

Minutes
Take Palmetto Pride Where You Live Litter Commission
Conference Call
August 25, 2020 10:00 am

The meeting of the Litter Commission was a conference call at 10:00 am, August 25, 2020. Notice of the date, time and location of the meeting was posted.

Members in Attendance:

Robert J. Boyles Jr. – SCDNR Director / Chairman presided meeting; Allen Hutto – SCDOT, John Wienges, Jr. – SCAC, Melissa Harrell – MASC, Sarah Lyles – PalmettoPride, Mallory Coffey – KSCB, Capt. Brad Hughes – SCPS, Tonnya Kohn – SCCA, Jill McCain – SCTA
SC Department of Natural Resources staff included Robert McCullough, Amanda Stroud and Valerie Shannon

Members Not in Attendance:

Deborah Parker – SC Department of Probation & Parole, Ike Gray – SC Department of Corrections and Jarrod Bruder – SC Sherriff’s Association

I. Call to Order

The meeting was called to order by Boyles at 10:03 am.

II. Survey Results & Next Initiatives

Boyles asked Shannon to report on the litter survey that was distributed to Commission members to determine the next initiatives and priorities in the next two years. No suggestions were provided; Boyles made an official request for Shannon to develop a list of suggestions by the first of the year.

A brief discussion surrounding the ban on plastic bags followed. Harrell stated MASC will continue to work during the 2021 legislative session to address the ban on plastic bags and will focus on the jurisdiction of these bans with keeping control at the local level. Lyles and Hutto reminded the Commission of the political nature of the plastic bag ban issue. Boyles furthered with an inquiry into the status of the DHEC plastics study.

Lyles proposed looking at the current decline statewide in recycling and proposed looking at local recycling efforts.

Robert Boyles again asked commission members to think about potential initiatives to work on for the 2022 Legislative Report.

III. 2020 Legislative Report

The first draft of the legislative report was emailed for review and comment. Additional comments from Palmetto Pride and Keep America Beautiful of South Carolina will be incorporated.

Absolute last date for additional comments is September 5, 2020.

Boyles asked for a motion to approve the Legislative Report with any further revisions received by September 5th. Motion made, seconded, and approved.

IV. New Members / Introductions

McCullough introduced four replacement members:

Jill McCain - Trucking Association of SC, replaced Tucker McGee

John Wienges - Association of Counties, replaced Josh Rhodes

Melissa Harrell – Municipal Association of SC, replaced Tiger Wells

Brad Hughes – SC Department of Public Safety, replaced Major Jones Campbell

V. New Business / Comments

PalmettoPride gave kudos to PPP for their assistance on communicate service projects and is working to finalize dates from some community waterway cleanups.

KABSC has completed their litter index in which the index floor was lowered; KABSC received a \$20,000 grant to purchase cigarette butt disposal bins which are used to create recycled benches and other products that provide education and marketing throughout the community.

SCDOT has incorporated litter pick up into mowing contracts – which may be a factor in the reduced legislative complaints that have been seen recently.

SCDNR reported the annual River Sweep and Beach Sweep have been canceled due to COVID restrictions.

SCDNR with the increase in PPE litter being seen in parking lots and on roadways, does the Commission need to do any outreach to provide guidance for litter pick-up.

VI. Time and Location of next meeting

The next meeting has been scheduled for November 5, 2020 at 10:00 AM

VII. Adjournment

Meeting adjourned at 10:29 am