



**CARBONDALE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**

Thursday July 17<sup>th</sup>, 2025 - 5:00PM

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:** March 20<sup>th</sup> 2025 & May 15<sup>th</sup> 2025 (No meeting in April and June)
- 3. Citizen Comments and Questions**
- 4. Presentations**
- 5. Report of Officers, Committees, and Communications**
  - a. Subcommittee Reports
  - b. Sustainability Coordinator Monthly Progress Report (if available)
  - c. Former Koppers Wood Treatment Site Report (A. Beck)
- 6. Old Business**
- 7. New Business**

New Sustainability Coordinator

New City Councilmember
- 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 |
|-----|---------|--------|
| TBA |         |        |

City Staff:

|     | Present | Absent |
|-----|---------|--------|
| TBA |         |        |

Community Members Present:



**CARBONDALE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**

Thursday March 20<sup>th</sup>, 2025 - 5:00PM

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

**MINUTES**

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Voting Members:

|                          | Present | Absent | Comment |
|--------------------------|---------|--------|---------|
| Treesong (Chair)         | x       |        |         |
| Aur Beck (Vice Chair)    | x       |        |         |
| Jane Cogie               | x       |        |         |
| Kevin Clark              | x       |        |         |
| Sarah Heyer              | x       |        |         |
| Vacant (CCHS Student)    |         |        |         |
| Chaya Rice (SIU Student) | x       |        |         |
| Gayle Klam               | x       |        |         |
| Joan Davis               | x       |        |         |

Ex Officio Members:

|                             | Present | Absent |
|-----------------------------|---------|--------|
| LaCaje Hill (Councilmember) |         | x      |

City Staff:

|                               | Present | Absent |
|-------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Lauren Becker (Staff Liaison) | x       |        |

Community Members Present:

Mike Baltz, Keep Carbondale Beautiful Executive Director  
Mark McDaniel, City of Carbondale Parks & Recreation Supervisor and Arborist  
Ana Moroz, John A Logan College Student Body President

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call** (5:02pm)
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** February 20<sup>th</sup> 2025 (J. Davis moved, J. Cogie seconded)
3. **Citizen Comments and Questions** (None)
4. **Presentations/Special Guests**

Mark McDaniel, City Arborist – Volunteering with Carbondale Parks & Recreation

The Commission engaged in conversation with Mr. McDaniel about city greenspaces and the potential for volunteer opportunities. Mr. McDaniel expressed interest in hosting an Earth Month tree planting event. The

Commission brainstormed and finalized a tree planting to be held April 5<sup>th</sup> at 8am. Liaison Becker offered to create a flyer and add the event to the community-wide calendar of Earth Month events.

## 5. Report of Officers, Committees, and Communications

- a. Subcommittee Reports
  - i. Nature | Joan Davis: J. Davis shared that the Native Garden Walk will be hosted June 8<sup>th</sup>. Joan shared about her experience at the Wild Things Conference. Joan asked Mark McDaniel if there was any opportunity to reduce mowing across city greenspaces. Mark expressed that there is. Liaison Becker asked a portion of the gasoline budget could be repurposed for the cost of labor + seeds/plugs to establish a native planting area. Mark expressed that could be done, especially given staff who are already familiar with establishing prairie.
- b. Sustainability Coordinator Monthly Progress Report (L. Becker, attached)
- c. Former Koppers Wood Treatment Site Report (A. Beck)

## 6. Old Business (None)

## 7. New Business (None)

Save the Date! April 15<sup>th</sup> 5:00pm Earth Month “At the Table” Dinner & Dialogue Series

- Asking that Sustainability Commission members attend and serve as facilitators for discussion.
- The overarching topic of dialogue is Climate Anxiety and Climate Grief, with particular focus on questions of environmental justice, identity, sense of place, the term “home”, and the “balms” that can help make these anxieties manageable.

