



Monthly Meeting Minutes
Monday, May 6, 2019
City Hall, Conference Room
6:30PM

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

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

Others Attending: Jane Shellhorse (Director, Parks and Rec), Doug Fawcett (Asst. City Manager), David King, and Diane Beyer (Director and Assistant Director, Public Works)

* **Call to order at 6:30 pm**

* **Approval of Minutes:** Draft April meeting minutes approved with minor amendment-- motioned by Kerry Devine and seconded by Christi Carver. Unanimously approved.

* **Public Comments:** None

* **Collaboration with City staff on Environmental Projects:** Discussion ensued regarding tools to assist with collaboration and communication between this Commission and City departments. Ms. Beyer offered to bring back monthly meetings with the Chair, Mr. Courtnage or another Commission representative. Ms. Shellhorse suggested that a Commission member attend the Parks and Rec Recreation Commission meeting. Their next meeting will be the third Thursday in June at the Dorothy Hart Community Center at 6:30 p.m. Ms. Beyer offered that the Commission could play a valuable role in education and behavior changes for City residents. The City also has a new Public Information staff person who can be of assistance to this Commission. Mr. Solley suggested the City look at providing "Council of Commissions" meetings. Mr. Ward noted that Emma Dolbey also works on education with Parks and Rec. Ms. Beyer offered to send Mr. Courtnage the presentation that University of Mary Washington students did recently on trash collection programs in the City.

***Committee Updates**

Green Committee: Tree Fredericksburg was at the City's Earth Day celebration on April 27th at Old Mill Park. They gave away 950 trees to residents. On April 10th an Arbor Day planting was held at Kenmore. Two trees were planted. One was in remembrance of local arborist, Mike Witt, who passed away this year. The second tree was to honor all the work Dave King, Director of Public Works has done over the years to enhance the tree canopy of Fredericksburg.

Clean Committee: Damian Cobey reported on the continued progress being made with the City school's recycling program. It was noted that M.C. Morris (R-board) has given much commitment to keeping the program moving forward. Volunteers are needed for a tabling at Rock the River June 1st. All the planters downtown have been flowered for summer weather. The Green team has submitted a grant application to the Keep Virginia Beautiful 30-in-30 grants. They are partnering with the City's Parks and Rec. Parks and Rec will be adding additional cigarette butt collection containers. They have also signed up with Terra-cycle to recycle the butts. The grant proposes that we will perform two park cleanups and purchase either a park bench or bike rack made from recycled materials from Terra-cycle.

Sustainability Committee: Robert reported that they continue to work with Councilman Matt Kelly with regards to composting opportunities. Ms. Beyer noted that the City Public Works was working with City Parks and Rec and the R-Board on a brochure for composting. She will email the Commission members the brochure, so they can help get the word out. The committee is working with the city on developing a Greenhouse gas inventory and is encouraging the City to restart an Energy Saving Performance Contract. The City may re-engage with Siemens.

Regarding the new Fredericksburg minor league baseball stadium, the Committee continues to work with the team owners. The Committee is partnering with the US EPA's Energy Star and Water Sense programs, the U.S. Green Building Council and Fredericksburg NGOs to work with the baseball team owners to build the baseball stadium environmentally sustainable.

Work to bring solar energy to the Thurman Brisben Shelter continues. The Committee is working with Germanna on the training component (in solar panel installation). The opportunity to train 5-10 residents at Brisben exists. At this time \$250,000 of the \$300,000 has been received.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45.

Next meeting June 3, 2019.