Clean Pittsburgh Commission
Meeting Minutes
May 13, 2021

I. Welcome and Introductions

Members in attendance: Alicia Carberry (Co-Chair), Chris Mitchell (Outreach Coordinator), Myrna Newman, Erika Young (Secretary), Lori Beth Jones, Emily Potoczny, Erin Tobin, Sarah Kinter, Aftyn Giles (Financial Secretary), Rachel Nawrocki (Co-Chair), Omoye Aikhuele, Kelly Wacker, Sally Stadelman

Commission members absent: Officer Alphonso Sloan, NaTisha Washington; Sarah Shea (Treasurer), Erika Ninos, Jeff Skalican

Guests in attendance: Kelsey Ripper (Friends of the Riverfront), Neil Grbach (PLI), Carye Bye (Resident – new to the area), Marya Pittaway (Beechview Garbage Olympics Team), Sabrina Culyba (Humane Action Pittsburgh)

II. Approval of Agenda and Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order on May 13, 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.*

Alicia Carberry will be stepping in for Rachel Nawrocki to begin the May 13 meeting.

Motion was made by Chris Mitchell and seconded by Omoye Aikhuele to approve the agenda for the May 13, 2021 meeting. Motion carried.

Motion was made by Sarah Kinter and seconded by Chris Mitchell to approve the April 8, 2021 meeting minutes. Motion carried.
III. Finance Committee Updates

- Working on a job description for CPC support. This position will be a part time position with the City and dedicated to supporting the CPC. The position will be housed out of Public Works.
- The CPC has been allocated $27,500 in 2021 from the City’s Operating Budget within the Department of Public Works. The Commission would like to have a majority of the funds spent or allocated by the fall.

IV. City 2021 Hard-to-Recycle Neighborhood Events

- The City will be hosting 8 events this year with District 4 being the first event.
- The CPC would like to allocate a portion of the budget to subsidize items collected at these events. The subsidy comes in the form of a $20 voucher. The CPC needs to identify ways to advertise these opportunities to ensure they are being used.

V. Old Business

- Advocacy and Litter Roundtable – Hosting in fall 2021, would like to form a committee to discuss plans and action moving forward. Alicia will lead and reach out to those that expressed interest.
- Pick Up PGH Contract – The organizations have received the contracts but are waiting for a response to some questions. Process continues to advance.
- Litterati – Charter school has signed up to utilize the app – Christ is also talking to teacher from other schools, but no commitments yet. We will be hosting a month-long spring challenge and Chris is working on a campaign to support Councilwoman Strassburger’s bag ban. This initiative would set up an account to be used for bag specific litter clean ups to help collect data to support efforts. In the near future, we would like to demonstrate on a more personal scale (think Tupperware party) how to use the app.
- Neighborhood of Focus – Chris met with a small group of residents to discuss challenges, meeting key individuals and see the neighborhood issues. There are no easy answers – a lot of concerns regarding pest problems and abandoned homes. The community would like a community garden and identified one vacant lot that should be suitable for the project. Chris would like to host a cleanup/Litterati event in Esplen and will see if there are any upcoming community meetings.

VI. New Business

- New litter initiatives in the City – Friends of the Riverfront and Allegheny Cleanways are partnering to make up for lost time during COVID shutdowns. Corporations are ways to engage team members – the organizations have launched “Litter League” where Corporate Groups participate as a fundraiser for Friends of the Riverfront and Allegheny Cleanways. Litter kits are given to individuals to pick up litter, focusing on trails and communities. Kits are given
to Corporate groups, with a fee to be involved. Some Community groups have also expressed an interest in participating. The challenge runs through Summer Solstice and will include weekly challenges. Other Cities host similar challenges, and this initiative has connected with those groups.

- Pittsburgh Street Stewards is a volunteer organization dedicated to keeping the city clean. The project has stewards that include individuals, families and businesses in designated areas in 28 of the 90 City neighborhoods, including a few suburbs. Adopted areas are highlighted and shared on Instagram and Facebook, and people interested can offer to clean up specific areas. Look for “Pittsburgh Street Stewards” on Facebook and Instagram (@pghstreetstewards)

VII. Adjourn

- Aftyn Giles made a motion to adjourn the May 13, 2021 meeting. Chris Mitchell seconded the motion. Motion carried.

- **Next Virtual Meeting: June 10, 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](http://www.facebook.com/cleanpghcommission)

Tweet with us: @CleanPghComm