

CITY OF HYATTSVILLE
CODE COMPLIANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
APRIL 19, 2023, MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Jamie Bean, Chair
Ian Fay, Vice Chair
Arinee Flurry, Recorder
Gloria Felix-Thompson, Member
Joe Brewer, Staff Liaison

ABSENTEES

Angel DuBose, Member
Jimmy McClellan, Councilmember Liaison Ward 3
Rommel Sandino, Councilmember Liaison Ward 5
Stacy Dennery, Potential Committee Member (unable to attend because she did not receive meeting invite which was only sent to committee members)

MEETING NOTES

1. Introduction to new Code Inspector

- a. Staff Liaison had new inspector join the meeting. CJ Reading introduced himself and committee welcomed and greeted new code inspector.

2. Approval of March Meeting Minutes

- a. Unanimously approved by quorum members.

3. Update on Code Issues with Joe Brewer

- a. Construction project going on Gallatin, and they want waiver to start construction at 7am instead of 8am. Senior Hyattsville officials are reviewing.
- b. Original 10-inch-tall grass was five days to cut grass, but now its 14 days. Tall grass creates issues like rodent harvest. Gloria asked liaison whether grass mowing considered no-mow April. Staff Liaison confirmed city typically does not go out until its almost 1 feet tall. Staff Liaison opened the discussion to update ordinance to reduce timeframe to between 7 -10 days. Ian suggested having a potential volunteer opportunity for committee, but Joseph indicated there could

be a conflict of interest to do so. Staff Liaison explained the background that led to increased days and indicated years prior that owners were out of town and house just so happened to be a habitat home which has exceptions and Hyattsville received a lot of criticism. Gloria suggested the city provide educational material to residents in case of disability or sickness. The educational material can provide resources. Staff Liaison indicated the educational resources can't be provided by city. Ordinance is 25-25.

4. New Business

- a. Chair reviewed her revised Code Compliance Advisory Committee Worksheet originally provided to her for review by Staff Liaison. Committee accepted and resolved comments throughout the worksheet. Unanimously approved Chair's edits to Hyattsville Code Compliance Advisory Committee Worksheet which defined roles, responsibilities, terms, and frequency of committee meetings.
- b. Chapter 52 in code under animal welfare section. Chair developed an urban farming research document and presented to committee members. The research included current city chicken restrictive code language, Maryland laws, relative county ordinances, USDA facts, several suggestive language changes for chicken ordinances. Gloria asked about superseding authority for federal and county laws. Staff Liaison and Chair indicated the city declared itself a sanctuary city which allows Hyattsville to protect undocumented immigrants by barring local officials from enforcing federal laws and deportation measures. Ian will obtain more relative regulations from USDA and Chair will create a google drive folder to circulate research document for further review and edits.
- c. Chair will join Staff Liaison on ride along in preparation for the City Council presentation on the proposed revisions to Chapter 113.

5. Next Meeting

- a. Next meeting scheduled on May 17, 2023. Committee will further discuss tall grass and urban farming issue.