



**CARBONDALE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**

Thursday May 18<sup>th</sup>, 2023 - 5:00PM

The Carbondale Civic Center – Room 103  
200 S. Illinois Avenue, Carbondale IL

**AGENDA**

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- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call**
- 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes:** April 20<sup>th</sup>, 2023
- 3. Citizen Comments and Questions**
- 4. Presentations**
  - a. Southern Illinois University (SIU) Climate Action Plan: Overview by Justin Harrell
- 5. Report of Officers, Committees, and Communications**
  - a. Sustainability Coordinator Monthly Progress Report (L. Becker, attached)
  - b. Federal, State, and Local Policy Landscape Report (J. Cogie)
  - c. Former Koppers Wood Treatment Site Report (A. Beck)
- 6. Old Business**
- 7. New Business**
- 8. Announcements**
- 9. Adjournment**

Voting Members:

	Present	Absent	Comment
Treesong (Chair)			
Aur Beck (Vice Chair)			
Jane Cogie			
Kevin Clark			
Sarah Heyer			
Yoonseo Jung (Student)			
Isaac Ludington (Student)			
Gayle Klam			
Joan Davis			

Ex Officio Members:

	Present	Absent

City Staff:

	Present	Absent
Lauren Becker (Staff Liaison)		

Community Members Present:



**CARBONDALE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**

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200 S. Illinois Avenue, Carbondale IL

**MINUTES**

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Voting Members:

	Present	Absent	Comment
Aur Beck (Chair)	x		
Jane Cogie	x		
Kevin Clark		x	
Sarah Heyer	x		
Yoonseo Jung (Student)	x		
Isaac Ludington (Student)	x		
Treesong	x		
Gayle Klam		x	
Joan Davis	x		

Ex Officio Members:

	Present	Absent
Tom Grant (City Councilmember)	x	

City Staff:

	Present	Absent
Lauren Becker (Staff Liaison)	x	

Community Members Present: Aimee Lemrise (Director of Sustainability at SIU), Pheral Lamb, & Ben Mendez

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call** (5:00pm)
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** March 16<sup>th</sup>, 2023 (J. Cogie moved, I. Ludington seconded. Chair Beck ensured unanimous consent)
3. **Citizen Comments and Questions** (None)
4. **Presentations**
  - a. Onboarding our newest commission member – Welcome Joan Davis!
    - i. Introductions all around (Name & why you joined the commission)
  - b. Energy Sovereignty, Security, & Democracy (L. Becker)  
Presentation provides a cursory look at a proposal that will come before the newly appointed City Council for consideration and directive May 23<sup>rd</sup>, 2023 This proposal capitalizes on the “direct pay” provision of the Inflation Reduction Act through the Investment Tax Credit (ITC)
5. **Report of Officers, Committees, and Communications**
  - a. Sustainability Coordinator Monthly Progress Report (L. Becker, attached)
  - b. Federal, State, and Local Policy Landscape Report (J. Cogie)
  - c. Former Koppers Wood Treatment Site Report (A. Beck)

**6. Old Business**

**7. New Business**

Conduct Annual Vote on Chair & Vice-Chair

L. Becker opened the floor for nominations for Chair. S. Heyer nominated Treesong. Treesong accepted. A. Beck motioned to vote Treesong in as Chair. J. Cogie seconded. Treesong was appointed through unanimous voice vote.

L. Becker opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chair. Treesong nominated A. Beck. A. Beck accepted. Treesong motioned to vote A. Beck in as Vice Chair. J. Cogie seconded. A. Beck was appointed through unanimous voice vote.

**8. Announcements** (Earth month events coming up, Text Amendments to support community gardens and pollinator-supportive landscaping passed through City Council unanimously)

**9. Adjournment**

Treesong entertained a motion to adjourn. J. Davis so moved. Adjourned at 6:08pm

Good afternoon everyone,

The following will serve as my Sustainability Coordinator report of progress for the month of April 2023. As always please don't hesitate to reach out with questions and comments.

