

# VIRGINIA BEACH CLEAN COMMUNITY COMMISSION

## MEETING MINUTES

January 13, 2022

Virginia Beach Parks & Recreation Administration Building, 2154 Landstown Road



	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent*</b>
<b>Commissioners</b>	Edna Baehre-Kolovani, Cayden Braswell (Student), Walter Camp (Secretary), Lon Carpenter, Karlaa Gregory, Scott Kellam, Anne Mannarino (Chair), Dianna McDowell, Sandra Shinabarger (Vice Chair)	Justin Burns (Unex), David Leader (Unex), Ciera Reid (Stud., Exc-Med)
<b>City Council Liaison</b>	N.D. "Rocky" Holcomb	
<b>City Staff</b>	Kristi Rines (Staff Liaison, Waste Mgmt), Amy Woodson (Parks & Recreation)	
<b>Members of the Public</b>	<i>none</i>	

*\* Absence Classifications are per City Code 2.3-1*

1. **Call to Order.** Chair Anne Mannarino called to order the meeting of the Virginia Beach Clean Community Commission (VBCCC) on Thursday, January 13, 2022 at 6:30 p.m.
2. **Welcome.**
  - a. Ms. Mannarino welcomed the Commission's City Council Liaison, Rocky Holcomb, who introduced himself. The Commission expressed appreciation to Mr. Holcomb for attending and for his assistance in creating seats on the Commission for students. Ms. Mannarino also welcomed and introduced recently appointed Student Members Cayden Braswell and Cierra Reid, noting that Ms. Reid was unable to attend. The Chair reminded members to submit their volunteer hours to Craig Simmons.
  - b. Ms. Mannarino reviewed the four elements of the VBCCC's Mission and especially encouraged newer members to find ways that interest them to help fulfill it.
3. **Minutes.** Secretary Walter Camp distributed draft Minutes of the November 11, 2021, VBCCC meeting to the Commissioners via email for review in advance of the meeting. Upon motion by Ms. Baehre-Kolovani, seconded by Mr. Kellam, the Minutes were approved unanimously.
4. **New Business**
  - a. Elections. Ms. Mannarino gave notice that the Commission's annual election of officers will take place at the March meeting, then outlined the procedures. All Commission members are encouraged to speak with incumbent officers and Staff Liaison Kristi Rines about requirements of the positions. Ms. Mannarino and Mr. Camp briefly outlined their responsibilities and noted they would not be seeking re-election. Any appointed Member wishing to serve as Chair, Vice Chair, or Secretary should inform Staff Liaison Kristi Rines, preferably prior to the March meeting although nominations may be made from the floor. Officers elected in March will transition in April and take office May 1<sup>st</sup>.

- b. Youth Participation in Commission Activities. Ms. Mannarino led a discussion of new ideas from student Commissioners and roles for new student ambassadors. Among the topics mentioned were:
  - i. The state bill allowing more latitude for food donations and reducing waste that originated from and is being advocated by local students
  - ii. Student assistance with mission awareness, content and messaging, including possible video clips for school morning announcements
  - iii. Involvement with the upcoming Earth Day festival in April
  - iv. Student recruiting using TikTok and other platforms
  - v. Ongoing engagement with the Environmental Studies Program

5. **Old Business - None**

6. **Reports**

- a. Parks & Recreation Department presentation of Supported Programs. Amy Woodson provided the Commission with an extensive report of the Commission's initiatives supported by her department, including:
  - i. Adopt-A-Programs
    - 1. 127 signed adoption agreements now in place
    - 2. Statistics showing volunteers are more active & more productive
    - 3. 573 cleanups in one year, removing 25,000# of litter from public land
    - 4. Positive outcomes from the program's overhaul during the pandemic
    - 5. Goals regarding equipment, volunteer surveys, and recognition
    - 6. Challenge to Commission: help match available sites with care groups
  - ii. Major Events
    - 1. Great American Cleanup
    - 2. Earth Day
    - 3. Clean the Bay Day
    - 4. International Coastal Cleanup
  - iii. Specialized Recycling Efforts
    - 1. Cigarette Butt Recycling
      - Partnership with Surfrider Foundation
      - Grant obtained by Surfrider resulted in 49 donated containers
      - Parks & Rec installed them at high-litter sites on City property
    - 2. Fishing line collection program
- b. Earth Day 2022. Following up on last month's report, Ms. Woodson and Commissioners Kellam and Baehre-Kolovani outlined further progress on plans for the major celebration to return to Mt. Trashmore this April.
  - i. April 16 – Recycle Zone drive by/dropoff, including household hazardous waste, e-waste recycling, shredding, and prescription drug secure collection

