



CARBONDALE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Thursday March 20th, 2025 - 5:00PM

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

AGENDA

1. Call to Order and Roll Call

2. Approval of Meeting Minutes: February 20th 2025

3. Citizen Comments and Questions

4. Presentations/Special Guests

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

5. Report of Officers, Committees, and Communications

- a. Subcommittee Reports
- b. Sustainability Coordinator Monthly Progress Report (L. Becker, attached)
- c. Former Koppers Wood Treatment Site Report (A. Beck)

6. Old Business

7. New Business

Save the Date! April 15th 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/>

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
LaCaje Hill (Councilmember)		

City Staff:

	Present	Absent
Lauren Becker (Staff Liaison)		

Community Members Present:



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MINUTES

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:

1. **Call to Order and Roll Call** (5:03pm)
2. **Approval of Meeting Minutes:** January 16th 2025 (G. Klam moved, J. Cogie seconded)
3. **Citizen Comments and Questions** (None)
4. **Presentations**

Illinois Solar for All Bright Neighborhoods Presentation | Kristen Culp

- Robust Q & A and discussion following Kristen’s presentation about the program.

5. Report of Officers, Committees, and Communications

a. Subcommittee Reports

- i. Nature/Green: J. Davis reported 1) She will need help finding community members who “no-mow”, “low-mow”, bee-garden, plant clover, garden native plants, native trees, etc. in Carbondale who would be open to being a stop on the garden walk, 2) The Mayors Monarch Pledge will be put before Council in April, 3) She is still interested in coordinating a half-day summit with food in April.

- 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)

8. Announcements

Please remember to complete your Open Meetings Act (OMA) Training and send Lauren a copy of the certificate: <https://illinoisattorneygeneral.gov/open-and-honest-government/pac/pac-training/>

9. Adjournment (6:03pm J. Davis motioned, J. Cogie seconded)

Unapproved

The following will serve as my Sustainability Coordinator report of progress for the month of February 2025. As always, please don't hesitate to reach out with questions and comments.

Recurring:

- Continued regular check-ins with Justin Harrell, SIU Facilities & Energy Maintenance
- 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 monthly check-ins with the Village of Dowell team
- Continued regular Pleiades Strategy Check-ins

Chronological:

- Submitted the State of Illinois Energy Efficiency & Conservation Block Grant (EECBG) Round 4 Implementation, which will cover the cost of Smart Energy and Design Assistance Center (SEDAC) audits of each of our municipal buildings as well as intermittent blowers at the Southeast Wastewater Treatment Plant. (2/3)
- Held Fleet Assessment Program Kick-off meeting w/ Grant Salley & Dustin Vance (2/3)
- Toured SIU Carbondale BioLaunch Facility, led by Ken Stoner (2/4)
- Attended MIF Proposal Discussion (2/11)
- Attended ICLEI Office hours regarding MIF (2/11)
- Reviewed Pleiades Strategy narrative (2/12)
- Submitted the Low Income Communities Bonus Credit (LICBC) application for the Southern Illinois Multimodal Station's Solar and Geothermal (2/13)
- Attended follow-up conversation with AGE Brandon Bullard (2/13)
- Met with the Nature Conservancy to discuss the Energy Sovereignty Proposal (2/13)
- Attended the Carbondale Community Housing Trust meeting to discuss the MIF (2/13)
- Met with Molly Maxwell, Joe DeMond, and Karl Mueller to discuss City of Carbondale decommissioning bond requirements (2/14)
- Met with Dr. Ajay Kalra (SIU Engineering) and Robert Hardin regarding Comprehensive Stormwater Master Plan (2/18)
- Met with Dianah McGreehan and Councilmember Hill regarding the April 2025 At the Table (2/19)
- Attended Illinois Finance Authority Energy Efficiency and Revolving Loan Fund Program webinar (2/19)
- Met with C-LEAP Coordinators Scott Carron and Johanna Jamison to discuss updates to the program due to incoming federal administration (2/20)
- Hosted Bright Neighborhoods Program Presentation at 2/20 Sustainability Commission meeting
- Created list of nine priority interviews regarding the Energy Sovereignty Proposal (2/21)
- Met with Marcella Bondie Keenan, Chair of the Great Lakes Climate Action Network (2/21)
- Met with Department of Energy Communications Team (2/25)
- Attended Midwest Climate Collaborative (MCC) Quarterly Member Meeting (2/25)
- Attended "Update on the Current Status of Direct Pay" hosted by Atlas Public Policy (2/26)
- Met with Carbondale Unitarian Fellowship leadership and Joan Davis to discuss April 2025 Calendar of Events (2/28)
- Sent out invitation to submit events to the April 2025 Calendar of Events (2/28)