



CARBONDALE SUSTAINABILITY COMMISSION

Thursday March 20th, 2025 - 5:00PM

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		
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 20th 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 5th 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 8th. 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 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/>

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)