



# Clarke County Litter Committee

## Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, October 17, 2023 – 5:30PM

Berryville/Clarke County Government Center – Suite B Conference Room

| ATTENDANCE                        |   |
|-----------------------------------|---|
| Ashley Harrison (Chair)           | ✓ |
| Tom Bauhan (Vice Chair)           | X |
| Matthew Bass (BOS Representative) | X |
| John Keim                         | ✓ |
| Mary Martin                       | ✓ |
| Christi McMullen                  | ✓ |

**STAFF PRESENT:** Kristina Maddox (Office Manager / Zoning Officer), Lorien Lemmon (Conservation Planner / GIS Coordinator).

**OTHERS PRESENT:** Gerald Dodson, Rotary Club

### Call to Order

Chair Harrison called the meeting to order at 5:48pm

### Approval of Agenda

Mr. Keim made the motion to approve the agenda as presented by Staff, seconded by Ms. Martin.

### Approval of Meeting Minutes

Ms. Martin moved to approve the meeting minutes for September 19, 2023 as presented by Staff, seconded by Mr. Keim

**Public Comments** – Gerald Dodson of the Clarke County Rotary Club discussed the possibility of a collaboration with the Rotary Club and the Litter Committee in order to raise funds and provide a wider pool of volunteers for the Committee. Chair Harrison thanked Mr. Dodson for this offer to help and discussed other organizations that could be willing to collaborate with the Litter Committee. Ms. McMullen noted the interest of the Clarke County High School (CCHS) Environmental Club volunteering for some of the Committee's events but that they have yet to have an official meeting this year. Mr. Keim noted that reaching out the CCHS Environmental Club early may help with planning coordination in the spring. Chair Harrison suggested inviting as many organizations, such as the Rotary Club, to participate in a county wide pickup event during the Earth Day event for planned for 2024. Mr. Dodson suggested contacting Ms. Cathy Kuehner early for advertising such a large event in order to reach as many organizations as possible.

### Planning, Engagement, and Scheduling in 2023

The Committee discussed the logistics for the Adopt-A-Road pickup on Saturday October 21<sup>st</sup> starting at 9am for Senseny Road and reviewed the Boat Ramp pickup scheduled for November 18 at 9am. Chair Harrison suggested adding the Committee's participation in the Annual Clarke County Christmas Parade planned for Saturday December 2<sup>nd</sup> to the upcoming events, along with the Adopt-A-Road pickup planned for Sunday December 3<sup>rd</sup>.

Ms. McMullen described her plan to emboss the safety vests worn by the Committee during the pickups with the Litter Committee logo and to also wear these vests during the parade. Ms. Maddox agreed to apply on the Committee's behalf for a spot in the parade.

### **EPS Campaign**

Ms. Lemmon described the positive feedback she had been receiving via the questionnaire sent to those receiving businesses of the EPS campaign products. She noted that the clamshells were particularly popular and that one of the business owners would be receptive about being interviewed.

Ms. Maddox explained that more funding will be needed to order the lids for the cups that were previously purchased for the EPS campaign and that will depend on the timing of the Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) grant cycle. Ms. McMullen suggested asking the businesses that received cups to hold onto them until the Committee can purchase additional lids once they receive funding for the EPS Campaign for FY24.

### **Keep Clarke Clean Signage**

Chair Harrison and Ms. Maddox described the different departments, councils, and organizations that have been notified of the Committee's request for permission to erect the signs created from the Keep Clarke Clean art competition. The Committee also discussed multiple areas to request permission for the signs and Ms. Lemmon agreed to produce a map to turn into VDOT. The Committee approved of the proposed locations of the signs unanimously.

### **Media Outreach Details**

Ms. Maddox noted that posting upcoming Litter Committee pickups in the Clarke Monthly events section would be free of cost. The Committee discussed including the planned pickup events for November and December in the November issue.

Ms. McMullen described an update on using QR codes for advertising upcoming events for the Litter Committee. She volunteered to create and print out the codes and distribute them to local businesses.

Chair Harrison reiterated her plan to include as many organizations in a town pickup during the Earth Day event planned for 2024 and the need to begin coordinating and advertising that event soon. Ms. McMullen and Mr. Keim noted that they have reached out to local churches in order to advertise pickup events as possible volunteer hour opportunities for their parishioners.

### **Other Business**


Ms. Maddox walked the Committee through finding the Litter Committee page on the government website and displayed all of the information available on the page. Ms. McMullen noted that it is possible to share this webpage on other platforms in order to distribute the information more broadly.

Ms. McMullen explained her findings on food waste composting and some feedback she received from posting the question on social media. There were some concerns about invasive seed spread due to composting, so she suggested using sealable buckets for targeted compost pickup events and distributing those to local farmers for their use. Mr. Keim suggested reaching out to the Frederick County landfill, which already does yard waste composting, to see if they would be interested in eventually expanding their composting efforts to include food waste.

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the Litter Committee unanimously approved to adjourn at 6:53pm to the next regularly scheduled meeting on Tuesday, November 21st at 5:30pm in the Suite B Conference Room located on the second floor of the Berryville-Clarke Government Center in Berryville, VA.

  
Ashley Harrison (Chair)

  
Lorien Lemmon (Clerk)