

Clean Pittsburgh Commission

April 13, 2023

I. Welcome and Introductions

Members in attendance: Chris Mitchell (Co-Chair), Erika Young (Secretary), Lori Beth Jones (Co-Chair), Omoye Aikhuele, Kelsey Ripper, Aftyn Giles (Financial Secretary), Sanjeeb Manandhar, Becca Simon, Gisele Betances, Deborah Steinberg, Myrna Newman,

Commission members absent: Jeff Skalican, Detective Alphonso Sloan, Sarah Kinter, Sara Alessio Shea (Treasurer), Erin Tobin (Outreach Coordinator Chair)

Guests in attendance: Kayla Seifert, Humane Action Pittsburgh; Joshua Schuneman, PRC Collection Events Manager;

II. Approval of Agenda and Meeting Minutes

The meeting was called to order on April 13, 2023

Lori Beth read the Capacity Building and Teamwork Statement from the By Laws of the CPC:

The Clean Pittsburgh Commission acknowledges its partnerships with individuals, businesses, organizations, schools, and the City of Pittsburgh as essential to address community needs. Further underlining its held value for community, the Commission expands capacity in imaginative and collaborative ways. The Commission recognizes that making expectations Clean Pittsburgh Commission Member Bylaws Page 4 April 2020 and vulnerabilities transparent creates opportunities for clear communication and more thoughtful implementation of programming.

Motion was made by Erika Young and seconded by Omoye Aikhuele to approve the agenda for the April 13, 2023. Motion Carried.

The minutes from the March 9, 2023, meeting need to be amended to correct attendance.

III. New Commission Members

- Welcome new members to the CPC! New members include:
 - Gisele Betances, Mayor Gainey's Office, Community Liaison
 - Deborah Steinberg, Green Practices and Sustainability Manager, Carnegie Mellon University
 - Sanjeeb Manandhar, Environmental Manager, City of Pittsburgh Public Schools

IV. Pittsburgh Ploggers

- Humane Action Pittsburgh manages Pittsburgh Plogging program – “Plogging” is picking up litter while jogging
- Three community plogging events scheduled for this summer:
- June 6, July 22, August 19 – locations TBD, but would like the public and social media followers to vote on neighborhoods where these events should take place.
- Post will be on social media soon - keep a look out at social channels (“Humane Action Pittsburgh” on all social media – Facebook, Instagram, Twitter, LinkedIn)
- A Litterati campaign will kick off on April 22. Goal to get to 10,000 pieces of litter picked up in Pittsburgh
- Join their challenge on Litterati app: search PGH Plog

V. Neighborhood of Focus – Clean Up Opportunity

- Pittsburgh Parks Conservancy is hosting a cleanup and community event this May
- This event will kick start our Hill District Neighborhood of Focus
- UMPC will bring ~75 volunteer to support a neighborhood cleanup event on May 22 from 9:00AM – 2:00PM.
- Grounded as community members looking to deploy clean up events and will include them in the outreach
- UPMC will purchase supplies for the clean up
- CPC is organizing a committee to help plan and support the cleanup – members interested include Chris Mitchell, Becca Simon, Erika Young, Gisele Betances, Kelsey Ripper, Myrna Newman

VI. Who We Are Series – Allegheny Cleanways

- Myrna Newman, Executive Director of Allegheny Cleanways (ACW)
- 22-year nonprofit focused on cleanups in Allegheny County and the greater Allegheny County Region
- Engage people to clean up litter and illegal dumping on land and water
- Water program has a river front component and a barrage to take volunteers along the riverfront
- Land based clean ups include litter clean up (Litter League), public stairways, bridges, and muck. They also host an “Adopt a Storm Drain” program.
- To learn more or to support ACW, visit <https://www.alleghenycleanways.org/>
- Next month, we will hear from Grounded

VII. Finance Committee Updates

- Paid Litterati invoice from 2022
- We have spent \$21,774.50 remaining from \$30,000 budget
- Outstanding invoice to PRC for \$2,004 and Allegheny Cleanways

VIII. Member Organization Updates

- Gold Plan is moving forward with even more hires this year.
- Allegheny Cleanways Volunteer recognition and Open House coming up on April 30th. Hosting large clean up on land and water on Earth Day in partnership with Public Lands and Patagonia, and Steel City Rowing. “What the Muck” clean ups taking place daily and looking for volunteers. River clean ups begin this month and river clean up series will kick off in May.
- Friends of the Riverfront hosting evening and weekend volunteer cleanup events. Will be hosting large Earth Day event in the South Side with REI and community partners on April 22 from 10:00AM – 2:00PM. Will be doing a Color Park refresh – three-day event April 27-29.
- PRC hosting HHW collection at PPG on April 15 – sign up at PRC.org. Zero waste program will be taking place on Sunday, April 16. Education classes are continuing, and information can be found at PRC.org. Add info about City cleanups.

IX. Adjourn

- Motion was made by Lori Beth Jones and seconded by Omoye Aikhuele to adjourn the April meeting. Motion carried.

Next Virtual Meeting: May 11, 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