



**CLEAN & GREEN
COMMISSION**



**Monthly Meeting Minutes
Monday, April 1, 2019
City Hall, Conference Room
6:30PM**

Commissioners in Attendance: Robert Courtnage (Chair), Michelle Dolby (Vice Chair), Kerry Devine (City Council), Christi Carver, Damian Cobey, Shane Riordan, Sarah Hurst, George Solley, Carolyn Helfrich

Ex-Officio Members: Mike Ward (Parks and Rec), Diane Jones (R-Board)

Others Attending: M.C. Morris (R-Board), Anne Little (Green Subcommittee), Amanda Stebbins (Fossil-Free Fredericksburg)

* **Call to order at 6:35 pm**

* **Approval of Minutes** of March meeting motioned by Kerry Devine and seconded by Sarah Hurst. Unanimously approved.

* **Public Comments:** Amanda Stebbins showed flyer from Fossil-Free Fredericksburg's climate change conference on April 6.

Committee Updates

Green Committee: Speaking for the committee, Anne Little explained that there will be two tree plantings in the spring: one on Arbor Day (April 5) and one on April 10 to mark the City's Arbor Day celebration. The second will honor Dave King and also Mike Witt (arborist who did work to benefit the City and passed away recently).

Recent pruning efforts by Tree Stewards and by contractors have made a big improvement.

A developer has been talking about a land swap that would result in green space near the train station being converted into apartments. Lower Caroline residents are mobilizing to oppose.

Clean Committee: Damian Cobey said the Committee would be tabling the Fossil-Free Fredericksburg event on April 6 and had been requested to table at UMW's Earth Day (Tuesday, April 23 from 2 to 4 p.m.). Diane Jones may be able to cover the latter. For the City's Earth Day celebration (Old Mill Park on April 27), Emma Dolby and Diane will table; afternoon coverage was requested, and George Solley said he could do it. Konrad Heller has asked whether the Committee can table at Rock the River (June 1).

The Committee plans to apply for a 30 in 30 grant from Keep Virginia Beautiful. The goal is to get 9 metal containers to replace the trashcan-mounted ones we have downtown.

Regarding Fredericksburg City Public Schools recycling, M.C. Morris will give a presentation at their leadership meeting on April 2. M.C. spoke with David Brown (recycling manager at Republic) about training custodians. She will try to set up a meeting between David and Brian Kiernan (FCPS food services manager) to train cafeteria staff. The Committee is checking with Tim Duffy about whether signage has gone up at schools to provide guidance on how to recycle/what can go in bins.

Kerry Devine said that TV-4 in Washington did a report on Middleburg's butt receptacles. They send them in bulk to Terracycle for recycling. We could consider that here.

Christi Carver said she has been talking with Ann Glave (Main Street) about how to publicize Sammy T's recycling efforts. Ann said Main Street would distribute if we could pull together a package to give to downtown businesses. Christi is meeting with Ann on April 11.

Anne Little said when she sees illegal signs or flags (real estate, mosquito control contractors, etc.) in the utility strip around town, she sends a photo to Marne Sherman in the Planning Department. She also seeing a lot of butts outside Castiglia's. The owner, Luigi, pulled up and she asked him about the mess. He said his employees drop the butts, and they won't listen when he asks them not to. Anne sent a report to Marne.

Robert Courtnage asked about the state of the butt buckets downtown. Michelle Dolby that with all the rain over the past year, they are rusting fast. Also, they are still getting abused by people.

Robert and Michelle suggested that the City may need to write a receptacle requirement into the café license rules – this would get us away from the need to provide/maintain buckets if we can require restaurants to provide their own. Kerry suggested we could also highlight businesses doing a good job with butt cleanup on our Facebook page.

Michelle explained that the City is recycling computer parts (including old cables, mouses) and other electronics on April 6 at the Cox store on Plank Rd. (by Staples).

Robert mentioned that UMW Historic Preservation students are working on a study of trash in the City. We will investigate and see if we can contribute.

Sustainability Committee: Robert said the Committee is working on plans to highlight the City's work with Siemens on energy efficiency over the past 20 years. The schools have been working with an ESCO (energy services company – has expertise in managing HVAC, etc. to find energy savings).

More funding is being arranged through GRID Alternatives (\$100K), etc. to bring solar to the Thurman Brisben Shelter. The Committee is working with Germanna on the training component (in solar installation instruction).

Regarding the new baseball stadium, the Committee is providing feedback on HVAC plans. Want to see if the developer will set up to be solar ready for future installation. Committee has

set up onsite stormwater mitigation talks with Tree Fredericksburg and Friends of the Rappahannock.

Shane Riordan and Christi Carver explained that the Eco Committee at St. George's Church wants to bring awareness to stakeholders on a proposal to improve energy efficiency at the church.

Robert mentioned a longer-term issue for C&G: The City Manager has recommended developing a sustainability vision statement for the City. Shane said it should address how to balance historic preservation considerations vs. green issues going forward.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30.

Next meeting April 6, 2019.