

**Virginia Council for Litter Prevention and Recycling  
Minutes from Executive Board Meeting on February 7, 2008**

Present: Megan Brown, PD 15

Dan Baxter, Newport News

Julie May, PD 16

Patty Averett, PD 14

Clara Mills, PD 16

Ann Masters, Clean Valley Council

Sheila Barnett, DEQ

Mark White, PD 15

Deborah Everitt, Newport News

Vicki Nixon, PD 13

Rosemary Byrne, PD 8

Nancy Drumheller, DEQ

Roscoe Evans, PD 15

Mary Walton, PD 18

**Welcome and Roll Call:**

President Julie May called the regular meeting to order at 10:35 A.M. Everyone introduced themselves and a sign in sheet was circulated during the meeting.

**Executive Board Business:**

Approval of Minutes: The minutes of the November 7, 2007, meeting were approved by unanimous vote.

Treasurer's Report: A report by Megan Brown, Treasurer, was distributed, showing a balance on hand of \$1,633.34. The vote to accept the report as read was unanimous.

**Old Business:**

New Litter Control Organization - Clara Mills

Clara reported that she had attended the meeting in Charlottesville in November held to decide if a litter control association should be formed in Virginia and volunteered to serve on the steering committee for this new association. During subsequent teleconferences Clara stated that she and others stressed that the steering committee should choose a name with "enforcement" in the title to prevent confusion with our organization the Virginia Council for Litter Prevention and Recycling. The new association was also offered the opportunity to form under our umbrella since we are an established 501(c)3 organization. During a teleconference that Clara was unable to participate in, the name "Virginia Litter Control Association" was chosen for the new organization. Clara was disturbed by this and called Greg Cross to voice her disapproval. Julie May had also spoken with Greg Cross and he had sent her a letter inviting our council, and eleven other groups, to join their organization. He said the group is mainly intended to be a forum for the litter control officers involved with the Assign-A-Highway program and is not intended to compete with our council. However, many members of our council feel that the name chosen will cause an identity crises and confuse everyone. Rosemary suggested that we develop an opinion and contact the organization. It was decided that Julie will send the association a letter declining their invitation to join their group with an explanation of why and once again offer them the opportunity to join our organization if they change their name.

#### DEQ Update - Sheila Barnett

Sheila reported that the recycling rate reporting form is on the DEQ website and each jurisdiction needs to complete its report and submit it to DEQ by April 30, 2008. She and Steve are also working on a power point presentation to assist localities in preparing their reports.

Sheila passed around copies of pending legislation involving litter and recycling issues for everyone's information. The problem of plastic bags is being addressed. Ann Masters suggested that we contact our local grocery stores to suggest they offer permanent grocery bags to their customers with the store name on them. She thought they might be willing to do it to get their name into people's homes.

#### Conference Committee - Clara Mills and Rosemary Byrne

Clara and Rosemary visited the Hilton Garden Inn in Fredericksburg and thought it would be a very nice facility at which to hold our fall conference. The Inn has an indoor pool, work-out room and restaurant. Clara suggested that the conference be held there on October 22, 23 and 24. They booked 25 rooms at a room rate of \$89.00. They also reserved the Washington Room which will seat about 60 people. They are working on speakers and sessions and would like to plan a special program for Thursday night. There will only be one track offered this year. Registration fees will be around \$95.00. They asked that members e mail them with suggestions for sessions and speakers. They would also like to have a silent auction again to raise money. Vicki Nixon made a motion to approve their plans for the conference and to move forward with same. The motion was seconded and unanimously approved.

#### Special Project Grant - Rosemary Byrne

Rosemary reported that we received a \$54,000.00 grant, which was \$6,000.00 more than we had expected, to purchase and distribute Premium items. She first sent out an e mail to everyone asking what items they wanted. She then sent out a second e mail asking everyone to list their top five choices. The items selected were the notepads made from recycled paper with litter prevention and recycling tips on the front and back covers, recycled pencils made from denim and old currency, automobile litter bags, and permanent fabric grocery bags. Rosemary asked the council what logos they would like on the items and suggested the previously used "Litter - It Just Isn't Natural". For the pencils other suggestions were "It didn't take a tree to make me" and "This pencil contains \$7.30 of money" for the one made from recycled currency. It was suggested that the words "made from recycled materials" be added to the notepads. There was a concern that there is no longer any place in cars to hang the litter bags. A couple of suggestions included hanging them from the gear shift or from the head rests of the seats, especially if the head rests are the removable kind. Everyone liked Rosemary's "Litter Stinks" design with a skunk for the litter bags with "Litter- It Just

Isn't Natural" added as well. The council also liked the vine design on the fabric grocery bag if it is available with possibly "BYOB - Bring Your Own Bag" added. Rosemary will discuss these options with the supplier and make appropriate choices. She will send out one more e mail asking everyone if they want the items. They will then be drop shipped to everyone, hopefully within the next month.

#### **New Business:**

Vicki Nixon

Vicki reported that she is a member of a steering committee from her area that is developing a group to address rural and farming litter issues such as pesticide disposal, etc. These are issues facing communities in her area that may not be pertinent for the entire state. She will work to prevent the new group from competing with our council.

#### **Networking:**

Ann Masters passed around a video pen that has six revolving messages in the pen and one on the barrel. The pens coast around \$1.08/each.

Rosemary reported that she had finally mailed the clock bought for Joe Robbins for his retirement after several failed attempts to present the clock to him. She read his thank you note to the group. Nancy Drumheller will work on a Joe Robbins award to be presented at our fall conference.

Megan Brown would like to have an e mail list of active members. We also discussed the need to update our e mail list and had everyone present write down their current e mail address.

Nancy Drumheller offered to include any information we wanted her to in her monthly VA Naturally newsletter. She also mentioned that there are several regional environmental networks listed on her website if anyone is interested in getting involved in one in their area.

Megan passed around a poster idea.

A new environmentally friendly cleaner called Green Works is available at Kmart.

The date for the next meeting was discussed. Megan will check to see if the same location is available on June 12 or 26 and everyone will be notified by e mail.

The meeting was adjourned at 12:10 P.M.