

## Collierville Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

May 17, 2016

The May meeting was called to order at 6:45pm with the following commission members present: Gary Siebenschuh, Sheila Bentley, Charles Green and Bill Looney. Members absent were: Crystal Warren, Joellyn Brazile and student representative, Mary Lennox Halfacre. John Fox represented the Town of Collierville.

Sheila moved to accept the April meeting minutes and Charles seconded the motion. The motion was passed. Sheila also volunteered to take minutes as Courtney was absent from this meeting.

This is the last meeting for student member Mary Lennox Halfacre. A card and a \$25 Amazon gift card were purchased and will be mailed to her to show our appreciation. John will send a request/application for a new student member for the upcoming year.

A recap of the St. George's event was discussed. An informational booth was set up for the event by CEC with giveaways, but as it turned out there was a low attendance. We aren't sure why the attendance was low (maybe low advertising). There was discussion about what could be done differently (by us or the Wolf River Conservancy) but since this wasn't really our event, we aren't sure if there is anything we could do to encourage more attendance.

The 2016 Fair on the Square was a great success! Gary expressed his thanks to everyone who participated. Many of the CEC members noted there were no recycle bins at the event. John Fox suggested that we mention it to the Twentieth Century Club and have them request the bins for next year's event (they are responsible for the request). It was mentioned that the CEC tent sides worked well with all four sides attached (new for this year). Overall we found no real problems with the organization of the booth this year. Some of the lessons learned during this event: while we had good participation, there were not many brochures distributed. The children who came by the booth were fairly knowledgeable about recycling facts. Many of our members mentioned that the color (question) wheel for this event was of poor quality and we wonder if we can get our money back. The questions for prizes were discussed by members of the commission and it was decided that the prize questions may need to cover a broader range from very easy to more difficult for a wider variety of participants. The most popular prizes were the water bottles and fans, although there were still some problems with the fan assemblies. We have the following prizes left for next year: dog bones (with bags), recycle bags, a box of Frisbees, and approximately 30 water bottles. The flower seeds giveaway didn't arrive until after the fair. Next year we will need additional coloring books and bird books for the next fair.

Household Hazardous Materials - The most popular question asked was where hazardous things can be taken. We may need new signage or display for next year. We used Wayne Kneipp's items this year but the CEC needs to stock some old hazmat containers to bring to the next fair. CEC may also need a display ladder for next year.

For future events: Sheila reported no information on either a bird walk or a Green Living event. In addition Gary Boyd has not sent us any available dates yet.

Summer Concert series - The commission decided not to participate this year with an informational booth.

Town Update - John Fox said the recycling contract is about to become an issue since the current provider is the only one in the area, and our current provider wants to increase their rates in July.

Sheila brought in information about environmental awards that are presented by Arizona Forward for environmental projects that are carried out by private companies in the area. She explained that this is a way of encouraging environmental stewardship and involves public and private partnerships. This might be a project that the CEC could investigate and possibly implement.

Unwanted Pharmaceutical & Personal Care Products Drop-Off Location: We need to contact the TDEC Office of Sustainable Practices, Kathy Glapa ([kathy.glapa@tn.gov](mailto:kathy.glapa@tn.gov)) to see about getting a receptacle in Collierville. There is no charge to us for installing this equipment. Gary has a business card from Kathy's office and will pursue getting the appropriate applications and approvals from town officials.

Potential New Projects for CEC - We might want to consider adopting a theme for our efforts for next year. We could also explore educational opportunities for CEC members at local conferences, etc. For the June meeting we should discuss any educational activities that we might want to implement in the schools for the fall of 2016 (add to June agenda).

Budget Recap - John Fox said we would get \$2,500 for 2016-2017. We need to talk with the new Parks and Recreation person about the signs (purchasing signs?) for the arboretum before the next inspection.

John says compost material is still available at the transfer station from 8:00-12:00pm on Saturday.

We could explore the opportunity to create public gardens where individuals can put in a garden and grow produce for their own use.

Sheila moved and Bill seconded a motion to adjourn the meeting. Motion passed.