



Batavia Environmental Commission
CITY OF BATAVIA
100 N. Island Ave., Batavia, IL 60510
<http://www.bataviaec.org>

AGENDA

Wednesday, September 8, 2021 7:00 p.m.
<https://cityofbatavia-net.zoom.us/j/92099462958>

1. Call to Order

2. Member and Guest Introductions

Members: Andrew Deitchman, Carolyn Burnham, Emma Cole, Andea Podraza, Alex Zelles, Gary King, Rahat Bari

Guests: Gary Holm, Kate Cuneo

Absent: Andrew Greenhagen, Michael Willuweit

3. Approval of Previous Meeting Minutes

Approved.

4. Green Night at the Movies

We might need to choose a later time than March so we could potentially hold the event outdoors, given the uncertainty of COVID. Last year we held the event online but it was a lot of work for relatively few attendees. Carolyn is looking for ideas for the movie, if anyone has any thoughts.

5. Regional Climate Plan

BEC should look closely and evaluate what we are able to tackle as a group. The goal would be to divide up the document and determine what we have the ability to influence/take on.

6. Dam Planning

Kate Cuneo joined the meeting as a guest. She was curious about the possibility of having the river evaluated for run-of-river hydropower. This possibility has been explored in the past but it was determined that the amount of energy we could produce would be minimal, especially since water flow can be low in summer.

Meetings continue about the future of the dam and the pond in downtown Batavia. BEC continues to be interested in this topic. Gary Holm mentioned that whichever option is chosen should take water quality and fish migration into account.

7. Open Discussion

A project is underway at Batavia High School to turn an empty courtyard into a place for student mental health and for a science and ecology club classroom. They are looking for support from businesses or grant ideas. Members and guests suggested some groups and people to contact and Emma will let them know.

Battle of the Brush Pile will be happening this year, hopefully. Emma will keep the BEC updated on this event.

Members should review the application for the Green Business Award before next meeting and let Emma know what changes might be in order.

Signs intended to encourage walkability in Batavia are starting to look faded and we should try and take those down- either when we see them or as a coordinated effort.

Carolyn encouraged everyone to participate in the Fox River Clean Up Day happening all along the Fox on September 18th.

Gary King volunteered to take the Illinois Environmental Council BEC liaison position.

The Energy Bill is big news in Illinois right now. It seems like 2045 might be the new close date for coal-fired power plants, but this extension includes carbon capture.

8. Adjournment