

AGENDA
College Park Committee for a Better Environment
Monday, May 18, 2020
7 pm (gather at 6:45 to test Goto Meeting and start meeting at 7)
Location: Online meeting

- Amendments to and/or approval of this agenda
- Review and approve February minutes (attached)
- Report on City activities and CBE budget – Janet McCaslin.

Ongoing Business

- Follow up on actions:
 - Schedule session on Project Drawdown (**see attached flier – please promote**). This is now a multi-city event on Zoom. Project Drawdown offers 100 solutions for climate change – including many that people can implement in cities. <https://drawdown.org/> If you are not familiar with Project Drawdown, this is a good introduction. You can register here: <https://projectdrawdowndmv.eventbrite.com>
 - Expenditures: GAT traps, purchase of compost buckets, car magnets and Spanish translation of sustainability survey.
- Additional expenditures:
 - We could purchase more of the compost buckets that allow residents to drop off compost.
 - New plants for permaculture garden? Several have died.
 - Other ideas?
- Pollinator Gardens –update – the Council adopted and College Park is a Pollinator Friendly City. Committee to be drawn from CBE and other interested citizens. We can also post educational materials for residents to avoid the pesticides that harm pollinators.
- Update on survey to assess sustainability of activities within the City to provide a strong foundation for ongoing and future sustainability efforts by the city. **See attached.**
- Letter to mayor and council regarding furnished rentals – any response? Next steps to engage with mayor and council.
- Letter to mayor and council regarding curbside compost – any response? Next steps to engage with mayor and council.
- Green Awards – new Nominees? (we can nominate up to 4 – can be either individuals or businesses demonstrating environmental leadership). Posted to Nextdoor. City needs to post the final brochure.
- Tree and Landscape Board report.

New Business

- Should we encourage the city to take part in The Sustainable States Community Energy Challenge, sponsored by American Council for an Energy-Efficient Economy (ACEEE). It is an assessment of the steps that a city is taking to move forward on energy efficiency and renewable energy. The city would need to take part in the survey in June. The surveys lead to an annual scorecard of cities nationwide. Here's last year's: <https://aceee.org/sites/default/files/publications/researchreports/u1904.pdf>
- The city is about to embark on a 5 year strategic plan. This seems like a good opportunity for us to encourage the city to incorporate the following (as a start):
 - Setting climate goals for the city. Working towards zero carbon by 2040 for example.
 - Reducing water runoff into the Chesapeake watershed and improving water quality
 - Increasing tree density
 - Improving opportunities for walking, biking, and mass transit
 - Increasing renewable energy installation and purchases – city, as well as residential and businesses
 - Improving energy efficiency – city buildings, as well as residential and businesses
 - Reducing waste to landfill, and increasing composting (curbside compost program)
 - Pesticide reduction (educate residents and create a phase out on residential properties)
 - Begin preparations for climate adaptation

We could prepare an outline of recommendations for the city and request a meeting.

Next Meeting: June 22, 2020

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