



CITY OF GERMANTOWN TENNESSEE

1930 South Germantown Road • Germantown, Tennessee 38138-2815
Phone (901) 757-7200 Fax (901) 757-7292 www.germantown-tn.gov

Environmental Commission Meeting
Thursday, November 1, 2018 – 6:00 p.m.
Public Works Building
7700 Southern Avenue

MINUTES

Present:

Chairman Joe Skelley
Jimmy Davis
Andy Foster
Linda Kaplan
Francoise Mireles
Scott Schoefernacker
Susan Threlkeld
Jayu Wagh

Staff:

Bo Mills
Joe Nunes
Kathy Cross

Absent:

Urania Erskine
Kevin Haley
Alderman Dean Massey

CALL TO ORDER:

Chairman Skelley called the meeting to order at 6:02 p.m.

ESTABLISHMENT OF QUORUM:

A quorum for the Environmental Commission meeting was established.

INTRODUCTION OF GUESTS:

We had no guests.

CONSIDERATION OF MINUTES:

The minutes of the October meeting were approved.

STAFF REPORTS:

Joe Nunes:

- Recycle volume is down 6% for the month and 9% for the fiscal year to date.
- Recycle Magnets and Recycle the Right Way cards were distributed.



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- Thank you to Susan Threlkeld and Scott Schoefnacker for their participation at the Germantown Neighborhood Summit.
- The quarterly meeting of the Shelby County Solid Waste Region Board was held. Plans are moving forward for a new solid waste plan for the region.

Director Mills:

- On October 3rd, Southern Avenue Water Treatment Plant staff discovered a Hypochlorite leak in our 2500 gallon tank. A contract will go before the Board of Mayor and Alderman to replace the fiberglass tank with a poly tank.
- Groundwater Institute, CESAR, from the University of Memphis met with staff today. Wells were chosen to pull from to record data for better age dating of the water in the aquifer and tragedies were discussed to research sand lenses in the Wolf River to discover if there is any interchanges of surface water into or out of the Memphis aquifer.

ALDERMAN LIAISON REPORT:

COMMISSION MEMBER REPORTS:

Jayu Wagh: Nothing to report.

Francoise Mireles:

- A company in Canada has discovered bee colonies can distribute biological pesticides. Bees step in the powder and spread it to the blooms of the plants. There is no harm to the bees, plants or their honey.

Dr. Jimmy Davis:

- European Parliament has passed a bill that by 2021, all single use plastics will be banned; By 2025, a 25% reduction of burger boxes and sandwich wrappers and cigarette makers have to reduce their use of plastic by 50% by 2025 and 80% by 2030. By 2025, their target is to have 90% of all drink bottles be recyclable.

Scott Schoefnacker:

- Combining efforts with Germantown, Collierville and MLGW Grant to address sand lens research. Focus is on the shallow wells and eastern most well fields.
- American Water Infrastructure Act was passed by Congress and signed by President Trump on October 23rd.
- U.S. Water Alliance is a national network of water providers, public officials, business leaders, environmental organizations, etcetera looking for common solutions for water issues throughout the country. For the City of Germantown to be a member the cost would be approximately \$2500 annually.

Susan Threlkeld:

- Reported Germantown Neighborhood Summit was a success.
- Reported on the Sierra Club's meeting that concerned recycling. They are proud of their new Memphis' web page that addresses recycling.



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Linda Kaplan:

- Shared items that are hard to differentiate whether they are recyclable or not.

Andy Foster: Nothing to report.

OLD BUSINESS:

- Commission Dinner will be held November 8th, at 6 p.m. at the Great Hall.
- Commission Reappointments are due by November 30th. Applications are accepted on-line only.

NEW BUSINESS:

Please sign up to bring a dish for our Environmental Commission Holiday Meeting to be held December 6, at 6 p.m.

ADJOURNMENT:

There being no further business, the meeting was adjourned at 6:51 p.m.