

Collierville Environmental Commission Meeting Minutes

September 8, 2015

The September meeting for 2015 was called to order at 6:35 PM. Commission members present were: Wayne Kneipp, Bill Looney, Courtney Gillespie, Gary Siebenschuh, Gary Siebenschuh, and Crystal Warren. Shelia Bentley and Al Grobmyer (excused) were absent. The Town of Collierville representative was Emily Harrell. Guest speakers Sean and Sheila Montgomery were also present.

The guest speakers spoke about their experiences with a composting machine in San Diego, California with the hopes of eventually having a similar program in Collierville. Mr. Montgomery provided the commission with brochures on the Earth Machine brand of composters which cost about \$100 each. He was going to contact the company for any discounts, but the town would still be required to absorb a large portion of the costs.

Gary moved to accept the minutes from last meeting, and Bill seconded the motion. The motion passed.

Upcoming events include a composting class on Thursday, September 17 from 6-8 pm. Carl Wayne Hardeman will be leading the class. We agreed that the commission should provide snacks (bottles of water, granola bars, etc). Gary moved that the commission should spend no more than \$50 for snacks. Courtney seconded the motion. All were in favor. The commission has previously paid about \$99 for a compost bin to giveaway. Gary also moved to spend \$200 for a new wheel for giveaways. Bill seconded the motion. All were in favor.

There is also an upcoming Bird Walk on October 17. A flyer needs to be made to advertise the event.

The Recycle, Upcycle, Reuse Contest will be held on November 3. Commission members will need to act as judges. Wayne, Gary, and Courtney volunteered to help with this. Sheila will update the group with details and rules at the next meeting.

The Tennessee Urban Forestry Council meeting is in Memphis on October 1-2. Members of the commission can attend sessions "Successful Tree Boards" and "Tree Board Roundtable Discussion." Bill agreed to attend the tree board session. Emily and Crystal will attend the Riparian Reforestation session.

The new student member for the upcoming 2015-2016 school year, Mary Lennox Halfacre, was unable to attend this meeting but will attend the October meeting.

Emily provided updates from the town. The Board of Mayor and Aldermen will officially approve Emily's grant on September 14. Emily has already met with Eboni Leake at Collierville High School to begin updating and improving the outdoor classroom. Students will help with this project. Ms. Leake has also expressed interest in taking her students to Pinecrest in LaGrange, TN at a cost of around \$1500-2000 of the grant funding.

Gary motioned to adjourn the meeting. Bill seconded the motion. All were in favor. The meeting was adjourned at 8:10 pm.

