

Minutes of May 20,2021 Cool Cities Committee meeting

Rachel Tompkins, Stephanie Mallench, Kristen Pauli, Cara Lytle and Caleb Miller were present in City Hall, first floor conference room

Brad Sauer, Tom Kinsella and Brigham Dimick were on Zoom

Jamie Henderson was absent

The meeting was called to order by Rachel Tompkins at 6:05 pm

Roll call established the attendance of those listed above.

The minutes from the April 15 meeting were available on the Zoom screen

Stephanie moved and Rachel seconded that the minutes be accepted

Caleb announced that future meetings would take place in person. If a member is unable to be present, they may telephone in comments, but are not considered officially present

Rachel announced that the Edwardsville City ten cent disposable bag fee at point of purchase for qualifying businesses would most likely go into effect on July 11, 2021

The City Administrator has promised to notify the committee when planning begins for the new firehouse, to allow committee members to sit in on planning meetings.

No further word on agrivoltaics project

Good Dirt Composting collective has a facebook page, no report on

Plans were made for presenting the Cool Cities Climate Action Plan to the ACS meeting on June 10, 2021

Rachel had written a preamble explaining our purpose, Stephanie suggested an additional sentence which was added. It was approved by all members

Brigham prepared a Power Point presenting the Climate Action Plan in a clear way, with graphics included. It was approved and announced excellent by all members.

The Bicycle Advocacy Initiative update included Caleb reporting that Edwardsville had received an honorable mention from the League of American Bicyclists, but that the scoring rubric and suggestions/critique were not yet available.

Brigham reported that he had joined the Bike sub-committee of the Sustainability Committee at SIUE, which will work on that University becoming recognized as bike friendly

The request that City restaurants ask first before including single use/disposable utensils in to-go orders is currently on the City of Edwardsville facebook page.

Kristen presented plans to work on an initiative to introduce Pollinator Gardens to City Parks. Rachel promised to put her in touch with Alderman Chris Farrar who is interested in community gardens in City parks. Stephanie suggested Pogue Sand Prairie as a potential site. Kristen discussed obtaining native plants from a vendor at the Goshen Market, and bumble bee bags. She has a pollinator garden herself, with coneflowers, asters and blue star.

The Committee Elections were discussed and postponed. Rachel is ready to step down as chair, willing to serve as vice chair. Stephanie is willing to serve as chair. Jamie was absent, so the elections will not be finalized until the next meeting.

The Green City Challenge is again beginning. Madison County is again willing to pay our fee. Rachel expressed concerns about undertaking the reporting in October single handedly. Stephanie and Cara agreed to assist this process, including photographing our efforts during this Green City Challenge term. Our goals for this year's challenge will be discussed next meeting.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:30 pm

Next meeting June 17, but rescheduled for June 22, 2021

Rachel V. Tompkins, PhD