



CARBONDALE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Thursday September 21st, 2023 - 5:00PM

Meet at the Carbondale Civic Center – Room 103
200 S. Illinois Avenue, Carbondale IL

We will carpool to Chautauqua Bottoms Nature Preserve
Parking Lot off W Chautauqua Rd.

AGENDA

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call**
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** August 17th, 2023
3. **Citizen Comments and Questions**
4. **Presentations**
5. **Report of Officers, Committees, and Communications**
 - a. Sustainability Coordinator Monthly Progress Report (L. Becker, attached)
 - b. Former Koppers Wood Treatment Site Report (A. Beck)
6. **Old Business**
7. **New Business**

Further Discussion Regarding Legislative Priorities of the Sustainability Commission
8. **Announcements**
9. **Adjournment**

Voting Members:

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

Ex Officio Members:

	Present	Absent
Vacant		

City Staff:

	Present	Absent
Lauren Becker (Staff Liaison)		

Community Members Present:



CARBONDALE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Thursday August 17th, 2023 - 5:00PM

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

MINUTES

Voting Members:

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

Ex Officio Members:

	Present	Absent
Vacant		

City Staff:

	Present	Absent
Lauren Becker (Staff Liaison)	x	

Community Members Present:

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call** (5:00pm)
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** July 20th, 2023 (Vice Chair Beck moved, G. Klam seconded)
3. **Citizen Comments and Questions** (None)
4. **Presentations** (None)
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, attached)
 - c. Former Koppers Wood Treatment Site Report (A. Beck, no updates)
6. **Old Business** (None)
7. **New Business**

Discussion on Legislative Priorities for the Carbondale Sustainability Commission

- Significant conversation surrounding communications with the wider Carbondale community. Questions were asked like: “Who are the contacts for the little groups that connect?” and “Who are the informal neighborhood contacts?”

- Discussion surrounding improvements to the chicken coop ordinance, which limits the number of coop permits. Vice Chair Beck notes that the city has never run out of coop permits to distribute. Discussion surrounding whether amendments to the ordinance should be made to permit ducks, quail, etc. in an effort to increase food sovereignty.
- Discussion surrounding “what the city allows versus what the city encourages”.
- Discussion surrounding hosting a Pollinator Day in April 2024, to promote University of Illinois Extension resources and city code improvements.
- Discussion surrounding new city-owned parks and whether demonstration plots and education could occur at these sites.
- It is identified that further discussion is necessary regarding legislative priorities.

8. Announcements

J. Davis recommended that the next meeting be a field trip through the [Green Earth Chautauqua Bottoms Nature Preserve](#). Chair Treesong ensured unanimous consent from the body. It was agreed that the commission would meet at the Civic Center and carpool to Chautauqua together for the next meeting.

Vice Chair Beck shared that the World Hunger Sale is happening on Saturday, the Friends of the Shawnee are seeking new members, and that if you are interested reach out.

