

Northumberland County Anti-litter Committee

Meeting Minutes

May 25, 2022

Members Attending: Mary Martha Stewart, chair; Glenda Lowery, secretary; Arthur Carver; Barbara Rountrey, George Beckett; Stuart McKenzie, board liaison; Roger Eitelman, Keep Virginia Beautiful; Paul Kaufman, guest; Alice Imbaz, NAPS guest. Absent: Clarence Dameron.

Welcome

Stewart called the meeting to order at 4:30. She introduced Alice Imbaz representing NAPS (Northumberland Association for Progressive Stewardship).

Approval of Minutes

The minutes from April 27, 2022, were not available.

Elections for 2022 for Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary

Nominees for Northumberland County Anti-litter Committee Chair, Vice Chair, and Secretary were Mary Martha Stewart, George Beckett, and Glenda Lowery, respectively. The nominations were seconded and approved unanimously. These officers will serve through the remainder of calendar year 2022.

Recruiting New At-Large Committee Member

Stewart explained that the committee needs to replace Gail Kenna as at-large member due to her resignation. Paul Kaufman suggested Jim Blue. Beckett and Kaufman will approach Blue about serving. The Board of Supervisors has to approve all appointments to the committee.

Action 1: Promote the cause of a clean county culture through education and publicity—Glenda Lowery, Paul Kaufman

Arthur Carver contacted Doug Lemke, the president of the Northumberland County Chamber of Commerce, about the 2022-23 guide the Chamber is putting together. Stewart sent Lemke the flyer the committee used for the Farmers Market containing information to include in the guide. Kaufman, vice-president of the Chamber, will follow up with Lemke about the committee's flyer and will also bring copies of the current guide to the next meeting.

Stuart McKenzie reported that he is working with the Board of Supervisors to include information about the Anti-litter Committee on the county web site and the Facebook page.

September 17 Heathsville Farmers Market

George Beckett will procure a booth for the committee at the September market. Roger Eitelman has given the committee promotional materials (car ash trays, pocket ash trays, pencils) to hand out.

Eitelman also reported that Keep America Beautiful currently has a Great American Clean-up campaign. Individuals can go to the web site (March to June) and sign up to receive a picker, gloves, trash bags, and vest, one set per household.

Action 2: Pilot a tire amnesty collection event/day—Mary Martha Stewart

Stewart reported there is no update yet since the grant announcement will be in June.

Action 3: Recruit residents, neighborhood associations, businesses, organizations, and high school groups for Adopt-a-Highway—Barbara Rountrey, Arthur Carver, George Beckett

Barbara Rountrey reported that our goal for the Adopt-a-Highway initiative is to get 28 individuals/groups to adopt 56 highway miles. We will use the Chamber of Commerce guide to recruit businesses, churches, organizations, etc. Stewart would like to address the Chamber of Commerce about the program. Stewart is working with Adopt-a-Highway state supervisor Barnes regarding contributions from businesses to sponsor an extra clean-up of Routes 360 and 200. She also explained that we missed the deadline for the 2022 Keep Virginia Beautiful Green Grant. We will apply in 2023.

Rountrey presented a detailed budget request for the Board for 50 Adopt-a-Highway Starter kits, including gloves, vests, hand-held pickers, and trash bags. Allison's Ace Hardware is donating the gloves and Keep Virginia Beautiful is donating 24 36-inch pickers. Primis Bank has donated 50 tote bags and pens. The committee approved the budget which will be sent to the Board for final approval at the June 2 meeting. The funds will be available July 1. Once procured, the kits will be stored at county facilities.

Kits will be made available to people who have enrolled in Adopt-a-Highway. Stacey Messenger, Adopt-a-Highway supervisor, will tell adoptees to contact Stuart McKenzie to pick up the kits, and Rountrey will assist with the distribution.

Rountrey will ask Messenger about possible trash pick-ups by businesses located on 360. Eitelman stated that the safest times are Saturday morning and Sunday afternoon. He also noted that there is a safety video on the VDOT website for Adopt-a-Highway participants.

Action 4: Create and implement a Cover-Your-Load education and outreach initiative

2023 DEQ Litter Prevention and Recycling Grant

McKenzie will submit the application form for the grant. The committee will work on the grant at the June meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 6:00 p.m. The next meeting is Wednesday, June 22, 2022, at 4:30 in the Northumberland County Public Library meeting room.

Respectfully submitted,

Glenda Lowery, secretary