



## Collierville Environmental Commission

### Meeting Minutes

April 11, 2017

*Attendees:*

Crystal Warren	Joshua Balentine	John Fox (Town Liaison)
Sheila Bentley	Susan Savage	Robby Hanks (Town Stormwater Coordinator)
Courtney Gillespie	Bill Looney	

*Absent:* Swetha Manivannan and Julie Furr

The meeting was held at 500 Keogh Rd, Collierville, TN and began at 6:35 pm.

1. Approval of minutes: Courtney moved to accept the minutes with a minor change. Susan seconded the motion. All were in favor.
2. Discussion of goals and projects for 2017:
  - a. Recycling in the Parks: John updated the commission on the recycling program being piloted in the parks and schools. While the schools continue to successfully take advantage of the recycling program, the same cannot be said about the residents using the parks. As more people have been frequenting Cox Park with the warmer weather, more trash has been placed in the recycling bins causing contamination. Possible solutions include moving the trash can and the recycling can right next to each other or putting up signs specifying appropriate materials for each.
  - b. Arbor Day (Commemorated on March 30<sup>th</sup>): Crystal, Sheila, and Susan attended the short ceremony along with Mayor Joyner and several aldermen to commemorate Arbor Day and the planting of the blackgum tree behind town hall.
  - c. Earth Day (Saturday, April 22): The commission will sponsor the Repurpose and Upcycle Contest this year at the Morton Museum. The dates are: Thursday 4/27 (project drop-off), Friday 4/28 (judging), and Saturday 4/29 (Awards). Commission members signed up to help out with these activities. Also for Earth Day, the commission would like to sponsor another electronics recycling event. We will look into possibly holding a joint event with Germantown later in the spring or early summer.
  - d. Fair on the Square (May 6<sup>th</sup>-7<sup>th</sup>): On Friday, May 5, commission members will need to set up the tent, tables, and educational and promotional items in preparation for the Fair. Members signed up for shifts for Friday evening to set-up as well as shifts all day Saturday and Sunday. We still have about 75 reusable bags, 15 water bottles, 5 bird books, and plenty of notepads, pens, pencils, frisbees, and carabiners. We will give

away a rain barrel and compost bin through a drawing. Crystal will order more reusable bags and activity books for children. We will feature a ladder with items that should be disposed of at the household hazardous waste facility to educate the public about proper disposal of those items. Commission members volunteered to bring various items for this display.

- e. Bluebird Boxes: The dedication of the bluebird boxes has been rescheduled for Thursday, April 20 at 10 am.
  - f. Collierville Forward: Members of the subcommittee (Sheila, Susan, Crystal, Joshua, and Courtney) met prior to the monthly commission meeting to discuss a few details and divide up some of the work for the planning of our first Collierville Forward Awards Ceremony. Sheila and Josh both worked on promotional information, and Susan began contacting possible venues. The subcommittee will meet again before the next commission meeting to continue work.
  - g. Diminishing Use of Plastic Bags: An on-going discussion among the commission members has been diminishing use of plastic bags among residents. We could include a card or brochure with tips to reduce plastic bags to be given out with reusable bags at Fair on the Square.
  - h. and i. Green Schools: We will look to meet with members of the school board and possibly the architects in the future to provide some practical environmentally conscious ideas for the new school.
  - j. Collaboration with Parks: We still need to meet with the Parks department to discuss some of our common goals including recycling in parks and educational signs at Wolf River and Nonconnah Creek.
  - k. Tree Board: Julie has been working on updating the tree ordinances, and the other members of the tree board will work on their specific goals in the future.
3. Budget: Robby spent about \$65 on the rain barrel, and we spent \$100 for the fair on the square booth fee. We allotted \$1200 for education items for fair on the square. We will also spend about \$400 on activity books, \$400 on reusable bags. Our new budget will begin on July 1.
  4. Swetha's last meeting with the commission will be the May meeting. John will notified Collierville schools about the open student position.
  5. Bill moved to adjourn our meeting at 8:28 pm. Sheila seconded the motion. All were in favor.