

City of Fredericksburg Clean and Green Commission
Monthly Meeting Minutes
Monday, November 4th, 2019
City Hall, 2nd floor conference Room 6:30 PM

Commissioners in Attendance: Robert Courtnage (Chair), Michelle Crow-Dolby (Vice-Chair), Kerry Devine (City Council), Cristi Carver, Damian Cobey, Sarah Hurst, Amanda Stebbins, George Solley.

Ex-officio Members: Diane Jones and M.C. Morris (R-Board), Diane Beyer (Public Works),
Green Committee: Anne Little

- **Call to order @ 6:30 p.m.**
- **Approval of September and October meeting minutes-** moved to approve by Michelle Crow-Dolby and seconded by Kerry Devine- Unanimously approved.
- **Introduction of David Cooper, Executive Director of the Thurman Brisben Center**
 - Putting the final touches on the contracts and will be underway to have 113 KW unit (400 Panels) installed on the Brisben center. This will be the 1st shelter in VA to do so.
 - Will have ~20 low income individuals entering into the Germanna co-op classes to begin solar installation program.
 - Discussed bringing composting and recycling to the center
- **Public Comments**
 - There were 4 individuals, some from UMW who brought up having the UMW clubs to help at the Brisben Center to help with recycling, presented questions on reuse or reduction of water use, and the “trailer homes” in other states that are used for homeless and low-income that are energy efficient. David Cooper stated he would be happy to discuss in length if they wanted to reach out to him.

Committee Updates

- **Clean Committee- Damian Cobey**
 - Removed butt buckets due to their condition and an incident reported by the fire department where trash put in one of the buckets caught fire. Left letters for shop owners about the new cigarette butt receptacles from Keep Virginia Beautiful to be installed downtown.
 - Update on what the interns have been doing such as tabling events, butt buckets, mutt mitts, and more.
 - Sent off 5 tons of clean glass to the pilot glass program started with Fairfax
 - Discussed yard waste composting and the composting meeting held with City officials and composting expert Craig Coker in October.
 - Updated on schools and recycling- 2 of the 4 have responded one with a need for roller carts and signs. Kerry Devine suggested that she will reach out regarding sponsorship of those carts and MC will get cost.

-MC discussed the “office on youth” has asked if the individuals in the program could volunteer their required time to picking up cigarette butts- answer yes!

-Discussed the green spotlight that we have and are doing (Spencer Devon, Mercantile, etc.)

- **Green Committee – Anne Little**

-Planted 100 trees @ hospital and 60 @ old mill park- paid for by “Replant Trees” which is a new non- profit

-Planted 48 trees and shrubs on Sunken Road

-Received the Transurban grant of \$5,200 which will pay for the trees and shrubs around the high schools and parks.

-Starting a tree steward class in January 2020

-The local jail is helping Tree Fredericksburg by providing individuals to plant trees who are ordered to community service. Anne Little asked if the interns could help coordinate tree planting events. Michelle is looking into this.

-They have received a small grant to do a mulching video – will be released shortly.

- **Sustainability Committee – Robert Courtnage**

-Discussed the meeting that he and Sarah Hurst attended at Capitol Hill with Congressman Wittman and how well it went. Asks where on solar energy and assistance with the Thurman Brisben Center. Also had conversation about preserving green space at and around Braehead Farm.

-Spoke about the meeting with Councilors Matt Kelly, Billy Withers and R-Board Director Joe Buchanan and composting expert Craig Coker regarding implementing composting at the Stafford County Landfill.

-Diane Jones spoke on how they have reached out to the DEQ to start the licensing process for food waste composting.

Adjourn @ 7:27 p.m.