- ii. April 23 – Festival, focusing on education, engagement, and sustainability
- iii. The Earth Day planning committee will continue to meet and report out
- iv. Commissioners were asked to assist with identifying exhibitors for the festival and volunteering on both event days.

c. Staff Reports

- i. Waste Management Department Operations & Recycling. Ms. Rines provided an abbreviated update to her full report made at the prior meeting. She noted Waste Management’s challenges with having only three customer service positions out of eight currently filled. She also discussed the City’s Christmas Tree disposal options for residents, including mulching and landfilling.
- ii. Parks & Recreation Department Programs – *covered in presentation above.*
- iii. Community Outreach & Education – *this report was deferred.*

d. VBCCC Commissioner Individual Reports.

- i. Ms Mannarino – Environmental workshops at Norfolk Botanical Gardens Jan 29
- ii. Ms. McDowell – Student initiatives
- iii. Ms. Shinabarger – Issues with commercial properties owned by chain stores
- iv. Ms. Baehre-Kolovani – Working with shopping center management companies
- v. Questions about removal of political signs after elections (K. Rines to follow up)
- vi. Discussion of many partnership and promotional opportunities

**7. Notice of Upcoming Meetings & Events**

- a. 3/10/2022, 6:30pm – Commission Meeting @ Parks & Rec Admin, 2154 Landstown Rd
- b. 3/12/2022, 9am-noon, Virginia Aquarium E-cycling Event\*
- c. 3/26/2022, 9am-1pm – Great American Cleanup, location TBD
- d. 4/16/2022, 9am-1pm – Earth Day (Recycle Zone) @ Mt Trashmore Park
- e. 4/23/2022, 11am-3pm – Earth Day Festival Celebration @ Mt Trashmore Park
- f. 5/12/2022, 6:30pm – Commission Meeting @ Parks & Rec Admin, 2154 Landstown Rd
- g. 6/4/2022, 9am – 1pm – Clean the Bay Day\*, locations across the City
- h. 7/14/2022, 6:30pm – Commission Meeting @ Parks & Rec Admin, 2154 Landstown Rd
- i. 9/8/2022, 6:30pm – Commission Meeting @ Parks & Rec Admin, 2154 Landstown Rd
- j. 11/10/2022, 6:30pm – Commission Meeting @ Parks & Rec Admin, 2154 Landstown Rd

*\* indicates events managed by others but open to VBCCC participation*

**8. Adjournment.** Ms. Mannarino adjourned the meeting at 8:40 p.m.

# VIRGINIA BEACH CLEAN COMMUNITY COMMISSION

## MEETING MINUTES

March 10, 2022

Virginia Beach Parks & Recreation Administration Building, 2154 Landstown Road



	<b>Present</b>	<b>Absent*</b>
<b>Commissioners</b>	Cayden Braswell (Student), Walter Camp (Secretary), Lon Carpenter, Karlaa Gregory, Scott Kellam, Anne Mannarino (Chair), Dianna McDowell, Sandra Shinabarger (Vice Chair), Ciera Reid (Student)	Edna Baehre-Kolovani (Unex.) Justin Burns (Unex.) David Leader (Unex.)
<b>City Council Liaison</b>		N.D. "Rocky" Holcomb
<b>City Staff</b>	Kristi Rines (Staff Liaison, Waste Mgmt), Amy Woodson (Parks & Recreation), Colin Jesse (Parks & Recreation)	
<b>Members of the Public</b>	Tiffany Baylor (student), Mark Swingle (Virginia Aquarium), Christina Trapani (former Commissioner)	

