 per ton processing fee. R-Board plans on aggressive education and will wait for curbside consistency - identify new vendor.

Essentially recycling loads are contaminated and there is not a strong market for it. It is not cost-effective. Anne had shared articles from major newspapers about this.

The new policy prohibits plastic bags so recyclables need to be in the recycling bins or cans. The plastic bags have been clogging the equipment and machines during processing. There needs to be widespread education in the city about this.

Dog Waste

Anne gave the history which begun 5 years ago. Currently there are 23 waste bag stations, using 18,000 bags in 2014, filling them 1 - 2 times monthly. This helps with the MS4 permits. The signs about the litter fine that Anne has placed where owners have not picked up the waste have worked. In Greenville and Asheville, NC, the dog bag stations are on the trash bins.

Canal

David gave a brief history and reports a cleaner canal in general. VOC has helped with the loan of 15 kayaks/canoes. With trees and sediment, many areas are not accessible by canoe. It's really bad near the dog park and near Route 1, with poison ivy along the banks. John boat or barges will be needed. This will be a huge project with volunteers.

Bryan reported hauling 8,000 lbs. this year - everything from lawn mowers to TVs and bikes. If volunteers don't know to paddle canoes, they are sent home. There are hazard/problem trees. Riparian zone will be replanted in early Sept. FOR will continue to do canal cleanup and Clean & Green will assist with the project. Bryan coordinating with Parks and Rec and with Dave King on the cleanup of the canal. The trees along the canal are also being looked at for clean up starting at Princess Anne towards Fall Hill.

Cigarette Butt Litter

Paula gave the history of 6 years of campaigning. Although there is a decrease of the butt litter, it continues to be a problem. One of the major problems is finding volunteers for the campaign. The current campaign with the sand pails has been adopted by many downtown businesses. There are adhesive friendly stickers that can continue to be distributed. Main Street Program can help educate

businesses about this. Michelle and Damian can help with the campaign. The Fall campaign needs planning.

The 10 cigarette butt receptacles will need to be welded. Nancy will map the trash cans with Ann Glave doing a survey of the locations. Bryan suggested GIS, website.

Litter/Downtown Trash

Three years ago, the trash cans were changed to the current ones with the locations adjusted. Ann Glave and Nancy will coordinate on doing a map of all the trash locations and evaluating use of the cans and determine if the cans need to be moved to a higher traffic area.

Café clean ups - focus is complaint based; brick sidewalks are to be cleaned as needed. There was discussion of ecologically friendly cleaners and if it is not, it can be considered an illicit discharge. If anyone sees an area needing cleanup, contact Mike Craig. Damian Cobey will contact Kevin Utt for guidance on the power washing criteria.

Bryan reports that there has traditionally been two big river clean ups in the Spring and Fall meeting up at Old Mill Park which caused a huge stress in FOR's budget. This year, he has organized 18 cleanups which have collected more trash than from the Spring and Fall cleanups these include 38 - 40 problem sites, 9 groups, totaling 25- 30 days. Bryan will organize cleanups for volunteers unless it is a corporate group. There are sections of the river where anglers frequent and have become highly trashed. This needs policing as well as a trash can.

Pathways is resurrecting their committee meetings. The VCR trail needs groups to adopt sections.

Litter Ordinance - To change the ordinance from a Class IV to Class I, Clean & Green needs to make a case with data, research of who and how other municipalities have been successful. Colonial Beach has a sign - \$2500 litter fine. Bryan can submit a letter as a Wetland Board member.

City pilot program with trash cans - Anne met with Doug Fawcett. He will meet with County Waste. The focus with recycling will be #1 & #2, cardboard and aluminum. There needs to be aggressive education - 3 flyers. There's been discussion of the recycle bins needing to be larger than the trash bins. But Doug wants to increase the number of people who recycle. Perhaps an intern can help Nancy and Doug on this project to coordinate and develop a list of customers.