

Agenda

Environment & Sustainability Commission

7/1/26 at 6PM

1. Call to order and introductions

- Present: Shane Benton, Beth Clodfelter, Daniel Bell-Moran, Sarah Salzman, Molly Jo Stanley
- Guests: Aoife McLaughlin, Aimee Delach

2. Review and approval of previous meeting's notes

- Sarah S. and Molly Jo S. have been reinstated to Environ & Sust positions
- Beth moves to approve; Shane seconds; approved

3. Old Business

- Environment & Sustainability Commission vacancy (4) reviews
 - Aoife M. and Brittany Hopkins have expressed interest and sent resumes/cover letters. Fiona Davis is another potential candidate
 - Will discuss candidates at August meeting
- Updates on Athens County Jumping Worm education and mitigation

4. New Business

- July social media and Outreach plans
 - Send content directly to Ryan and Scott to publish (monthly?)
 - Publish as post and share to stories
 - Need to revisit process - (Pollinators/Green Yard Care & Turtle Month content have been sent but seemingly not published)
- Announcements & community concerns
 - Sugar Creek Community Forest Townhall Meeting: August 17th, 6:00-7:30 pm, Friends Meeting House, Chauncey
 - Continued excitement around Green Burial Cemetery
<https://athensindependent.com/athens-conservation-cemetery/>
 - Next meeting scheduled for August 5th

5. Adjourn – Sarah motions to adjourn (6:48); Daniel seconds; motion passes

According to our bylaws, we are supposed to arrange our member terms such that they expire on December 31, and new terms start on Jan 1. The Commission has nine members with "terms" (the Mayor's designee and City Council representative are not subject to terms), this seems like a good time to set terms to align with our bylaws.

This proposed format has has three of the nine member terms ending on December 31 of each year.

Members as of June 2026	Proposed Amended Term Ending
VACANT	Seek new member with term ending 12/31/27 (then eligible for two more three-year terms)

Bell-Moran, Daniel	12/31/26 (eligible for reappointment to term ending 12/31/29)
Benton, Shane (Vice-Chair)	12/31/26 (eligible for reappointment to term ending 12/31/29). Appoint as Chair
Chiki, Andrew (Mayor's Designee)	N/A
Clodfelter, Beth (City Council Representative)	N/A
VACANT	Seek new member with term ending 12/31/27 (then eligible for two more three-year terms)
Mazzone, Nichole	12/31/26 (eligible for reappointment to term ending 12/31/29)
VACANT	Seek new member with term ending 12/31/28 (then eligible for two more three-year terms)
Salzman, Sarah - expired, eligible for reappointment (Student rep)	Reappointed in May 2026 for term ending 12/31/2027 (or upon graduation)
VACANT	Seek new member with term ending 12/31/28 (then eligible for two more three-year terms)
Stanley, Molly Jo (Secretary) - expired, eligible for reappointment	Reappointed in May 2026 for term ending 12/31/2028

Per our bylaws, the Commission can have up to three members who do not reside in the City of Athens, and Commission membership is currently at that limit (Shane, Nicole, Molly Jo). Therefore, I think we are seeking to fill four vacancies, all from residents of the city. We have received a couple of applications from interested folks, and I will forward those separately, once we are all on the same page about what we are looking for and what the terms look like. We'll also need to have the City post to its website a solicitation for applicants.