



CARBONDALE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Thursday November 17th, 2022 - 5:00PM

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

MINUTES

Voting Members:

	Present	Absent	Comment
Aur Beck (Chair)	x		Attending virtually due to work conflict
Jane Cogie	x		
Kevin Clark		x	Excused due to work conflict
Sarah Heyer	x		
Yoonseo Jung (Student)	x		
Isaac Ludington (Student)		x	Excused due to illness
Treesong	x		
Vacant			
Vacant			

Ex Officio Members:

	Present	Absent
Tom Grant (City Councilmember)	x	

City Staff:

	Present	Absent
Lauren Becker (Staff Liaison)	x	

Community Members Present: Benjamin Mendez, Pheral Lamb, and Aidan Ali

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call (5:09pm)**
- 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes:** October 20th 2022, S. Heyer moved to approve, Treesong seconded. Interim Chair Cogie ensured unanimous approval.
- 3. Citizen Comments and Questions** The Commission received an introduction and overview surrounding a new community asset - the Library for Alternative Futures - by founders Pheral Lamb and Benjamin Mendez. The Library For Alternative Futures “Creates and shares materials for community resilience.” Pheral and Benjamin visited the Commission to learn how the Library and the Commission could connect. Pheral and Benjamin provided flyers about the L4AF. A tour of the Library collection can be scheduled by emailing L4AF@pm.me Information about the Library for Alternative Futures can also be found by contacting L4AF@pm.me
- 4. Presentations (None)**
- 5. Report of Officers, Committees, and Communications**
 - a. Sustainability Coordinator Monthly Progress Report (L. Becker, attached)**

S. Heyer asked for further information surrounding the extrapolation of solid waste data. Liaison Becker shared that they are having to base estimated total tonnage for the Carbondale city limits on

existing tonnage data provided by Public Works, given that other waste pickup service providers in the region do not measure tonnage based on city limits.

Community member Aidan Ali asked what tools are used to create optimistic forecasting models. Liaison Becker offered to share a physical copy or digital copy of the methodology used by ICLEI, the software provider we contract with.

S. Heyer asked how we can ensure Planning Staff incorporate the Sustainability Action Plan in their work? Can the Commission use memos to do this? Liaison Becker shared that whenever the Commission talks about Planning Staff – they’re also talking about Liaison Becker, because fifty percent of their position is Planning. Liaison Becker stressed the aptitude of the new Planning Team that has formed due to staffing changes, new hires, etc. – especially in the realm of equity and resiliency. “A lot of what we find in local government is decades and decades, dare I say a century of code (“the rules”) stacked on top of one other. And it becomes this, this gnarled mess that’s not protecting our community members. And some could argue that some of those rules were not put in place to protect our community members in the first place.” P. Lamb shared “so you’re going to need support from outside. Support from the constituency.” Liaison Becker agreed wholeheartedly about the importance of building relationship and “rowing in the same direction”.

P. Lamb brings up the need to access vulnerabilities and production capacity of our community. Liaison Becker agrees and shares that the Planning Team is exploring funding for a climate vulnerability assessment.

- b. Federal, State, and Local Policy Landscape Report (J. Cogie, attached – no additional comments)
- c. Former Koppers Wood Treatment Site Report (A. Beck – no additional comments)

6. Old Business

7. New Business

- a. Memorandum Recommending Council Action Re: Community Gardens (attached)

S. Heyer introduced the memorandum. P. Lamb asked whether the city could provide financial incentives to increase vacant lots use as community gardens. Liaison Becker said anything is open to exploration and this memorandum will be the first step.

- b. Memorandum Recommending Council Action Re: Mayors’ Monarch Pledge (attached)

Due to the timeframe of the Mayors’ Monarch Pledge window, S. Heyer moved to suspend the Bylaws to move the Memorandum Recommending Council Action Re: Mayors’ Monarch Pledge to “Old Business” in order to hear and vote on the memorandum with enough time for City staff to draft a proclamation for the City Council within the pledge window. A. Beck seconded and Interim Chair Cogie ensured that all members voted in support. Memorandum Recommending Council Action Re: Mayors’ Monarch Pledge was moved to “Old Business” S. Heyer introduced the memorandum. Treesong moved to vote. Y. Jung seconded. Interim Chair Cogie ensured unanimous passage.

8. Announcements

Liaison Becker shared that there are two vacancies in members for the Sustainability Commission. S. Heyer stressed ensuring sustainability measures surrounding the Community Housing Trust Bylaws. Liaison Becker provided a brief overview of “code” (what it is, how it works, and how it’s created).

9. Adjournment (6:32pm) S. Heyer moves to adjourn. Treesong seconds. Interim Chair Cogie adjourns.