



sustainable FREDERICK

Sustainability Committee

Minutes

August 1, 2022, 6pm

Municipal Office Annex, Conference Room C
140 W Patrick Street, Frederick 21701

In attendance:

Committee Members: Katey Grogan (KG), Phil LeBlanc (PL), Renee Bourassa (RB), Will Cotton (WC)

Aldersperson:

Guests: Faith Clarish (chair of Frederick County Sustainability Commission), Kate Wilson , Mike Wey

Staff: Jenny Willoughby (JW), Sustainability Manager

1. June minutes approved.
2. Staff Update—JW provided a staff update for the Sustainability Department. The Department is finalizing the Sustainable Maryland Recertification, obtained a grant for \$166,250 for LED streetlight upgrades, is working on the BLINK EV charging stations in the garages, and is beginning the application for Bee and Bird City designations. Jenny is also preparing the staff training documents for the Climate Action Plan implementation with CIP projects. The Green Bank funding was approved for a feasibility study.

JW has been in contact with Cindy Unangst from Middletown about launching another Green Lecture Series and/or Green Networking Event and wanted feedback from the Committee.

3. Composting Pilot Update—JW said that the Composting Pilot was launched June 1 and sign-ups continue to come in through the Key City Compost website. The second round of the Pilot will include NACs 3 and 8 and will launch in mid-September after the contract amendment is approved. JW also is applying for a compost pilot grant through USDA in hopes of expanding the Pilot even further throughout the City.
4. Solar Energy Initiatives—The Committee decided to move forward with a checklist for Community Solar and Solar Co-Op to assist residents in deciding whether to sign up for solar or not and which program.
5. Plastic Bag Ban—RB noted that the City is looking to institute a plastic bag ban and asked the interest in drafting a support letter from the Committee. RB will reach out to Alderman MacShane about the status of the legislation.
6. Other Admin Items—September meeting shifted to Monday, September 12 to account for the Labor Day holiday. Next meeting will be via Teams.

PL asked about the status of the cigarette butt collection and noticed that he had not been notified to pickup a recycle box in more than a year. JW will inquire with DPW to determine if there is a box ready for pickup. PL also noted that the Ambassadors had been emptying the butt containers into the trash cans until they were informed about the recycling program.

PL also asked about cup recycling at Alive at Five. The Committee nor staff have received any updates about the cup recycling through TerraCycle. KG offered to investigate with Downtown Frederick Partnership to see if cup recycling is still planned.

7. Public comment:

Faith Clarish, the new Chair of the Frederick County Sustainability Commission offered to partner with the City Committee on a variety of topics.

Katie noted that the Alive at Five program requires new cups, but is it possible to provide compostable cups that Key City Compost could pick up. KB offered to follow up with Kara Norman

Mike Wine was interested in volunteering in events, is excited about the composting program and has signed up for the pilot, and the CIP staff training, plastic bag ban support. Mike was inquiring about volunteer cleanup opportunities.

The Committee asked about creating a calendar of volunteer events and JW offered to ask about a calendar for the website.