\* Absence Classifications are per City Code 2.3-1

1. **Call to Order.** Chair Anne Mannarino called to order the meeting of the Virginia Beach Clean Community Commission (VBCCC) on Thursday, March 10, 2022, at 6:35 p.m.
2. **Welcome.**
  - a. Ms. Mannarino welcomed Ciera Reid to her first meeting as a Student Commissioner, Tiffany Baylor, and the evening's two guest speakers Mark Swingle and Christina Trapani. She also introduced Colin Jesse from the Parks & Recreation Department, who will be filling in for Michael Moore on some Commission support activities.
  - b. The Chair congratulated Commissioner Kellam on his reappointment to a new term.
  - c. Attendance was taken by Roll Call and recorded above.
3. **Minutes.** Secretary Walter Camp distributed draft Minutes of the January 13, 2022, VBCCC meeting to the Commissioners via email for review in advance of the meeting. Upon motion by Mr. Carpenter, seconded by Mr. Kellam, the Minutes were approved unanimously.
4. **New Business**
  - a. Guest Presentation: Single-Use Plastic Bag Legislation.  
W. Mark Swingle, Chief of Research and Conservation at the Virginia Aquarium and Christina Trapani, owner of Eco Maniac Co. and former Clean Community Commissioner The presentation described Code of Virginia § 58.1-1745, enacted in 2020, allowing localities to impose a tax on certain disposable plastic bags. A copy of the presentation materials are included as an Attachment to these Minutes. The guest speakers

advocated enactment of the tax by Virginia Beach City Council and provided their reasoning as well as information about six other cities and counties in Virginia that have already done so. Following the presentation Commissioners asked many questions and took the proposal under advisement for potential future consideration.

- b. HB 1249 – Food Donations. Student Commissioner Cayden Braswell reported on her success in gaining passage by the state legislature of a bill written to increase donations of food that would otherwise be discarded. In a remarkable accomplishment for any advocate, let alone for a high school student and her fellow classmates, the bill was passed unanimously by both houses. The bill facilitates donations of food beyond the “best by” and “sell by” dates, which are indicators of freshness rather than fitness for consumption. The volume impact of the bill was not estimated, but its passage was applauded by food banks and retailers for its anticipated reduction in waste and promotion of food donations to those in need. The Commission commended Ms. Braswell for this outstanding achievement.

- c. Elections. Following notice of officer elections given at the January meeting, Ms. Mannarino read nominations submitted in advance (four) and opened the floor to any additional nominations (none). The nominees were:

- i. For Chair: Edna Baehre-Kolovani and Justin Burns
- ii. For Vice Chair: Lon Carpenter
- iii. For Secretary: Karlaa Gregory

Ms. Rines conducted the vote, resulting in the election of Ms. Baehre-Kolovani as Chair, Mr. Carpenter as Vice Chair, and Ms. Gregory as Secretary for one-year terms officially beginning May 1, with a transition period from the current officers in the interim.

## 5. **Old Business**

- a. Great American Cleanup. Colin Jesse and Kristi Rines reported that the event will be held from 8:30am – noon at 2865 Indian River Road. The location is an undeveloped 900-acre site owned by the City, fronting on the North Landing River. The focus area for the GAC will be wetlands where a significant amount of old illegally dumped material and debris from the prior landowner are concentrated. Tidewater Search & Rescue will again partner with VBCCC on the cleanup. Volunteers should bring personal protective equipment and be prepared for a muddy work zone. Hand tools will be provided by the city, and a front-end loader will assist with transporting recovered litter across fields from the work zone to a disposal truck.
- b. Election Signs. Following up on a question from the January meeting, Kristi Rines reported on the City’s ordinance for removal of political signs after elections and procedures for reporting violations.

