

Collierville Environmental Commission Minutes

April 8, 2014

The meeting was called to order at 6:35pm. Commission members present were: Sheila Bentley, Albert Grobmeyer, Gary Siebenschuh, Joellyn Brazile, Wayne Kneipp and Crystal Warren. Hailin Swan and Sophie Morgan (student member) were absent. The Town of Collierville representative was Bill Kilp. Emily Harrell, the Town Senior Civil Engineer, was also present.

The meeting opened with approval of the minutes from the March 2014 meeting. Albert moved to accept the minutes as written. Crystal seconded the motion, and the motion passed unanimously.

Wayne mentioned as suggested on the agenda that Shawn Posey was to attend tonight's meeting, but he hadn't shown up yet, so it's likely he'll have to reschedule.

Preparation for Fair on the Square was discussed next. Crystal collected questions from everyone that will be utilized during the Fair to help educate fair-goers about environmental topics. Wayne passed out instructions regarding the Fair and gave a brief overview of how the weekend will proceed. Wayne also discussed the game rules that we are to follow for the spin-the-wheel game. Sheila suggested that the game rules be posted at the tent. Emily mentioned that she is in the process of updating the pet waste brochure and will also have something posted at the Sugg's Dog Park. Joellyn showed Albert the brochures that the Commission has distributed in years past and reminded the other members of the items we have from last year that can be distributed. Joellyn also suggested that we give a brochure with each prize we give, to further the educational component of the game. Bill mentioned he would update the recycling brochure. A list of items to be given away as prizes includes: mini recycle bins, reusable shopping bags, bird books, seed packets, water bottles, travel mugs, and pens. Emily mentioned that she'd be able to get some pencils. Joellyn reminded the Commission that we also have recycling coloring books and Discover the Watersheds booklets for children. Crystal stated that she would contact Memphis-Shelby County Office of Sustainability to see if they had any free "goodies" they could give us.

Shelia asked about the student member for next year, which start in May. Bill replied that he would work with John to get letters out to local principals.

Wayne stated that he would be contacting Laura Todd with Main Street Collierville regarding recycling opportunities for the Summer Concert series.

The "Get Caught Recycling" proposed program was discussed and Wayne passed out information regarding the program that he drafted. The proposal would be to recognize residents who recycle with a monetary gift as an incentive to participate in

the curb side recycling program. Bill indicated that he would look into options of providing such a program. Joellyn suggested a \$50/month prize instead of \$100 as indicated on the draft document. Sheila suggested a \$100 grand prize to be given at the end of the year for the people that had been selected throughout the year. Sheila also suggested using an arrow/gauge to indicate the level of residential recycling so that citizens could see an increase as it occurs.

Crystal asked Bill to talk about the "Litter Gator", since she heard about it through another municipality in east TN at the TN Environmental Conference. Bill explained the process that occurred to obtain the "Litter Gator" and that the Town is able to pick up more trash in less time than when they don't use it. It was suggested that the trash be sorted to remove the recyclables since most "trash" is recyclable.

Wayne suggested that the Commission write a letter to Collierville's Board of Education to strongly encourage a recycling program within each school. Bill asked how many carts we thought each school would need. Bill suggested that the Commission wait until things have settled down a little with the new school system, but that it might be a good idea to send a recommendation letter so that the Board can be thinking about recycling opportunities at the schools.

Bill mentioned that the new recycling carts will start being delivered in a couple weeks, but residents won't be able to use them until July. Bill also mentioned that the bagged grass numbers were lower last year than in years past and encouraged us to keep up the outreach we were doing because it seemed to be working. Bill reminded us that curbside loose leaf collection was over and that the Town needs a way to sell or distribute the leaf compost. It was suggested that the Town do a leaf compost give away once per year.

Sheila gave an update on the Great Backyard Bird Count. She indicated that 98 species of birds were reported in Collierville with a 140 total species in Tennessee.

Joellyn reminded Commission members about the upcoming Nonconnah Creek Watershed Public Meeting that the TN Department of Environment and Conservation was hosting on April 22nd from 5-7 at 9180 Crestwyn Hills Drive.

Sheila moved the meeting be adjourned. Gary seconded the motion, which passed unanimously. The meeting was adjourned at 8:30pm.