



Meeting Date: Thursday, October 19, 2023
Meeting Time: 6:00 P.M.
Meeting Location: City Hall-118 Hillsboro Avenue
Edwardsville, IL 62025

COOL CITIES COMMITTEE MINUTES

Committee Members

Rachel Tompkins, Chair
Michael Katich
Tom Kinsella
Cara Lytle

Stephanie Malench
Kristen Pauli
Sherrill Wible

1. Call to Order **6:00pm**
2. Roll Call- Tompkins, **Kinsella, Malench and Wible present**
3. Approval of Minutes from the September 21, 2023 Cool Cities Committee meeting
4. Citizens wishing to address the Board
 - a. District 7 Representative(Dave Courtney, Director of Finance) – Report on middle school rehab **Trying to save as much as the 1925 building as possible. Includes asbestos remediation from walls and ceiling. New construction will be commons, cafeteria and gym. Also working on a solar expansion project on 10 schools (high school for sure) and 60% recovery threshold. Will also be done on schools that need roof replacements. Liberty, Cassens, Worden have a small number of panels. BLDD new architects for Lincoln project. District does not have a sustainability plan currently. Trying to create 2 lanes in circle drive. Committee suggested having “No Idle signs”. Less than 50% of students ride busses. First Student applied for and got 2 electric buses. \$75,000 for one bus a year through contracted service. Food Service is done through the district. Exploring reusable dishes. Regrading the side of Midway to help erosion. Hamel will have a ground mount solar panel.**
 - b. **Mary Grose, Good Dirt Composting Collective- New Earth Composting- high school, Meyer YMCA, and Main St. Community Center drop off sites now open. They will have bins at all of the D7 schools eventually. Children’s Museum and Neibur YMCA are also future sites. Drop off any day of the week. \$12/month. All produce, meat, dairy, pizza and BPI take out containers.**
5. Announcements
6. Old Business
 - a. Parking Ordinance status- **Staff has reviewed and making edits. Bike parking added in. Landscaping has not started yet.**
 - b. Sub-Committee report – recommended changes to VEGETATION Ordinance- **Goes through**

the police department Ch. 122- Grasses and weeds shall not exceed 8 inches. Police contacts public works if it may be a safety hazard. Managed natural landscapes are allowed. National Wildlife Federation has model ordinances. Ours looks like theirs. Chicago has a native garden registry to protect yard from fines. Austin can have plants over 12 inches high if approved by a landscaping program approved by the City of Austin. Minnesota incentives partial lawn removal for biodiversity. Albuquerque has an approved and prohibited plant list. Utilities can request a permit to trim around the lines.

- c. Green Cities Challenge – Edwardsville report- **Kristen said she submitted on October 18.**
7. New Business
 - a. Report from library regarding sustainability resources- **have first display around Earth Day- we need to make brochures.**
 - b. Green Cities Challenge – initiatives by other challenge members- **Granite City providing solar farm for low income households and planting 500 trees; Glen Carbon working on landscape ordinance and giving away trees; UCity creating energy efficiency plans; Webster Groves leave your leaves and No Mow April with signs;**
 - c. **We will go to ACS about making an exemption to not enclose recycling bins.**
8. Adjournment- 7:41 pm

Next Cool Cities Committee Meeting: November 16th at 6:00 p.m. at City Hall, 118 Hillsboro Avenue

If prospective attendees require an interpreter or other access accommodation, please contact the Edwardsville City Clerk's office at 618-692-7500 no later than 48 hours prior to the commencement of the meeting to arrange the accommodations

Rachel Tompkins