## 6. **Reports**

- a. Earth Day 2022. On behalf of the Earth Day Planning Committee, Mr. Jesse reported on preparations for Earth Day 2022:
  - i. April 16 – Recycle Zone. Vendor arrangements are in place, and volunteers are needed to assist with the drive by/drop-off program which has received heavy traffic in past years. Volunteer roles include directing traffic, providing information, and assisting with unloading vehicles. Specialists, rather than volunteers, will handle household hazardous waste and secure collection of prescription drugs.
  - ii. April 23 – Festival Celebration. A wide selection of environmentally themed programs, displays and engagement opportunities are planned. Examples cited included Bee Keeping classes, an Oceans in Crisis art display by students at Ocean Lakes High School, and a booth from the HRTPO’s Traffix program about alternatives to single-occupant cars for commuters in Hampton Roads. Vendor information packages are available by contacting Mike Moore or Mr. Jesse. Volunteers are needed for many roles throughout the day including staffing the VBCCO’s own information booth, event set-up and clean-up, directing traffic, and providing support.
  - iii. This is the Commission’s highest profile event of the year, attracting several thousand guests. All Commissioners are encouraged to attend and participate.
  
- b. Staff Reports
  - i. Waste Management Department Operations & Recycling.
    - 1. Ms. Rines reported that Craig Simmons is transferring to a new position within the City. Mr. Simmons previously supported all of the Commission’s media and marketing efforts, including management of its webpage and social media channels.
    - 2. Ms. Rines asked Commissioners to send their monthly volunteer hours reports to her until a replacement for Mr. Simmons is hired.
  
  - ii. Parks & Recreation Department Programs - see Great American Cleanup and Earth Day reports, above.
  
  - iii. Community Outreach & Education - no report
  
- c. VBCCC Individual Commissioners’ Reports.
  - i. Ms. Mannarino reported on work with Centerville Elementary School on environmental activities, water quality, and environmental testing programs. She also has a presentation scheduled in April for her Women’s Club.
  - ii. Mr. Camp reported receiving an inquiry from Smartmouth Brewery about obtaining cigarette recycling containers for their Virginia Beach location. At their Norfolk location the city provides them for private businesses under an

agreement to document and deliver the collected material. He reached out to the Surfrider Foundation, which has supplied nearly 50 such containers on public property at the Beach, and they agreed to provide Smartmouth with containers. Mr. Camp also reported conducting a solo upper North Landing River cleanup yielding 50 pounds of trash and recyclables.

- iii. Ms. McDowell reported on an Adopt-A-Program at Lock Haven Park and assisting students with creating four booths for the Earth Day Festival
- iv. Ms. Gregory reported on a recycling initiative she implemented in her workplace with raised awareness among colleagues and reduced waste.
- v. The supporting role VB Clean Volunteers, Inc., an independent 501©3 organization, can provide was described during discussion

**7. Notice of Upcoming Meetings & Events**

- a. 3/26/2022, 8:30am-1pm – Great American Cleanup, 2865 Indian River Road
- b. 4/16/2022, 8am-1pm – Earth Day Recycle Zone @ Mt Trashmore Park
- c. 4/23/2022, 11am-3pm – Earth Day Festival Celebration @ Mt Trashmore Park
- d. 5/12/2022, 6:30pm – Commission Meeting @ Parks & Rec Admin, 2154 Landstown Rd
- e. 6/4/2022, times TBD – Clean the Bay Day\*, locations across the city
- f. 7/14/2022, 6:30pm – Commission Meeting @ Parks & Rec Admin, 2154 Landstown Rd
- g. 9/8/2022, 6:30pm – Commission Meeting @ Parks & Rec Admin, 2154 Landstown Rd
- h. 11/10/2022, 6:30pm – Commission Meeting @ Parks & Rec Admin, 2154 Landstown Rd

*\* Indicates events managed by others but open to VBCCC participation*

8. **Remarks |** The VBCCC wants to thank our commissioners who are leaving. A special thank you is needed for Walter T. Camp. Walter has been one of the most active commissioners during his term. He has worked diligently to perform our mission and to contribute his time when needed. He always helped on Earth Day, multiple clean-ups, and provided leadership during his term. The VBCCC wishes him well in his future environmental ventures.

9. **Adjournment.** Ms. Mannarino adjourned the meeting at 8:35 p.m.



