



Sustainability Committee

Agenda

August 27, 2018, 6pm

Municipal Annex, 140 West Patrick Street, Room C

1. Review and approve August 6 minutes (6:00)
2. In the Street—Jenny Willoughby (6:00-6:10)
 - a. Table setup
 - b. Schedule of volunteers
3. Partnerships—Christine Maher (6:10-6:25)
 - a. Middletown as a potential partner
 - b. Action/Vote
4. Draft Recommendation Letter specifically to request clarification and updating of City Code for who is responsible for litter pick-up (6:25-6:30)
 - a. Action/Vote
5. Framework for Project Proposal (6:30-6:45)
 - a. Review Mark Broski's proposal framework
 - b. Discuss potential projects that focus on recycling
6. Carbon Neutral 2050—Mark Broski (6:45-7)
7. Other administrative Items and Future Meeting Topics
 - a. Next meeting – **October 1, 2018**
8. Public Comment

Mayor

Michael C. O'Connor



Aldermen

Kelly Russell
President Pro Tem

Derek T. Shackelford

Roger A. Wilson

Donna Kuzemchak

Ben MacShane

August 20, 2018

Mayor Michael O'Connor and Members of the Board of Aldermen
City of Frederick
101 North Court Street
Frederick, MD 21701

Dear Mayor and Board Members:

The residents of NAC 11, Downtown Frederick Partnership, the Sustainability Committee, and The City of Frederick have partnered to address litter in the downtown area. Some progress has been made: the City has installed and is servicing 30 cigarette butt receptacles in key locations downtown and a marketing campaign to raise public awareness of cigarette litter is underway.

Our committee first entered the discussion of litter when we expressed support for recycling the cigarette butts collected from the new receptacles [Letter to Zack Kershner, Director of Public Works, February 8, 2018, attached.] This action drew upon the City's commitment to "encouraging sustainability in all facets of City operations and among its residents and businesses ..." expressed in the resolution that created the Sustainability Committee. [Resolution 16-05].

The Sustainability Committee's interest in litter abatement continues. After hearing a presentation from Julia Schaeffer of the NAC 11 Downtown Litter Group on August 6, the Sustainability Committee voted unanimously to request clarification and updating of City Code as to who is responsible for litter clean-up in Frederick. As Frederick City continues to grow and attract more visitors, litter will grow as well. It is crucial to have solid long-term solutions in place to address litter so that all can experience a clean and healthy city. Uncertainty about responsibility for litter clean-up is a barrier to fully addressing the problem and our efforts to create "healthy communities, healthy residents, and a healthy environment now and into the future" [2016 Sustainability Plan, page 4].

Litter affects the quality of life including the health and safety of our community; it is unsightly, its presence encourages more littering, and it causes harm to children, pets and wildlife who ingest it. It leaves the impression that our community is not cared for. Left unchecked, litter poses reputational, and therefore, economic threat to our city. Decreasing litter is an effective way that the City can work towards the primary goal of sustainability: "maintaining the balance between economic, social, and ecological needs for today and for future generations." [2016 Sustainability Plan, page 4]

We know as well that litter, including cigarette butts, negatively impacts the sustainability of the Potomac River and Chesapeake Bay. As water washes down city sidewalks and streets, then into storm drains, it carries with it whatever is in its path, including cigarette butts. Toxic substances used in growing tobacco and manufacturing cigarettes leach into storm water and make their way in to nearby tributaries and rivers, causing harm to aquatic life and water quality. Removing



cigarette butts and other litter from City sidewalks and streets supports the goal of protecting water quality in our region [Sustainability Plan, Page 5].

We respectfully request that the City make clear who is responsible for removing litter from City sidewalks, a necessary step in addressing the litter problem that the City faces.

Sincerely,

Eric Daniels, Chair
City of Frederick Sustainability Committee

cc: Zach Fleagle, Superintendent of Sanitation, City of Frederick
Kara Norman, Executive Director, Downtown Frederick Partnership
Lisa Mroszczyk-Murphy and Christina Martinkosky, Historic Preservation Planners, City of Frederick
Julia Schaeffer, NAC 11

attachment