
CITY OF HYATTSVILLE SHADE TREE BOARD

MINUTES | MAY 3, 2023

PRESENT: Taylor Johnson, Gloria Felix-Thompson, Randy Fletcher, Zack Dorner

ABSENT: Millard Smith (term expired), Kathryn Kutzner

STAFF: Dawn Taft

VISITOR(s):

The meeting was called to order at 7:05 pm.

1) The minutes from the April 2023 meeting were approved

2) Brief report on approved permits, denials, and illegal removals (Dawn Taft)

Five permits were approved and there is one outstanding. No illegal removals. One violation was paid, and Dawn is going to court on May 17.

Taylor questioned planting trees under powerlines and how to avoid planting the wrong species under them.

3) Proposed revisions to Chapter 112

We need to make sure we are consistent throughout the document. It should be either “City” or “Municipal” Arborist (MAKE CONSISTENT)

If a tree is removed, it should be replaced. PERIOD

Gloria mentioned that the lawyers will be fine tuning this document, so we shouldn't get too hung up on anything.

In 112-4.A

If the city tells you to remove a tree, you are exempt from obtaining a permit.
We need to readdress a waiver under a *financial hardship*.

Let's add a comment to 112-4A.....address replacement for illegal removal. *Likewise, illegal removals are not exempt...*

We should reference earlier section of permit by adding language like “*Provisions of 112-4A also apply.*”

We decided to break number 112-6(3) into two parts for clarity.

3A. —The board voted to make the fine \$500 for not replanting a tree.

3B. —Fine for illegal removal will remain as written.

4B OK

4C OK

4D OK

4E (1) OK

4E (2) OK

4E (3) OK

112-7 OK...Dawn added in ANSI standards

112-8

(A) OK

(B) OK

112-9

(A) OK

(B) OK

(C) OK

(D) OK

112-10

(A) OK

(B) OK

(C) OK

(D) OK

(E) OK

(F) OK

(G) OK

(H) Add the word Equity (Fairness, Equity, and Justice).

NEXT month we'll go through Dawn's yellow mark ups and fine tune anything we missed.

4) New Business

- a. Dawn will share “Approved Permit Map” for tree removal at the June meeting.
- b. We will review Zach's proposed changes to the permit application at the June meeting
- c. We will discuss the TPZ (tree protection zone) at the June Meeting

Saturday, May 6th is family day at Driskell Park—All Things Trees. Spread the news.

Dawn secured \$32k for invasive vine removal. CCAN is inspecting and Identifying trees that are covered with invasive vines and are creating a city-wide database. They will also provide training to residents on how to properly remove invasive vines.

Dawn mentioned that information about the spotted lantern fly, crape myrtle bark scale, and other invasive insects will soon be up on the city website.

The Tree Board has nine seats available, and four are open. Let's recruit new board members to fill these spots.

The meeting was adjourned at 8:32 pm

The next meeting will be held on **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 7, AT 7:00 PM.**
New 7:00 Start time for the June, AND July meetings.