

Collierville Environmental Commission Minutes
January 14, 2020

John Fox, Public Works/Town Liaison, called the meeting to order at 6:45. In attendance were David Perry, Sheila Bentley, Charles Green, Valerie Tingley, Mary Prascak, Michael Kelley, and Rebecca Lassiter (student member). Absent: Carlos Bibbs.

Commission bylaws and the annual calendar of events were handed out. Sheila made motions to nominate David Perry for Committee Chairman, Valerie Tingley for secretary and Mary Prascak for Vice Chair. Nominations were seconded and each passed unanimously.

Old Business: The Collierville Forward Award will be presented to 3 students at Collierville High School in recognition of a composting app they created. Each student will receive \$100 gift card along with a plaque. John will get this on the schedule for an upcoming meeting of the Board of Mayor and Aldermen. Last year the award was given to the Memphis Area Master Gardeners at the Collierville Victory Garden; they were honored to be awarded and hope to continue collaborating with CEC in future projects. A subcommittee is needed to plan for future Collierville Forward awards. Carlos Biggs was appointed as chair (he volunteered in absentia); Sheila and David also volunteered.

Sheila discussed the annual Great Backyard Bird count on Feb 14-17. Discussion followed on how to get the word out, and Sheila volunteered to send out a memo with bullet points that can be sent out to HOAs, garden clubs, schools, town website, etc.

Arbor Day is another project we will be promoting again this year. We will apply again this year for Tree City USA, which will require us to plant a tree somewhere in town, location to be determined in a future meeting. Lad's Tree service has done a good job for us in the past. Discussion followed on whether we want to request free tree saplings to give out to citizens. Sheila would also like to revisit the town tree ordinance regarding developers cutting down mature trees. John will line up Jaime Groce, Town Planner, to speak at an upcoming CEC meeting.

Earth Day in April will be discussed in future meetings. The CEC usually has a booth at Collierville's Fair on the Square each year. Committee members are asked to get a white polo shirt, which can be embroidered with the CEC logo, to wear at the Fair. We will decide on activities and free give-aways to have at the booth. We can also look into ordering vertical banners to promote things like recycling, grasscycling and composting. David will work with John on designing banners, and can use help with this. Dates for Fair on the Square will be May 1-3 this year.

David discussed the Town's recycling regulations and how we can educate citizens on correct recycling practices. Other upcoming events include recycling of electronics in November. Publicity on Social media platforms, HOA newsletters, emails to schools, flyers, etc. was discussed; we will need everyone's help to get our messages out to the public throughout the year.

Meeting was adjourned at 8:02 pm.

Next meeting Tues Feb 11 at 6:30 PM

Respectfully submitted, Valerie Tingley, secretary