

Hyattsville Environment Committee (HEC)

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, July 11, 2023

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

HEC members: Thaddeus Waterman (chair), Dawn Taft (staff), Edouard Haba (Council), James Ball, Melissa Schweisguth, Joseph Demarco, Rayya Newman, James Wigley, Priyanka Joshi (staff)

Guests: (Attendees) Malgorzata (Gosia) Bereziwicz, Ian Fay, Lauren Greene, Dawn Bohls, Marvourneen Dolor

Notes:

1. Welcome, Committee Roll Call, & Guest Orientation.
 - Attendee question: How can I join - If you are interested in joining committee attendees can view meeting but to participate must be a member. Next step to join is fill out application. Must attend one meeting prior, apply online, meet and greet with council member, have council vote to appoint, then attend meeting after appointed
2. Approval of June meeting minutes
 - Meeting minutes approved.
3. In-person meeting follow up discussion
 - Availability Poll Meetings to remain online until we can go hybrid. (Expected soon.) Then can set up meeting in person and online.
4. HEC Strategic goals for 2023
 - NEWS! Re: event attendance priority: Green Summit to be in Driskell Park! Prince Georges County Green Summit. Oct 21st rain date Nov 4th. Environmental movie, food vendors. More of an expo than a conference this year. HEC to contact Priyanka with ideas. Possible for HEC to have presence at.
 - Remove "X" and keep quantities loose
 - Future meetings will cover these goals in more detail
 - Green Expo #3 remove grant application info (Suggestion - HEC could partner with business owners that would be primary applicants.)
 - Budget approval in January if we want to propose funding for Green EXPO in 2024
5. Electrification and Efficiency community outreach event update
 - Power in the Park Guide

- Thaddeus contacted groups doing this. Seems like we do not want to pursue at this point since we now have the Green Summit coming up. Maybe for 2024?

6. Maryland Department of Energy - Climate Change Program Input

- Question: Is the city responding to this form?
- This is geared towards advocacy groups to share ideas. The city is not planning to provide policy advice with this form for this. Priyanka will look into how this has been handled in the past.
- Thaddeus will review the Maryland Climate Pathway Report and share it next month. Committee members to review report.
- No obvious deadline on website for comments. (The plan has to be handed to the Governor by December?)
- HEC to review and see if we would like to request council to look into providing input.

7. Announcements

- Chesapeake Climate Action Network has taken charge of the invasive vine removal for trees. If you have trees or know of neighbors who do with invasive vines please send requests.
- Appointment terms of committee members will be added to Committee Worksheet and going to council and expected to be approved on Monday.
- I got Geothermal tax credits woo hoo! - Rayya

8. Adjournment.