



**Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, July 8, 2019**  
**City Hall, 2<sup>nd</sup> Floor Conference Room**  
**6:30PM**

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

**Ex-Officio Members:** Diane Jones (R-Board), Diane Beyer (Public Works)

**Acting Green Committee Chair:** Anne Little

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

\* **Approval of Minutes:** Draft May and June meeting minutes approved--motioned by Kerry Devine and seconded by Christi Carver. Unanimously approved.

\* **Public Comments:** None

\* **Collaboration with Parks and Rec on Environmental Projects:** The "Trash Dash" will be organized by City Parks and Rec and held on Saturday October 12<sup>th</sup> from 8-9 am. Participants to pick up trash at specified parks and trails. The Commission will join this endeavor instead of holding their own in November. Nancy Segarra will be asked to put this event on City Alerts to advertise.

More cigarette butt collection receptacles have been requested for the city walking trails and for downtown.

\***Committee Updates**

**Green Committee:** Lack of rain has prompted Anne to write a LTE encouraging residents to water recently planted trees. There will be a presentation at James Monroe High School to acknowledge the number of trees planted on city school grounds. The Committee is working with David King and Diane Beyer to attain an ordinance allowing for larger trees to be planted in utility strips. There was also discussion on asking City Council to request the General Assembly to allow Fredericksburg to require 20% tree canopy in the city.

**Clean Committee:** The "Please Butt-In" campaign was a huge success with over 3837 butts collected by 43 volunteers. Three blocks were permanently adopted. There is no update on the school recycling as it is summer break, but it will be raised next month when school is back in session. Emma Dolby was commended for the job she did for City Parks and Recreation. Her job

of creating flyers, tabling events and working with downtown businesses on butt litter is now open. Interested persons should contact Mike Ward at Parks and Rec. The proposal for the Keep Virginia Beautiful 30-in-30 grant was not selected.

For Restaurant week, the Chamber of Commerce and Main Street will be contacted to encourage all restaurants to use other materials rather than Styrofoam for to-go containers, not to hand out plastic bags and to consistently recycle. In addition, the Commission plans to work to recognize businesses that commit to environmental initiatives. Ideas include providing a decal to place in their establishment indicating that they are conscientious about reducing their contribution of non-recyclable waste. Sarah will contact the Chamber, Michelle will contact Danielle at the visitor center and Christi will contact Anne Glave from Main Street.

**Sustainability Committee:** The Thurman Brisben Shelter solar project is 100% funded. When further details are worked out there will be a press release developed for the official launch of the project. The savings accrued by transitioning to solar energy will help support a nutritionist, lessons on family life education and home visits for families who have moved from the shelter to their own home.

Members of the Sustainability Sub-Committee have a meeting with the City Manager Friday July 12. At this time greenhouse gas inventory tools, incorporating electric vehicles into the city fleet, requesting infrastructure for charging stations, free cigarette butt collection receptacles and the Thurman Brisben Shelter will be discussed.

Regarding the new Fredericksburg minor league baseball stadium, the Committee continues to work with the team owners on building the stadium environmentally sustainable and will be meeting with the team, EPA staff, Friends of the Rappahannock, Tree Fredericksburg and other local stakeholders on 7/18 (3:30 pm) at Friends of the Rappahannock headquarters.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:45 pm.

Next meeting August 5, 2019.