## VIRGINIA BEACH CLEAN COMMUNITY COMMISSION May Meeting Minutes

2154 LANDSTOWN RD      THURSDAY, May 12, 2022, 6:30 PM-8:30 PM

	Present	Absent*
Commissioners	Lon Carpenter (Vice Chair) Karlaa Gregory (Secretary) Cayden Braswell (Student), Maury Hill Anne Mannarino Dianna McDowell Sandra Shinabarger	Edna Baehre-Kolovani (Unex) Justin Burns (Unex.) Scott Kellam (Unex.) David Leader (Unex.) Cierra Reid (Student), (Unex.)
City Council Liaison		N.D. "Rocky" Holcomb
City Staff	Kristi Rines (Staff Liaison, Waste Mgmt), Mike Moore (Parks & Recreation), Colin Jesse (Parks & Recreation)	
Members of the Public	None	

- The business meeting of the Virginia Beach Clean Community Commission was held in person and called to order on May 12, 2022, at 6:32 PM AM by Vice-Chair, Lon Carpenter.
- Secretary Karlaa Gregory took attendance, and the agenda was adopted by unanimous consent.
- Vice Chair, Lon Carpenter presented the March Meeting Minutes.
- The March Minutes were adopted as presented by unanimous consent.

### New Business

#### 1) Clean the Bay Day | Mike Moore

Mike Moore gave the Commission updates regarding this upcoming event and explained that they need more volunteers, especially zone captains, desperately. There have been only 300-350 sign ups (versus 1,000+ in previous years.)

#### 2) Litter Kits | Kristi Rines

Kristi Rines gave an update on the Little Kit "check out" from the VB Public Libraries. Each kit contains bucket, 4 litter grabbers and 4 safety vests. VB Residents can receive kits from any library for an undisclosed length of time. Commissioner Sandra Shinabarger was instrumental in promoting litter kit awareness.

The Litter Kits are a partnership between PW Stormwater Division, VB Public Libraries, PW Waste Management and the Virginia Beach Clean Community Commission and anyone seeking to check out a kit should visit, [www.vbgov.com/VBPL\\_Catalog](http://www.vbgov.com/VBPL_Catalog) and search "LITTER Kits"



### 3) Litter Index | Kristi Rines

Kristi gave an overview of the purpose for collecting this data. This index provides metrics that help determine the impact of litter on quality of life in the community. It helps set goals and develop effective community involvement education programs and projects. Mid-June is the target date to start exploring the City and litter amounts.

### 4) Executive Order 17 (2022) | Kristi Rines

Kristi reviewed the Executive Order signed by Governor Glenn Youngkin and what's included and its effects on Virginia businesses.

## Old Business

### 1) Single-Use Plastic Bags Legislation Update | Kristi Rines

Councilman Tower and City Manager were briefed on the issue of the plastic bag fee. Plans for a more formal brief to entire council is planned on 6/7 or later. The Public Meeting and vote is planned for mid-July. The VB Clean Community Commission can submit a letter of support to our councilmember.

*Lon Carpenter, Vice Chair made a motion.*

**MOTION:** I move that VB Clean Community Commission Chair, Edna Baehre-Kolovani will draft a letter on behalf of the Commission to VB City Councilman and Commission Liaison, N.D. "Rocky" Holcomb in support of the Single-Use Plastic Bags Legislation.

