

Clarke County Litter Committee

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, March 21, 2023 – 5:30PM

Berryville-Clarke County Government Center – A/B Meeting Room

ATTENDANCE	
Ashley Harrison (Chair)	✓
Tom Bauhan	✓
Mary Martin	✓
John Keim	✓
Meg Roque	X

STAFF PRESENT: Kristina Maddox (Office Manager / Zoning Officer), Chris Boies (County Administrator)

OTHERS PRESENT: Matthew Bass (Board of Supervisor Liaison)

Call to Order: Chair Harrison called the meeting to order at 5:35PM.

Approval of Agenda

Mr. Keim moved to approve the agenda for the March 21, 2023 Litter Committee meeting as presented by Staff, seconded by Mr. Bauhan.

2023 Litter Grant Award

EPS Campaign:

Mr. Bauhan said he spoke to the owner of the Lone Oak Tavern who seemed to be on board with the samples to be provided by the grant. He shared that he spoke to a Schenck representative about product costs and provided examples of the cost. He noted that a minimum order through Schenck, which is located in nearby Winchester, is \$250. The committee then discussed that Ms. Maddox would collect the order forms submitted by the restaurant owners and provide an overview to the committee, which would help determine the sample items.

The only other change the committee had to the draft letter to business owners was to add Winchester-based Schenck to the distributor list on page 2.

Ms. Maddox said she is waiting to hear back from the Town of Berryville regarding the list of restaurant business owners.

Purple Bin Program:

Mr. Boies said he has been working with Ms. McMullen regarding her glass recycling program. He noted that Ms. McMullen is spending six-to-seven days per week on this project and would prefer to do half the amount if at all possible. Mr. Boies has had conversations with Frederick County and other localities to explore options to ease these efforts and discovered the “purple bin program” through Fairfax County. He said one option is that we could purchase a small glass crusher like the one Ms. McMullen has and ask the Convenience Center employees to help when they are not busy, however, we will still need to figure out what to do with the byproduct, where to store the machine, keep it under a roof, and that the cost is approximately \$8,000. He added the other option is to partner with Frederick County and the “purple bin program” where they haul glass collected in Clarke to Fairfax who then crushes it for \$15 per ton. He said

they sell it to a company that uses the crushed glass to make water glass bottles. He continued that the fee to ship the glass to Fairfax is approximately \$600 in addition to a \$75 monthly bin charge. He said he would like to see if the committee would agree to cover these charges going forward as soon as next month to reduce Ms. McMullen's efforts. He said he could use some of the funds from the solid waste budget next year but won't be able to cover the full amount.

Chair Harrison asked for a motion to approve the budget to include the costs of the "purple bin program" glass recycling program for the remaining 2023 fiscal year. This motion was moved by Mr. Keim, seconded by Ms. Martin.

Ms. Harrison asked if there were any grants that we could apply for that would help the costs to which Mr. Bass said that the county does not have an in-house grant writer that could assist with that. He asked if Ms. Maddox could inquire with Ms. Teetor if she knew of any possibilities.

Cargo Net Discussion:

Ms. Maddox said it was suggested that we put our cargo net details on the Clarke County Facebook page along with the boat ramp post. Ms. Maddox asked if we should reduce the cargo net purchase to 30 nets in order to increase the signage budget to which the committee agreed by consensus. Mr. Bass asked if we could even increase the signage to \$1,000 and if we have excess to award the contest winners somehow. He said he was also thinking of creating car and/or fridge magnets that could be used as give-away items for events such as the farmer's market.

The committee discussed how to maximize the usage of the cargo nets and explored various options including handing them out at the Frederick County dump.

Mr. Keim asked if the grant would cover a donation to the Clarke County High School Environmental Club or even possibly combining efforts somehow on a project. Mr. Bass said that it depends on the grant expenditures and also the remaining amount of our budget. Ms. Maddox said she would inquire through DEQ.

Supplies Overview:

Ms. Maddox said she realized there is more to the list than she thought as items are being used by the Shenandoah River Keepers, however, they have plenty of gloves, vests, grabbers, and trash bags in stock. She noted one citizen suggested we add orange safety cones to our supplies as the road signs were too heavy to handle. The committee agreed by consensus to purchase four cones to be added to the supply inventory.

2023 Planning, Engagement, Scheduling, & Signage

Shenandoah River Keepers 4/15/23 event update:

Ms. Maddox spoke to Mr. Filipy who said they are happy to support us, however, they will be elsewhere on the 15th and that it is up to us as to what time we want the pick up to begin. As the Facebook ad needed to be posted, Ms. Maddox chose 9:00am as the start time. Chair Harrison asked that everyone attending from the committee wear their shirts and that she will pick up the supply bin from the county office the Friday before the event.

"Keep Clarke Clean Art & Slogan Contest" Update:

Mr. Bass said he has yet to receive any entries but that it is still early in the contest. He said he would connect with the schools to check-in and see if they planned to participate.

Adopt A Road

By consensus the committee agreed to do a highway cleanup on Saturday, May 6th at 9:00am. Mr. Bauhan said he was confused by the application submittal as it didn't seem to match what the permit approved. The committee said they would review the application and permit to better understand it.

Media Outreach Details

The committee discussed how to establish a Litter Advocate of the Year award and, again, made some nomination suggestions. The committee discussed creating a plaque for the award, a possible paper write up, and Ms. Maddox said she would contact Mr. Boies to learn the best way to approach this task.

Ms. Maddox presented a draft litter brochure created by Cathy Kuehner for the committee to use as an informational handout at events and to have in the Berryville-Clarke County Government Center. She asked the committee to review it and bring any comments or feedback to the next meeting.

Other Business


Review Action Items:

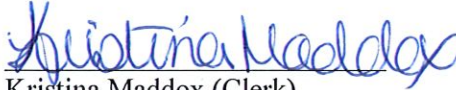
Chair Harrison provided a recap of the meeting and outlined the member action items to include the purchase of cargo nets, EPS letters to be mailed out, and the boat ramp supply pick up.

Ms. Maddox mentioned that in place of a banner, Ms. Kuehner suggested that we purchase an inexpensive tabletop display that we can change out from time-to-time and promote various topics, events, etc. which would save the cost of a banner.

Adjournment

With no further items to discuss, Mr. Bauhan moved to adjourn the meeting at 6:41pm, seconded by Ms. Martin.


Ashley Harrison (Chair)


Kristina Maddox (Clerk)