



Collierville Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

Meeting: August 9, 2022 6:34-7:42PM

Public Service Facility, 500 Keough Rd

Agenda

1. Call to order at 6:34pm

a. Board members present:

- | | |
|--------------------|-----------------------------|
| ✓ Paul Brister | ✓ Bryan Huntington |
| ✓ Mary Urrutia | ✓ Michelle Obenour |
| ✓ Orpheus Triplett | ✓ Sheila Bentley (via zoom) |
| ✓ Grant Gates | |

2. Board members unable to attend:

Kathryn Martin

Josh Russell

3. July meeting minutes approved as is.

Active Items

1. Community Summit Series

a. Invasive Plants

- Many speakers have prior obligations due to the hummingbird festival.
- Paul, Sheila and Kathryn** - sub-committee to book speakers. Once we have speakers, we can book the library (aim for Sep 22nd)

b. Recycling – Fall/Nov

- Bryan** - contact Amber to see if she is interested in speaking. 20 min talk on recycling guidelines and basics of how they handle the material on a Thursday in November
- Any other topics in addition to recycling guidelines that go with the recycling theme?
 - Composting – “recycling” food waste
 - Where to recycle items that cannot be collected curbside
- Overall goal of this talk is to spread the word about recycling guidelines since what we can recycle is limited.
 - How do we do this? – multiple info streams (HOAs, boy scouts, churches, social media, article in the paper...)
 - First, we will approach the HOAs:
 - Josh** - ask police department for email list of all town HOA contacts/presidents.
 - Mickey** – create write-up to HOA contacts. i.e. a lot has changed in recent years concerning what can/cannot be recycled, contamination is a huge issue especially around the holidays, we need help educating their communities, mention upcoming symposium and sanitation dept as resources for questions.
 - Paul** – create small handout with simplified recycling guidelines that can be attached to the email and/or printed out

- d. **Josh** – preferably, this messaging should come from the town, so it looks official and is taken seriously. If Josh doesn't want to email this info out, could we have a CEC@collierville.gov email account? (a no-reply account?)
- c. Beekeeping and fireflies / Insects - Spring
- 2. Milk carton campaign
 - a. Update on national/local programs or scalable model for recycling milk cartons:
 - i. Recyclecartons.com has a startup guide and grants available. Only barrier is finding a recycler to accept the material (Memphis does not recycle milk cartons)
 - 1. The city of Bartlett recycling center is the closest facility that recycles those items
 - 2. **Josh** - contact the Bartlett recycling center to see this is an option
- 3. Social media campaign idea:
 - a. Publish the town's tonnage numbers regarding waste, recycling, tree trimmings and brush, etc... with some goals for improvement each quarter (smaller percentage of overall waste going to landfill)
 - b. **Josh** – collect these figures and anything you think might be useful for social media
 - c. Bryan mentioned an issue with brush and trash not being properly separated when out on the curb.
 - i. **All CEC members** - If you see a house that has the bins and a few items/piles neatly separated, i.e. trash bin, recycle bin, clean brush, trash that doesn't fit in the bin (i.e. couches) – take a picture! We can use it for social media as a what to do vs what not to do.
- 4. Recycling Education –Fall events at elementary schools
 - a. Josh's feedback from elementary schools: reached out to LeAnn who seemed excited to roll it into STEM program/curriculum. He is still waiting to hear back with more info as to what this type of program could look like.
 - b. **Bryan** - also reach out to Amber for more education ideas.
- 5. Dark Sky / Streetlights
 - a. **Josh** - Update on city's consultant assessment (objectives / outcomes?)
 - b. MLGW is converting all their streetlights to LED bulbs.
 - c. **Paul** – call MLGW to determine type of streetlights (in line with our goals from the dark sky initiative?)
- 6. Tree Canopy - (Brant Sollis 901-457-2347 / Carrie Phillips 901-457-2357)
 - a. Tree canopy update
 - b. Educational / Awareness campaign (website, communications, interactive maps, etc)

Ongoing

- 7. Budget - \$2000
- 8. Town Updates
- 9. New Business & Tracking of Completed Projects
 - a. **Paul** - Development of a CEC Calendar
 - i. add Tree City USA designation, when to advertise/elect student committee member, on the Square booth registration, re-certification of Arboretum at Johnson Park, etc...
 - b. **Mickey** – keep digging on glass recycling opportunities in the city. Call Standard construction and EPlax.
- 10. Adjournment 7:42pm

2022 Completed Projects

- 1. Great Backyard Bird Count (COMPLETED)
- 2. Arbor Day Tree Planting (COMPLETED)
- 3. Fair on the Square (COMPLETED)
- 4. Recycle Saturday (COMPLETED)
- 5. Community Summit Series – Star Light, Star Bright (COMPLETED)