

Clean Pittsburgh Commission

January 12, 2023

I. Welcome and Introductions

Members in attendance: Chris Mitchell (Co-Chair), Erika Young (Secretary), Myrna Newman, Lori Beth Jones (Co-Chair), Omoye Aikhuele, Erin Tobin (Outreach Coordinator Chair)

Commission members absent: Jeff Skalican, NaTisha Washington, Rachel Nawrocki, Kelly Wacker, Erika Ninos, Sally Stadelman, Emily Potoczny, Detective Alphonso Sloan, Aftyn Giles (Financial Secretary), Sarah Kinter, Sara Alessio Shea (Treasurer)

Guests in attendance: Coleen Knecht, Anti-Litter Specialist; Ashley Seiler, Grounded; Rebecca Simon, Grounded; Joshua Schuneman, PRC Collection Events Manager, Chris Czambel, Anti-Litter Specialist; Kelsey Ripper, Friends of the Riverfront

II. Approval of Agenda and Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order on January 12, 2023

Lori Beth read the Values of the Clean Pittsburgh Commission:

The CPC values Community, Equity & Diversity, Capacity Building & Teamwork and Getting Dirty.

More information about our values and the bylaws of the CPC can be found at:
https://apps.pittsburghpa.gov/redtail/images/10435_CPC.bylaws.pdf

Motion was made by Lori Beth Jones and seconded by Erika Young to approve the agenda for the January 12, 2023. Motion Carried.

Erika Young will update the November 10, 2022 minutes to rectify spelling errors and clarify PRC collection events hosted with Environmental Services. Updated minutes will be shared following the meeting and voting on the minutes will take place at the February meeting.

III. Introducing New Anti-Litter Inspectors (Chris Czambel and Colleen Knecht)

- Two new Anti-Litter Inspectors were hired as the first part of the GOLD plan.
- Chris Czambel and Colleen Knecht have been hired as the first two inspectors.
- Their roles will allow them to support quality of life improvements and assist with public outreach, education and initiatives. They will help implement and expand the GOLF plan and will help respond to illegal dumping complaints. The anti-litter inspector role will dedicate a responsible party to enforce laws and issue citations pertaining to illegal dumping and littering.

IV. EPA Grant Letter of Support Review and Approval

- CPC to provide letter of support for City of Pittsburgh Environmental Services to receive Consumer Recycling Education and Outreach Grant Program
- This grant will be used to help fund education outreach efforts for the City's recycling program. The team hopes to use the grant to hire an education expert, update the app and provide additional information about recycling to residents.
- The grant will also provide an opportunity for the City to work more closely with Pittsburgh Public Schools
- A motion was made by Myrna Newman and seconded by Erika Young to approve the letter of support from the CPC. Motion carried.

V. Updating Strategic Plan for 2023 and continuing effort to staff commission to full capacity

- We would like to make the Strategic Plan an easily digestible document.
- Lori Beth Jones will be sending an email to Commission members looking for assistance to help update the Strategic Plan. The group will form a standing Committee to complete and finalize the plan.
- Any members in limbo that need assistance completing the questionnaire from the Mayor's office should reach out to Lori Beth Jones.

VI. Finance Committee Updates – create monthly committee meetings

- The financial committee will be hosting a standing meeting every Tuesday prior to the monthly CPC meeting.
- We did not enter all 2022 budgeted items in time to be credited to the 2022 budget. These line items will need to be budgeted in 2023.
- A motion was made by Chris Mitchell and seconded by Lori Beth Jones to pay City Surveillance \$4,860 to fund illegal dumping cameras. Motion carried.

VII. Member organization updates

- Environmental Services sent the 2023 newsletter. Christmas Tree collection will run from 12/26 – 1/26 at 12 locations throughout the City. All trees will be chipped for mulch. Working with PRC to host two collections a week in the Strip for electronics recycling. The schedule will run on Tuesdays from 2:00-5:00 and Thursdays from 3:00 – 6:00. Reservations are required.
- PRC – Echoed the collection schedule for the City of Pittsburgh. HHW collections will resume in March and registration links for all events are available through the Environmental Services website. The PRC welcomed 2 new employees (Chesapeake First, Zachary Delaney) in January to work on their Zero Waste program. Zero Waste work can be seen at events throughout the city such as Fourth of July, Arts Fest, and various races throughout the year. PRC is currently planning for the 2023 Hard To Recycle and Household Hazardous

Waste collections which occur throughout Allegheny County and are available to all County residents, including City of Pittsburgh residents. The organization's educational classes are ongoing and can be accessed through webinars. They cover topics such as rain barrels, backyard composting, and general recycling knowledge. Registrations can be made online at prc.org.

- Allegheny Cleanways (ACW) – will be hosting two events right outside of the City. The first clean up will be at a tire dump in Penn Hills on February 25. They are working with Public Lands and are looking for all hands-on deck. There are thousands of tires at this dumpsite and help is needed. There will also be a cleanup event on Monday, 1/16, in Stowe Township. Ongoing cleanups will be taking place (generally Sundays or Mondays) at steps and bridges across the City. ACW is doing roughly 7 clean ups a week throughout the City, in McKeesport and in Stowe Twp. Registration for the Litter League (partnership with ACW and Friends of the Riverfront) will kick off week of 1/16/2023.
- Friends of the Riverfront is mapping out 2023 stewardship schedule and thanks the CPC for their support to purchase supplies. The first trail clean up events of 2023 will be focused on the North Shore.
- Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy and Woods Run Task Force is partnering with ACW in and around McKinley Park and Hayeswoods. The Parks Conservancy has received grants to also host cleanups at several other parks across the City. A lot of interest in coordinating litter clean up and Erin will be sharing the resources available from the City to help support cleanup efforts.
- Grounded finalizing schedule for 2023 and will be sharing information soon.

VIII. Adjourn

- Motion was made by Omoye Aikhuele and seconded by Erika Young to adjourn the January meeting. Motion carried.

Next Virtual Meeting: February 9, 2023

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