



CARBONDALE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Thursday June 20th, 2024 - 5:00PM

Carbondale Civic Center – **Room 112**
200 S. Illinois Avenue, Carbondale IL

AGENDA

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call**
- 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes:** May 16th, 2024
- 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**
- 8. Announcements**
- 9. Adjournment**

Voting Members:

	Present	Absent	Comment
Treesong (Chair)			
Aur Beck (Vice Chair)			
Jane Cogie			
Kevin Clark			
Sarah Heyer			
Vacant (CCHS Student)			
Chaya Rice (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 May 16th, 2024 - 5:00PM

Carbondale Civic Center – Room 108
200 S. Illinois Avenue, Carbondale IL

MINUTES

Voting Members:

	Present	Absent	Comment
Treesong (Chair)	x		
Aur Beck (Vice Chair)	x		
Jane Cogie	x		
Kevin Clark	x		
Sarah Heyer	x		
Yoonseo Jung (CCHS Student)		x	
Chaya Rice (SIU 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: Becca Sullivan, Benjamin Mendez, Angie Kuehl (Jackson County Health Department Recycling Coordinator)

- 1. Call to Order and Roll Call (5:05pm)**
- 2. Approval of Meeting Minutes:** April 18th, 2024 (G. Klam moved, J. Cogie seconded, Chair Treesong ensured unanimous consent)

Amendment was made to correct the misspelling of Chair Treesong's name.

3. Citizen Comments and Questions

Jackson County Health Department Recycling Coordinator Angie Kuehl brought information about a variety of events and community engagement coordinated by the Health Department that can be found on their website: <https://jchdonline.org/> and facebook account: <https://www.facebook.com/JCHDonline/>

Angie also shared updates surrounding the Jackson County Five Year Solid Waste Management Plan, which includes collaboration with SIU and the City of Carbondale to explore the attraction of regional composting providers.

Conversation was had regarding a potential paint exchange prior to the Jackson County Health Department's Household Chemical Collection Event. It was determined that Commission representatives C. Rice and Vice Chair Beck would reach out to the Carbondale Tool Library to determine whether they may be interested in serving as a home for a continual paint/building materials exchange. Updates to the Commission to follow.

4. Presentations

SIU Student Representative C. Rice provided an informative presentation on her personal research project as an undergraduate in the Geography Department.

Discussion was held about the feasibility of disposal, labor, and volume of compostable organic material to be collected given that our region lacks a commercial composting facility.

Discussion was held about the potential for the project to start at a smaller scale, perhaps with just one bin at a centralized location in the Student Center, to be picked up with the regular pre-consumer organic material that is taken to the SIU Composting Facility.

5. Report of Officers, Committees, and Communications

- a. Sustainability Coordinator Monthly Progress Report (L. Becker, attached)

Commission members confirmed that the Plant Species Inventory conducted by Chris Benda for the Parks & Recreation Master Plan had begun.

- b. Former Koppers Wood Treatment Site Report (A. Beck)

6. Old Business

7. New Business

8. Announcements (None)

9. Adjournment (6:010pm, S. Heyer moved, Vice Chair Beck seconded, Chair Treesong ensured unanimous consent)

The following will serve as my Sustainability Coordinator report of progress for the month of April 2024. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out with questions and comments.

Table of Contents:

1. Routine
2. Uncategorized
3. Energy Sovereignty, Security, & Democracy Proposal
4. Comprehensive Stormwater Master Plan
5. City Sustainability Commission
6. Communities LEAP Coalition Cohort 2

Routine:

- Continued regular check-ins with Justin Harrell, SIU Facilities & Energy Maintenance
- Continued regular check-ins with Stan Reno, Interim City Manager
- Continued regular check-ins with Wade Halva, Faith in Place
- Continued attending weekly "Federal Funding Fridays" by the Midwest Climate Collaborative
- Continued attending monthly "Complete Streets" meetings, which encourage interdepartmental collaboration for well-designed cityscapes
- Continued regular "Synergy Meetings" held by Keep Carbondale Beautiful Executive Director Mike Baltz
- Continued Clean Energy 2 Communities Expert Match check-ins with Kyle Desomber of the Pacific Northwest National Laboratory and Melake Getabecha of NREL (5/8)

Uncategorized:

- Began conducting weekly check ins with Annisa Nururlhuda, the Young Southeast Asian Leadership Initiative Research Fellow placed with our Planning Team (YSEALI) (5/2)
- Met with Jennifer Robertson, Director of the Carbondale Public Library, to discuss collaboration in the installation of EV charging stations, updates on the CPL solar installation, and the tax credits now available to non-tax entities through Elective Pay (5/7)
- Attended the Midwest Climate Collaborative Communications Cohort Meeting (5/8)
- Coordinated interviews with subject matter experts for Annisa's stay (YSEALI)
- Provided a tour of Municipal Solar Sites for Annisa (YSEALI) (5/15)
- Volunteered with Annisa (YSEALI) to pack the LEAF Food Hub orders for the week out at the farm (5/16)
- Volunteered with Annisa (YSEALI) at the Green Earth Workday (5/18)
- Attended Green Earth's 50th Anniversary Celebration (5/19)
- Reviewed the final research note shared by Annisa (YSEALI) regarding food systems of Southern Illinois (5/24)

