



**Clean and Green Commission  
Monthly Meeting Minutes  
Monday, June 1, 2020  
6:30 p.m.**

**Held via GoToMeeting in compliance with City Council Ord. 20-05**

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

**Ex-Officio Members:** Mike Ward (Parks and Rec), M.C. Morris (R-Board), Tyler Gelles (Planning)

\* **Call to order at 6:35 p.m.**

\* **Approval of Minutes** of May meeting motioned by Sarah Hurst and seconded by Christi Carver. All in favor.

\* **Celebration of Thurman Brisben Center Solar Array:** Because of COVID-19 a public event could not be held to celebrate the completion of the solar project for the Thurman Brisben Center. A media event was held on May 7<sup>th</sup>. Ted Schubel from B101.5, and reporters from the FLS and Potomac News covered the event. The Center will be able to generate 70% of energy needs from solar, saving money that can be used for their operating expenses. Robert Courtnage thanked M.C. Morris for her help with organization and communication for the event and Sarah Hurst for her important contributions. It is hoped that an important feature of the project, job training, will be replicated in future installations. The Food Co-Op has expressed interest in rooftop solar on their renovated space.

\* **Fred Nats Stadium:** Robert reported the team wants to do a demonstration of the solar parking lot lights. Engineers will be on hand to talk about how they work. Students from high schools and the community college will be invited.

\* **Sustainability Award:** There was discussion on the pros and cons on highlighting businesses known for their sustainable practices. The financial strain on the businesses caused by the Corona virus makes maintaining green practices challenging.

\* **Green Committee update:** Carolyn Helfrich reported that only one planter was disturbed during the recent protests. There will be a 1,000 tree give away June 7<sup>th</sup>. A 3,000 tree give away will be scheduled in the fall.

\* **Clean Committee update:** Michelle Crow Dolby says the interns have been furloughed. Mike says we have a zero balance in our budget. M.C Morris says many volunteers have offered to help with Love Scrub clean-up.

\* **Sustainability Committee update:** Amanda Stebbins and other commissioners have sent letters to the Fredericksburg City School Board to be read at the meeting tonight encouraging them to consider a PPA solar project for the schools. It requires no money down and would reduce the schools energy cost. It could be paired with a vocational program to help train students for “green” jobs. Christi Carver asked the planning representative if the city could prioritize low-carbon buildings in the building code. Robert talked about the need to review the priorities for the city, in particular the energy plan.

Other business: Michelle Crow Dolby will develop, in coordination with Council Clerk, Tonya Lacey, will work to update the city website with recent events for the Clean and Green Commission shared on the Facebook page.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:30.