

**MINUTES**  
**City of Carbondale Sustainability Commission**  
**Thursday, September 20, 2012**  
**City Hall / Civic Center – 6:00 p.m.**

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1. **Roll Call:** Mr. Wodika called the meeting to order at 6:05 p.m.
- Members Present:** Ms. Romaine Wagner, Ms. Trotter, Mr. Wodika, Mr. Stewardson, , Mr. Beck, Mr. Kunath, Ms. Pimental
- Members Absent:** Mr. Monty, Mr. Bobell
- Staff Present:** Loren Polley
- Others Present:** Mr. W. Stephen Thayer of SIMEC, Ms. Kathleen Shafner, Mr. Tasis Karayannis of Southern Illinois Recycling

**Minutes:** Motion by Mr. Kunnath, second by Mr. Wodika to approve the August 16, 2012, minutes. Approved unanimously.

2. **Communications:**

Review of the March, 2012 Status Report of the Former Koppers Wood-Treating Site. The commission missed the March site visit by Arcadis, Beazer and Green Earth. Another visit will likely take place with City officials and Beazer in September and commissioners will have the opportunity to be involved. Contact is made and no date for visit has been established yet.

3. **Old Business:**

**Energy Committee** – Energy Aggregation has been the focus of the committee and Wodika presented a draft for comments and input on a recommendation to present to City Council to place a voter initiative on the November ballot in support of City residents adopting energy aggregation. The City Attorney will be consulted regarding the wording and timing of the resolution for Council. The energy aggregation was voted on. Aur was to get information on the Energy Aggregation. Mr. W. Stephen Thayer attended the meeting from the SIMEC company and discussed energy aggregation. His company would educate as well as promote the energy aggregation. They help the city form a plan, go out and bid, as well as find providers. This requires a year contract to SIMEC. Need to get these energy aggregation companies to an upcoming city council meeting.

**Bike Path /Green Space Committee** – Still no word on the outcome of the SIU Green Fund Proposal for the SIUC/Carbondale Bike and Pedestrian Path submitted in March. The City is in negotiations with the Canadian National Railroad to acquire several parcels of real estate to secure ownership of the land for the planned pathway. There has been some developments on the bicycle trail that I wanted to share. Chris Wallace and the City's Planning Division has recently completed another grant proposal for the bicycle/pedestrian path. It is an Illinois Transportation Enhancement Program (ITEP) proposal, which is through IDOT. The proposal is asking for a grant of \$335,950. As part of the proposal, matching funds include the \$66,000 already

committed from the university (the SIU green fund grant) and the city is committing another \$84,000 . If the proposal is successful, it will complete Phase I of the project (which will result in the development of the path and green space extending from Mill Street to Main Street). Phase II would take place after the completion of phase I, connecting the path from Mill St. to the SIU overpass. We hope know whether the proposal was successful sometime in October, which is when the grants are scheduled to be awarded. If it is unsuccessful, City plans remain to impliment the project, albeit at a slower pace. Need more promotions for the more bike paths. A bike path to the Superblock water park was also mentioned. Need safe paths around town. Need a good and solid comprehensive plan. Need more input on where to properly place bike lanes or paths.

**Recycling Committee** – Discussions continue on options for apartments to recycle . Jackson County Health Dept. is conducting a survey on recycling at several apartment complexes in Carbondale. The committee would like to see stricter volume limits on trash as a way to encourage more recycling. Discussions continue on community based and commercial composting possibilities. A possible Styrofoam ban was mentioned. All in favor of requesting the survey. Need a proposal to the council on the Governor’s ban on plastic bags. Mr. Wodika made the motion for the proposal, Mr. Stewardson made a second, all in favor. Mr. Kunnath will contact Portland for education on how they began the move toward their plastic bag ban. Send emails to the Chamber of Commerce as well as Carbondale Main Street for any thoughts on how Styrofoam can be used less and hopefully banned all together. Styrofoam ban needs to be a top priority. Mr. Kunnath made up a draft letter for the business recycling collaboration of Jimmy Johns, Stix, Wise Guys, Hangar, etc. Mr. Karayannis came to the meeting to discuss Southern Illinois Recycling’s postion on Styrofoam and a possible increase in plastic recycling.

4. **New Business:** Subcommittee meetings are moved to the first Thursday of the month. Recommend to city council about energy aggregation company presentations at a council meeting.
5. **Adjournment:**

With no further business to be conducted Mr. Wodika adjourned the meeting at 7:30 PM.

Respectively submitted by Loren K. Polley, City of Carbondale Staff Liaison