



**Monthly Meeting Minutes**  
**Monday, June 3, 2019**  
**City Hall, Conference Room**  
**6:30PM**

**Commissioners in Attendance:** Sarah Hurst (Acting Chair), Kerry Devine (City Council), Damian Cobey, George Solley, Anne Little

**Ex-Officio Members:** Mike Ward (Parks and Rec), Dave King (Public Works), M.C. Morris (R-Board),

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

\* **Approval of Minutes** of May meeting deferred due to lack of quorum.

\* **Public Comments:** None

**Committee Updates**

**Clean Committee:** Damian Cobey announced that Emma Dolby has moved to New York, and Parks and Rec is looking to fill her position. Emma performed many jobs for the Department, including creating flyers, tabling events, and working with downtown businesses on butt litter. The position pays \$15 per hour and averages about 10 hours per week. Interested persons should contact Mike Ward at Parks and Rec.

Mike Ward explained that the City is looking to set up regulations on motorized scooters in case they ever come; any ideas or comments would be appreciated. The City Attorney has set up a scooter task force to draw up ordinances.

Diane Beyer is the new *ex officio* representative from Public Works on the Clean and Green Commission. Sarah Hurst stated that Robert Courtnage would also like a representative from the Planning Department and that he has suggested Mike Craig to fill that role.

Mike Ward also said the City has been given 30 Cigarette Butt receptacles by Keep Virginia Beautiful. These will be installed at City parks, with 10 of them at Motts Run Reservoir, as butt litter is a major issue at the parks. Kerry Devine asked if we have tried to have smoke-free parks. Mike said yes, we have tried at several parks and athletic fields, but enforcement was difficult. Mike suggested we could try again with designated smoking areas.

On the issue of recycling in City schools, Damian Cobey reported that training efforts had gone well. Kerry asked if we had data on amounts collected, as teachers are reporting to her that not much has changed. M.C. Morris said that our vendor trucks do not have weighing equipment,

so collecting data may be a challenge. Kerry said it was never laid out how we would measure recyclables collected. Dave King suggested that schools could just mark a line on the week's container to measure. George Solley suggested Clean and Green should visit the School Board before school starts in the fall. Kerry noted that School Board member Katie Pomeroy also works with Friends of the Rappahannock and so may be particularly interested in this effort. Kerry and Damian said they could meet with Katie to discuss the issue. George wondered whether we need to go back to Central Office to encourage progress.

**Green Committee:** Anne Little is still the acting committee chair; Holly Chichester will take over in the Fall.

Anne said the Committee was talking with Public Works about what to do with vegetation at the Pump Station.

Regarding Trussel Park (by train station), Anne said there was a proposal to trade some of the park with a developer. ~180 signatures collected opposing this.

At Braehead Woods, residents wanted to have certain trees designated as specimen trees (which, in Virginia, must be 30" in diameter) because a developer wanted to cut a large number of trees down. The Green Committee checked, but none of the trees in the area in question were specimen trees.

At Hugh Mercer Elementary School, there's been an effort to designate a bioretention area in front of the school, where water runs off.

Anne said that according to Aaron Simons (Superintendent of Parks and Maintenance), an area by the dog park will be replaced with evergreens.

The tree stewards have been busy taking care of trees around the City. Also, the Green Committee participated in UMW's Arbor Day celebration.

**Sustainability Committee:** Sarah Hurst mentioned that things are progressing with the solar project at the Thurman Brisben Center. She also mentioned the committee is working to develop a sustainability vision statement for the City and that the committee is planning to meet again with the baseball team leadership on building the new stadium environmentally sustainable.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:20.

Next meeting July 8, 2019.