



Collierville Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

Meeting: November 8, 2022 6:30-8:14PM

Public Service Facility, 500 Keough Rd

Agenda

1. Call to order at 6:30pm

- | | |
|------------------|--------------------|
| ✓ Sheila Bentley | ✓ Michelle Obenour |
| ✓ Paul Brister | ✓ Orpheus Triplett |
| ✓ Grant Gates | ✓ Mary Urrutia |
| ✓ Kathryn Martin | ✓ Billy Wilson |

a. Board members unable to attend:

Josh Russell

2. October meeting minutes approved as is.

Active Items

1. Recycling Education

- a. Leanne Rainey to attend a future meeting to discuss recycling education?
b. Any feedback from elementary schools / STEM / Timing

2. Community Summit Series (all 6-8pm at the library)

a. March 9th - Bees and monarch butterflies

i. Speakers:

1. **Paul** – contact Chief Abelin – bees
2. **Kathryn** – contact Mary Schmidt – monarch butterflies (Lichterman)

b. June 8th – Fireflies and natural pest control/ecofriendly lawn control/composting

i. Speakers:

1. **Kathryn** – contact Charity Seebert - fireflies
2. **Paul** – contact Brian Mason – Asst Manager at Parks and Rec 901-508-2626
3. **Mickey** – contact TN composting council

c. Sep 14th - Trees and leaves

i. Speakers:

1. **Paul** – contact Wes Hopper

d. Nov 9th – Recycling, Sustainability / Energy conservation

i. Speakers:

1. **Paul** – contact Amber, Chester County recycle facility
2. **Paul** – contact TVA (home energy audit)

e. So far, only 3-4 people on waitlist, but if we advertise earlier and get 15+ people on waitlist we could move over to city hall.

3. Paper bags vs plastic for curbside lawn waste

a. Goal: To divert plastic bags of leaves and other yard waste going to the landfill. How do we work towards this?

- i. **Paul, Josh, Billy** – sit down to determine what could work and how the process would run

- ii. Petition Mayor and Board with plan and/or invite Alderman Marshall to a meeting to gain support

4. Dark Sky / Streetlights

- a. Paul spoke with town engineer; PATH is the streetlight consulting company that counted/mapped them (~7900 total). Town's goal is to buy back the streetlights from MLGW, however not agreed upon between MLGW and city yet. LED upgrades are in the discussion. We should get locations of test sites in the next few weeks.
- b. Kathryn – contact Charity for her PowerPoint presentation and more information on dark sky initiatives and possibly get her help in writing a letter and creating a presentation for the Mayor and Board.
- c. Plan to get on Mayor and Board schedule in Jan/Feb to present our information.

5. Milk carton campaign

- a. Kathryn emailed family and they were thankful we were still researching and trying to find solutions.
- b. TerraCycle – Cost prohibitive and therefore not a viable option.

6. 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. **Paul** – ask Jennifer Casey to post the loose-leaf collection video and information
- c. **Mickey** – write post for Dec (eco friendly gift wrapping) and send to Paul to send to Jennifer
- d. Other ideas to add to social media calendar:
 - i. Life cycle of a leaf or plastic bag
 - ii. “If you see something, say something” – call the police non-emergency line if you see trucks not covered and garbage flying out of the truck

7. Tree Canopy - (Brant Sollis 901-457-2347 / Carrie Phillips 901-457-2357)

- a. New town horticulturist / Arboretum certification / sign replacement update
- b. Educational / Awareness campaign (website, communications, interactive maps, etc)

8. Fair on the Square – 2023

- a. If we determine how paper bags for lawn waste will work before May, we could have branded paper bags available to hand out and advertise paper vs plastic usage.
- b. Handouts: life cycle of plastic bag, or life cycle of a leaf bagged in plastic vs picked up for compost.

9. Recycle Saturday - April 2023

Ongoing

10. Budget - \$1800

11. Town Updates

12. New Business & Tracking of Completed Projects

- a. Calendar is complete
 - i. Have a space in the calendar to attend a Mayor and Board meeting to inform them of what we are doing / would like to achieve and gather their ideas.
- b. Any certifications for ecofriendly or plastic free communities? - research this to jumpstart several ideas:
 - i. Movement away from single use items in school lunches
 - ii. Convince local businesses to switch to paper bags and stop using plastic
 - iii. HOA competitions / certifications for ecofriendly practices
 - iv. Lawn maint companies should use paper vs plastic to bag lawn waste

13. Adjournment 8:14pm

2022 Completed Projects

- | | |
|--|--|
| 1. Great Backyard Bird Count (COMPLETED) | 4. Fair on the Square (COMPLETED) |
| 2. Tree City Designation Renewal (COMPLETED) | 5. Recycle Saturday (COMPLETED) |
| 3. Arbor Day Tree Planting (COMPLETED) | 6. Summit Series – Star Light, Star Bright (COMPLETED) |