Energy Sovereignty, Security & Democracy Proposal:

- Accepted invitation to connect with Theodora Okiro Quarles of Ecohealth Strategies, a consulting firm contracting with Ameren Illinois (5/2)
- Attended the EFG Selectee Doc Training Series | Focus: Statement of Project Objectives (SOPO) (5/9)

- Attended a Carbondale Water Power Technologies Office Technical Assistance Lab Call Proposal meeting with the NREL and Argonne application team (5/9)
- Held a check in with the Lawyers for Good Government team (Jillian Blanchard, Nestor Perez, AC) and the attorney assigned to our contracted memorandum comparing legal ownership models, Paul. This fruitful conversation clarified that there is legal precedent for the City of Carbondale and the Village of Dowell to become their own energy suppliers. (5/10)
- Coordinated letters of commitment for the WPTO TA Lab Call Proposal, due June 6th (5/13)
- Performed a first cut of assigned sections of the WPTO TA Lab Call Proposal (5/13)
- Compiled a first draft of the EFG SOPO (5/13)
- Conducted a check in with Finance Director Jeff Davis regarding Communities LEAP forms, budget adjustments, and financial project management processes within the City (5/13)
- Was interviewed by Libby G. with the Southern Illinoisan regarding the Energy Future Grant award (5/15)
- Attended the ERC MW Cohort Check-in (5/15)
- Attended WPTO TA Lab Call Proposal progress meeting (5/17)
- Attended EFG Office Hours hosted by EFG Program Manager Bri Farber (5/17)
- Was interviewed by Kiersten with the Southern Illinoisan regarding the Energy Future Grant award, and Stormwater Master Plan (5/20)
- Was interviewed by Taylor with Paducah station regarding the Energy Future Grant award (5/20)
- Met with Jeff Davis to begin budget adjustments (5/20)
- Attended the Illinois Finance Authority/Illinois Climate Bank's Webinar "State of Illinois: US DOE Grid Resilience Notice of Funding Opportunity (5/21)
- Held a quick check in with Scott regarding the EFG SOPO (5/22)
- Attended WPTO TA Lab Call Proposal progress meeting (5/22)
- Attended the Energizing Rural Communities Prize: Phase 2 Submission Workshop (5/23)
- Learned that the City of Carbondale has been awarded the Energy Efficiency Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) from the Illinois EPA (~\$135K) in order to 1) Conduct Community-scale and Municipal-scale GHG Emissions Inventories for the year 2025; 2) Translate Baseline Inventories and the Carbondale Community's Sustainability Action Plan into priority high-impact GHG reduction strategies; 3) Utilize modeling software to predict and prepare regional infrastructure planning for the electrification of our building stock, transportation, and climate migration; 4) Determine emissions reduction potential of the Energy Sovereignty, Security, & Democracy Proposal; and 5) Develop a proactive communications plan geared toward achieving community Energy Sovereignty, Security, and Democracy.
- Drafted a working "mind map" of the Energy Sovereignty, Security & Democracy Proposal

Comprehensive Stormwater Master Plan:

- Coordinated a meeting with Greater Egypt's Tyler Carpenter and Kelsey Bowe to discuss (1) Back end progress surrounding data collection/organization of existing resources for the Comprehensive Stormwater Master Plan, (2) Public release of the urban flooding evidence database constructed in house by GIS Specialist Anthony Alonzi, (3) Proposed timeline for initial large landowner consultations (i.e. Green Earth, City Staff, SIU, Park District, etc.) (5/9)

Sustainability Commission:

- Held Sustainability Commission meeting (5/16)

Communities LEAP Coalition Cohort 2:

- Held a three hour meeting with Gregory Norris and Justin Harrell to define the structure, vision, and objectives of the Communities LEAP Cohort 2 awarded to the City of Carbondale, ISEE-EJ40, and SIU (5/3)
- Learned that the Communities LEAP team must establish a budget for \$50K in subcontractor funds along with a number of additional financial documents by May 31st (5/3)
- Coordinated first draft of Communities LEAP subcontract forms (5/13)
- Brainstormed with Gregory, Justin, Johanna, and Scott regarding the Communities LEAP subcontract forms submission (5/15)
- Attended the Communities LEAP Information Session on Direct Funding to Communities (5/21)
- Attended check in with Gregory, Justin, Johanna, and Scott regarding Communities LEAP subcontractor forms (5/22)