9. Adjournment (5:50pm, J. Davis moved to adjourn. K. Clark seconded. Chair Treesong ensured unanimous consent)

Good afternoon everyone,

The following will serve as my Sustainability Coordinator report of progress for the month of August 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. Community Gardens & Pollinator-supportive Landscaping
 4. Stormwater Master Planning – Adaptation & Resilience
 5. City Sustainability Commission
 6. Jackson County Communities LEAP Community Coalition
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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-in with Gary Williams, City Manager
 - Began serving as a regular guest on Mike Baltz, newly hired Keep Carbondale Beautiful Executive Director, WDBX Radio Show “Seeing Green” to showcase sustainability updates for the City of Carbondale.
 - Attended the Southern Illinois Clean Heat Planning Meeting (8/2)
 - Provided a letter of support on behalf of the City of Carbondale to SIU Carbondale Associate Professor of Mechanical, Aerospace, and Materials Engineering James Mathias requesting DOE funding to establish a Building Training and Assessment Center (8/3)
 - Met with Aimee Lemrise, SIU Sustainability Director regarding collaboration and communication (8/9)
 - Presented to the Shawnee Group Sierra Club (8/10)
 - Attended a tour of the Southern Illinois Airport, discussed movement toward alternative fuels (8/11)
 - Attended “Climate Resilience for an Aging Nation: Danielle Arigoni” (8/22)
 - Attended “Safe Routes to School Webinar 2” (8/23)
 - Attended the “CommUNITY 150th Anniversary” (8/23)
 - Attended the Children’s Cabinet “Resilience” Film Showing Regarding Adverse Childhood Experiences (ACEs) (8/28)
 - Attended the WRI Fleet Electrification webinar (8/29)
 - Was asked to attend the Just Transition Fund National Convening in D.C. – respectfully declined due to the carbon emissions associated with the flights as a nonessential attendee
 2. Energy Sovereignty, Security, & Democracy Proposal
 - Attended “Investing in America: Climate Action Funding Fair – Electric Power” (8/7, 8/8)
 - Attended L4GG “Elective Pay & Tax Incentives for Eligible Entities 101: The What, When, and How” (8/9)
 - Attended “SLOPE Workshop 2 – Energy Efficiency” (8/10)
 - Consulted local ag producers Elycia & TJ over evening chores, discussing needs of especially sheep farmers in our region. I learned that the market for sheep meat is untapped in Southern

- Illinois, due to high demand in St. Louis and Carbondale. Increasing grazing land will allow local producers to increase their flocks. (8/11)
- Met with MeLena Hessel, Policy Director for Elevate to discuss the Energy Sovereignty, Security, and Democracy Proposal (8/16)
 - Attended the Energizing Rural Communities Prize: Partner Track Introductions (8/16)
 - Met with Just Transition Fund Application Ready Grant Consultant Ashley Badesch to discuss upcoming funding opportunities we qualify for (8/22)
 - Attended “The Path Forward: Customized Clean Energy Solutions for Communities” (8/24)
 - Attended “SLOPE Workshop 3 – Energy Justice” (8/24)
 - Met with and presented to Marshall Brown, Representative Bost’s staffer regarding the Energy Sovereignty, Security, & Democracy Proposal (8/25)
 - Met with Marisa Joyce of Elevate to discuss the Bright Neighborhoods Program (8/25)
 - Attended the Community-wide Bright Neighborhoods Info Session (8/29)
 - Met with Scott Carron (NREL) regarding the Energy Future Grants application (8/29)
 - Met with L4GG Jillian Blanchard and Lauren Thomson, who confirmed we will need separate legal representation for the City of Carbondale and the Village of Dowell, IL (8/31)
 - Began drafting World Resource Institute Ross Center Prize for Cities Application
3. Community Gardens & Pollinator-supportive Landscaping
- Took the Morton Arboretum’s on demand “Woodland Course” (8/3)
 - Attended the GoToWebinar “SOBL Managing Natural and Restored Prairie using Multi-layered Disturbances” (8/9)
 - Reached out to our community gardeners to see if they have interest in being added to the new interactive map we have on the City Sustainability page that shows residents where their nearest community garden is and how to get in touch with them
4. Stormwater Master Planning
- Met with Greater Egypt to review final draft of the Delta Regional Authority application for the comprehensive stormwater master plan (8/2)
 - Secured letters of support from FoodWorks, Keep Carbondale Beautiful, Green Earth, and the Chamber of Commerce.
 - Submitted the Delta Regional Authority application for the comprehensive stormwater master plan. (8/6)
 - Attended the GIGO TA Session (8/15)
5. City Sustainability Commission
- Held 8/17 meeting
6. Jackson County Communities LEAP Community Coalition
- Attended Jackson County C-LEAP meeting (8/3)
 - Attended Jackson County C-LEAP meeting (8/17)
 - Attended the Jackson County C-LEAP meeting (8/31)