**Table of Contents:**

1. Uncategorized Updates
  2. Energy Sovereignty, Security, & Democracy Proposal
  3. GHG Emissions Tracking & Reporting (ICLEI ClearPath)
  4. Community Gardens & Pollinator-supportive Landscape Code Review & Revision
  5. City Sustainability Commission
  6. Jackson County Communities LEAP Pilot Program
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1. Uncategorized Updates
    - Continued regular check-ins with Wade Halva, Faith in Place
    - Continued regular check-ins with Justin Harrell, SIU Facilities & Energy Maintenance
    - Continued bi-weekly check ins with student intern Courtney McGowan, SIUC
    - Continued bi-weekly check ins with Gary Williams, City Manager
    - Presented to the League of Women Voters on progress toward the City of Carbondale Sustainability Action Plan 4/5
    - Attended Technical Assistance to Brownfields (TAB) 101 Presentation for Carbondale, Marion, & Murphysboro 4/12
    - Attended the Southern Illinois Multi Modal Station Ameren Incentive Results Meeting, during which the design team and Project Manager Mark Bollmann selected Package 2 4/12
    - Participated in the 9<sup>th</sup> Annual All Species Puppet Parade on Earth Day 4/22
    - Presented on progress implementing the Sustainability Action Plan during the “Community Climate Conversations” held at the All Species Puppet Parade 4/22
    - Was interviewed by Northern Illinois University student Ariane Willhoit on the synergy between waste management and policy 4/24
    - Attended the Urban and Community Forestry Inflation Reduction Act Webinar 4/25
  2. Energy Sovereignty, Security, & Democracy Proposal
    - Met with National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) Agrivoltaics Technical Assistance Team for intake to establish Technical Assistance deliverables. 4/4
    - Attended “Clean Energy to Communities C2C In-Depth Partnership Program Requests for Proposals Webinar 4/5
    - Conducted a Closed-loop Pumped Storage Hydro (PSH) follow-up with National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) Technical Assistance Team 4/6
    - Drafted, finalized, and submitted formal Concept Paper to the Office of Clean Energy Demonstrations (OCED) eXchange in partnership with the Village of Dowell requesting financial investment and technical assistance to support a new rural energy system model and self-sufficient energy sheds 4/14
    - Attended “Geothermal in the Midwest (Research Update on Geothermal Energy and its Potential Contribution to Clean Energy for Developing Communities) webinar offered by the University of Illinois Extension 4/17

- Checked-in with Jackson County Resource Coordinator Anthony Henson on energy sovereignty, security, and democracy proposal timeline 4/21
  - Attended “What the Inflation Reduction Act Means for Energy Communities” Webinar Series – Part Two 4/28
  - Reached out to Kelly Turner, with the Illinois Power Agency regarding Energy Sovereignty, Security, & Democracy Proposal 4/25
  - Reached out to Vice President of Strategy at the Great Plains Institute regarding Energy Sovereignty, Security, & Democracy Proposal, arranged a time to discuss 4/25
3. GHG Emissions Tracking & Reporting (ICLEI ClearPath)
    - Finalized the data in ICLEI ClearPath Software
    - Conducted collaborative QAQC (quality assurance check)
    - Began formalizing the findings in an easily accessible document/executive summary
  4. Community Gardens & Pollinator-supportive Landscaping Code Review & Revision
    - Presented PC 23-07 and PC 23-08 text amendments to support and encourage community gardens and pollinator-supportive landscape to the City of Carbondale Planning Commission, where they were passed 4/5
    - Sent out media notices surrounding PC 23-07 and PC 23-08 text amendments to support and encourage community gardens and pollinator-supportive landscape 4/18
    - Submitted PC 23-07 and PC 23-08 text amendments to support and encourage community gardens and pollinator-supportive landscape to Boarddocs for review 4/20
    - Met with members of “Food Autonomy” at the Red Hen Garden for conversation surrounding PC 23-07 text amendments to support and encourage community gardens 4/24
    - Attended the April 25<sup>th</sup> City Council meeting at which PC 23-07 and PC 23-08 text amendments to support and encourage community gardens and pollinator-supportive landscape were adopted unanimously. 4/25
    - Met with Adriane Koontz and Dan from “Food Autonomy” informally following the City Council meeting to provide further context and converse to a point of mutual understanding regarding PC 23-07 text amendments to support and encourage community gardens 4/25
  5. City Sustainability Commission
    - Held 4/20 meeting during which the Sustainability Commission was briefed on exploratory work surrounding City of Carbondale energy sovereignty, security, and democracy as related to the Federal Investment Tax Credit “Direct Pay” provision of the Inflation Reduction Act.
    - Held a walking check-in with newly appointed Chair Treesong 4/27
  6. Jackson County Communities LEAP Pilot Program
    - Met 4/13, 4/27
    - Received a presentation from specialists with the National Renewable Energy Lab (NREL) on Community Solar Best Practices for consideration.