Clean Pittsburgh Commission
Meeting Minutes
March 11, 2021

I. Welcome and Introductions

Members in attendance: Alicia Carberry (Co-Chair), Sarah Shea (Treasure), Anna Archer, Omoye Aikhuele, Chris Mitchell (Outreach Coordinator), Myrna Newman, Kelly Wacker, Erika Young (Secretary), Lori Beth Jones, Erika Ninos, Emily Potoczny, Teresa Bradley, Erin Tobin, Sally Stadelman, Officer Alphonso Sloan, NaTisha Washington

Commission members absent: Sarah Kinter, Aftyn Giles (Financial Secretary), Jeff Skalican, Rachel Nawrocki (Co-Chair)

Guests in attendance: Neil Grabach, Sabrina Culbya; No Plastic Please, Kelsey Ripper; Friends of the Riverfront, Michael Kelley; City of Pittsburgh Forestry, Kate Angell; Scenic Pittsburgh, Rebecca Kiernan; City of Pittsburgh

II. Approval of Agenda and Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order on March 11, 2021

The meeting began by reviewing the CPC's Equity and Diversity Values:

Equity & Diversity

The Clean Pittsburgh Commission celebrates the three hundred thousand neighbors in ninety neighborhoods of Pittsburgh and affirms member representation must be geographically, socioeconomically, and racially diverse in order for the body to be effective, relevant, and creative. The Commission recognizes deficiencies and actively engages different perspectives through a platform of mutual respect. This engagement and respect will be a tenet of all regular meetings and all program functions of the Commission, as well as in all communications. When a distinct neighborhood is in 'focus', initiatives developed with that neighborhood will be shared as replicable project templates. Work within neighborhoods of focus will be informed by neighbor input. Obtaining input will be done thoughtfully by meeting people of different ages and levels of civic participation where they are.

Motion was made by Alicia and seconded by Chris Mitchell to approve the agenda for the March 11, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Erika Ninos and seconded by Kelly Wacker to approve the minutes from the February 11, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

III. Guest: Councilperson Erika Strassburger

- Councilperson Erika Strassburger is exploring legislation for a single use plastic bag ban for the City of Pittsburgh. The ban will include a fee on paper bags (no less than $.15) to help through the transition. This fee will cover
the cost for the business to purchase paper bags. The fee should be high enough, so people opt to not use a bag. In the end, the retailer will break even and potentially save money.

- Currently, the City of Philadelphia is suing the state over the ban on plastic bag bans. The City of Pittsburgh would like to join Philadelphia in support of this lawsuit.
- Councilperson Strassburger is currently looking to pass a resolution stating the intent to pass an ordinance in the near future.
- Her team is currently working with a variety of organizations to gauge feedback and ensure legislation is mindful of current state of business.
- Since City of Pgh has rolled out recycling bins, Environmental Services has noticed less litter and plastic bags
- Can we use the Litterati app before the bin roll out to gather data on specific streets before and after?
- Councilperson Strassburger shared her information to continue the discussion: erika.strassburger@pittsburghpa.gov

IV. Neighborhood of Focus 2021 - Esplen

- In the most recent litter index, Esplen was rated worst in litter – this is a high visibility area in Councilperson Teresa Kail Smith’s district and was also her recommendation in 2020 as a Neighborhood of Focus
- It has direct access to the River and Chartiers Creek
- Could be a gateway to get PennDot more involved
- CPC will be updating a list of services we can provide and will be meeting with community groups to gauge interest. The plan is to ask the neighborhood what they want to see.
- Chris Mitchell made a motion to approve Esplen as the CPC’s 2021 Neighborhood of Focus. Omoye Aikhuele approved the motion and Anna Archer seconded. Motion carried.

V. Finance Committee Updates

2021 Spending Plan discussion
https://drive.google.com/file/d/1aiMltG0XPjzjHMD0dg2goy2eUjDSBm1/view?usp=s haring
Sarah and Aftyn will take a vote to approve the budget at the April meeting.

VI. Old Business

- SWOT Analysis and Strategic plan – Omoye, Myrna, Erika Y and Rachel will be meeting to discuss and provide an update at a future CPC meeting.
- Litter Roundtable Committee Progress – Committee will be meeting 3/23/2021
- 2020 Annual Report Progress and Requests – Erika Y and Erika N will reach out to organizations to information to include in this years report.
• Advocacy – Alicia is drafting a letter for review by the CPC in the coming weeks concerning partnership agreements.

VII. Member Organization Updates
• Environmental Services’ Blue bin distribution + education (Omoye + Chris) – Currently an issues with address list and working on rectifying. In the process of updating address list and editing information that was distributed with cans to accommodate new recycling instructions - if you put cardboard out on refuse only week, it will not be collected. Working with PRC to hose webinars (https://prc.org/programs/webinars/) about usage of can and recycling rules as well as information beyond the curb (drop off, Christmas tree program etc.) https://pittsburghpa.gov/dpw/recycling-blue-bins
• Parks conservancy – Earth day events will be announced in few weesk. Also doing events with Park Champions – will be pushing solo cleanups by creating challenge in Literatti.
• Pittsburgh Parks Lake Elizabeth clean up with ACW on April 6 and 7

VIII. Adjourn
Motion was made by Anna Archer and seconded by Omoye Aikhuele to adjourn the March 11, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

• Next Virtual Meeting: April 8, 2021
  6:00PM

CPC Members Call to Action: Social Media: Follow the CPC Facebook page! Share content with the CPC to use as engagement and empowerment on the platform and other social medial platform.

Remember: The Clean Pittsburgh Commission is on Social Media!
Find us on Facebook: www.facebook.com/cleanpghcommission
Tweet with us: @CleanPghComm