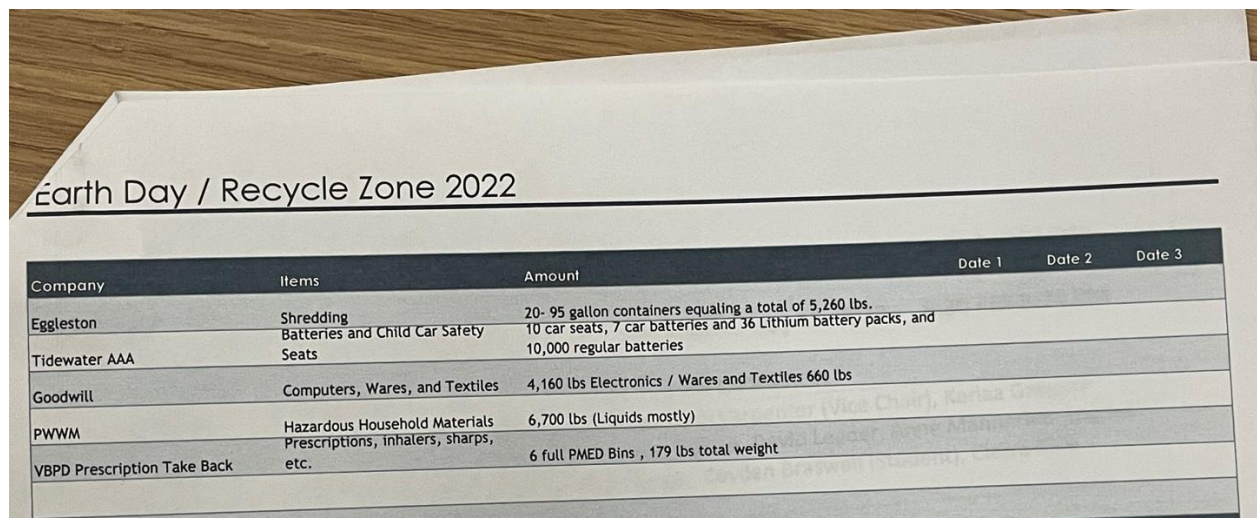
**The Motion Carried**

### 2) Great American Clean-up | Kristi Rines & Mike Moore

Kristi & Mike reviewed the Great American Cleanup and informed the Commission that 15,835 lbs. of litter were collected by 51 volunteers in 2 hours. The volunteers focused their efforts on the following areas: Rock Church, Indian River Rd, Drift Tide Condos, Thalia Creek, Town Center, Shadowlawn, Mt. Trashmore

### 3) Earth Day Recycle Zone & Celebration Event | Mike Moore

Mike reviewed the event and informed the Commission that this was the first Earth Day Celebration since 2019. There were about 40 volunteers at the Earth Day Recycle Zone and below are the details on what was collected.



Earth Day / Recycle Zone 2022

Company	Items	Amount	Date 1	Date 2	Date 3
Eggleston	Shredding	20- 95 gallon containers equaling a total of 5,260 lbs.			
Tidewater AAA	Batteries and Child Car Safety Seats	10 car seats, 7 car batteries and 36 Lithium battery packs, and 10,000 regular batteries			
Goodwill	Computers, Wares, and Textiles	4,160 lbs Electronics / Wares and Textiles 660 lbs			
PWWM	Hazardous Household Materials	6,700 lbs (Liquids mostly)			
VBPD Prescription Take Back	Prescriptions, inhalers, sharps, etc.	6 full PMED Bins , 179 lbs total weight			

## Commissioner & Staff Reports

### 1) Earth Day 2022 Report from Earth Day Committee | Mike Moore

There were about 30+ vendors at the Earth Day event at Mt. Trashmore and Mike assumed there were about 2500-3000 people in attendance. This event was very successful, and he has some ideas on improvements for 2023, and encourages everyone to honestly answer the post-event survey.

### 2) Community Outreach & Education – Kristi Rines

#### a. VBCCC Individual Commissioner's Reports

- i. **Anne Mannarino** thanked everyone for support at Earth Day. She noted that she met with Elementary Curriculum Coordinator to set up environmental workshops.
- ii. **Dianna McDowell** gave kudos to Mike Moore for mentoring some of her students and their Fisheries project. Her students established a student Surfrider chapter and have been active at their Adopt-a-Spot.
- iii. **Cayden Braswell**, Student Commissioner, informed us that bill HB1249, was signed by the Governor and passed unanimously by the House and Senate.
- iv. **Sandra Shinabarger** informed us the guidelines on storm drain marking and noted that there is a high need of volunteers to go around the City to mark them.

### Notice of Upcoming Meetings & Events (Subject to COVID Regulations)

- a. Clean the Bay Day – June 4
- b. VBCCC Meeting – July 14, 6:30pm
- c. Other scheduled VBCCC Meetings are every other month, on 2<sup>nd</sup> Thursday September 8, and November.

Adjournment 8:18 PM