## 8. Announcements

Open Meetings Act (OMA) Training

<https://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/open-and-honest-government/pac/pac-training/>

J. Davis shared that her son’s house has been funded for solar through the Bright Neighborhoods Program!

## 9. Adjournment (6:12pm S. Heyer moved, C. Rice seconded)



**CARBONDALE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION**

Thursday May 15<sup>th</sup>, 2025 - 5:00PM

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

**MINUTES**

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Voting Members:

|                          | Present | Absent | Comment  |
|--------------------------|---------|--------|--|
| Treesong (Chair)         | x       |        |  |
| Aur Beck (Vice Chair)    |         | x      | Excused – In Poland  |
| Jane Cogie               | x       |        |  |
| Kevin Clark              |         | x      | Excused – Hosting CEJ&JF Executive Director Rebeccah Sanders |
| Sarah Heyer              |         | x      | Excused - Outpatient   |
| Vacant (CCHS Student)    |         |        |  |
| Chaya Rice (SIU Student) | x       |        |  |
| Gayle Klam               | x       |        |  |
| Joan Davis               | x       |        |  |

Ex Officio Members:

|                             | Present | Absent |
|-----------------------------|---------|--------|
| Vacant (City Councilmember) |         |        |

City Staff:

|                               | Present | Absent |
|-------------------------------|---------|--------|
| Lauren Becker (Staff Liaison) | x       |        |

Community Members Present: Laurel Toussaint, Pheral Lamb

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call (5:08pm)**
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** No quorum, minutes could not be voted on.
3. **Citizen Comments and Questions**  
L. Toussaint shared that batting cages are being installed at the Superblock that pose risk to the health of eight Burr Oaks which were planted as a memorial. Prompted discussion regarding the importance of municipal projects being held to the same site development standards as non-municipal projects.
4. **Presentations/Special Guests**

Chaya Rice, SIU Student Representative | Presentation of Projects

- Chaya presented on food security in Jackson County, Illinois through the lens of transportation and population density. Particular attention was drawn to time and temperature laws the apply to restaurants, grocery stores, and food pantries.

Earth Month 2025 Debrief | Chair Treesong  
April At the Table Dinner & Dialogue Debrief | Chair Treesong

- Chair Treesong opened discussion to highlight the significant success of the 2025 Earth Month events; especially the Climate Anxiety & Grief At the Table Dinner & Dialogue. The At the Table provided time and space for folks to acknowledge an often neglected topic and featured international perspective. These Earth Month events featured high turnout and provided space for community-building.

## 5. Report of Officers, Committees, and Communications

- Subcommittee Reports
  - Nature | Joan Davis: J. Davis shared updates regarding the Sunday June 8<sup>th</sup> Bee & Butterfly Yards & Garden Tour. Folks are asked to register ahead of time. Volunteers are still needed.
- Sustainability Coordinator Monthly Progress Report (L. Becker, attached)
- Former Koppers Wood Treatment Site Report (A. Beck)

## 6. Old Business (None)

## 7. New Business

Sustainability Coordinator Transition

<https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/carbondale/jobs/4935331/sustainability-coordinator>

- Discussion was had regarding significant interest in the position and transition process.

## 8. Announcements

## 9. Adjournment (6:17pm C. Rice moved, Chair Treesong ensured unanimous consent)

**SUNDAY  
JUNE  
8<sup>TH</sup>  
CARBONDALE**

**BEE & BUTTERFLY FRIENDLY**

**Yard & Garden  
TOUR**

Register at [Keepcb.org](https://www.governmentjobs.com/careers/carbondale/jobs/4935331/sustainability-coordinator)  
or at the door

**12:30PM to 4:00PM**

**12:30pm to 1:00pm**  
REGISTER & SIGN IN  
THE OLD TRAIN DEPOT  
121 S ILLINOIS AVE.

**1:00pm to 1:30pm**  
Presentations

**1:30pm-4:30pm**  
Self guided tour of  
over 10 Carbondale  
properties!

\$5 fee per family  
CASH ONLY

Keep Carbondale Beautiful  
SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION  
Evergreen Garden Club