



Collierville Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

Meeting: July 11, 2023 6:33-8:00PM

Public Service Facility, 500 Keough Rd

Agenda

1. Call to order at 6:33pm
2. Board members in attendance:
 - ✓ Sheila Bentley
 - ✓ Paul Brister
 - ✓ Brian Huntington
 - ✓ Edgar Jimenez
 - ✓ Kathryn Martin
 - ✓ Michelle Obenour
 - ✓ Mary Urrutia
3. Board members unable to attend:
Bethany Schmidt, Clay Ticer
4. June 2023 meeting minutes approved as is.
5. We welcomed two guests, thank you for coming!

Active Items

1. Community Summit Series
 - a. Sep 14 – Residential tree care and maintenance (Wes Hopper), and Loose-leaf collection (Brian Huntington).
 - i. **Kathryn** will contact the library to change times to 6pm
 - ii. Event at Morton Museum about trees and leaves, this Thurs 2pm.
 - b. Nov 9 - Sustainability / recycling (Amber) and Energy Conservation (TVA)
 - c. Possibility to partner with the Morton Museum for next year's Summit Series.
2. Conservation Corner
 - a. July Topic (**Paul**) – Water reduction measures, lawn watering tips, clothes/dish washing, etc
 - b. August Topic (**Sheila**) - Reminder to use reusable shopping bags and list locations where plastic shopping bags can be dropped off.
 - c. **Clay** – post all conservation corner writeups to our website.
 - i. Website needs to be updated. Link through boards and commissions is updated, keep the link on the public services page but it should link to this same page that is updated.
3. Composting Update
 - a. Atlas Organics is shutting down their organics collection division.
 - b. Mike Larivee – sustainability manager for the Works – Appears he will be taking over the operation. He owned / operated the Compost Fairy before it was bought by Atlas Organics.
 - c. Composting opportunities for Collierville? **Paul** will contact Mike to see if this is still an option.
5. Grant opportunities for CEC to pursue:
 - a. Glass <https://www.glassrecyclingfoundation.org/grants>
 - i. Deadline is early July 2024
 - b. TN - Community Tree Planting Program (TAEP) (Next Year – trees in Halle Park)
<https://www.tn.gov/agriculture/forests/urban/community-tree-planting-program.html>

- i. Deadline for this is early June 2024. Let's invite the town horticulturalist to create our plan for this application. She will attend a meeting if it is at 3:30pm.
 - c. TN Dept of Environment and Conservation has numerous grants, funds could be used for:
 - i. Sanitation truck for recycle collection.
 - ii. Prairie Robotics has an AI device that attaches to the recycle truck that flags contamination. It takes a picture of it and even sends a postcard to the residence letting them know about the specific items that are considered contamination.
 - iii. Educational garbage and recycle information/wrap on trucks with items to recycle or not.
 - d. Safe routes to school grants
 - i. <https://www.transportation.gov/mission/health/Safe-Routes-to-School-Programs>
 - ii. Could get town transportation/planning support.
- 6. Tree Canopy & Town Ordinances -
 - a. Intro to the Collierville Tree Ordinances (part 1 of 3), some areas for improvement:
 - i. Add town horticulturalist to part A, "staff that has decision."
 - ii. Change verbiage to "protection of existing tree canopy," specifically the agricultural use exemption.
 - iii. Raise the number of trees required to be planted, could be one for one, rather than one tree replaced for every two existing removed.
 - b. **Goal for next meeting:** Read tree ordinances. What can we change that will make sense for all parties. Look at other city's tree ordinances to guide our changes.

Ongoing

- 4. Budget - \$2000
- 5. Town Updates
- 6. New Business & Tracking of Completed Projects
- 7. Adjournment 8:00pm