

CITY OF HYATTSVILLE
CODE COMPLIANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
MAY 17, 2023, MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Jamie Bean (Chair)
Gloria Felix-Thompson (Vice Chair)
Ian Fay (Member)
Joe Brewer (Staff Liaison)
Jimmy McClellan (Councilmember Liaison Ward 3)
Stacy Dennery, (Potential Committee Member)
Danny Schaible (Councilmember Ward 2)

ABSENTEES

Arinee Flurry (Record Keeper)
Angel DuBose (Member)
Rommel Sandino (Councilmember Liaison Ward 5)

MEETING NOTES

1. Update on Code issues with Joe Brewer

- a. Staff Liaison and Chair took a ride along together. Described the situation with a troubled motorist and gave an illustration of what the issues the code staff encounter.
- b. An email came through, Councilmember Schaible and Councilmember Liaison McClellan were on it, about Hyattsville Middle School. There was a noise complaint that was creating a high disturbance. Staff Liaison met up with the complainant, used a decibel reader, and determined it did not exceed the restriction but was nuisance. Code is working with school board on plans to create an enclosure that would buffer the sound.
- c. Chair proposed to move the start time of the code committee meeting to 7:15pm. Unanimously approved by quorum members. Chair was directed to contact Cindy Zork to add that information to the website.

2. Committee News & Updates

- a. City Council Presentation on Chapter 113 Proposed Revisions
 - i. Staff Liaison is waiting to talk to City Clerk until after the City's Election Fest. Chair and Staff Liaison plan to organize a meeting to prepare.
- b. § 65-25 Accumulation of debris; obnoxious growth of grass or weeds
 - i. The current code allows for 14 days between complaint and remediation. At the end of this timeline, the grass is excessively tall. Committee would like to change the code to seven days. There is a history around this revision where it was determined that the former allowance for five days is not enough time. Committee will work on a revision to change the number to seven and with a caveat of a "no-mow" April mitigate the negative effect on bees.
- c. Urban Farming
 - i. The ultimate driver for this initiative is to ensure the legality of raising chickens. After further research of code rolling up to the USDA, we are technically covered under PG County's Code that allows chickens.
 - ii. Chair to reach out to the SMEs at USDA and PG County to ask to join the next meeting and potentially present to council about details once the committee has drafted legislation.
 - iii. Discussed reaching out the Hyattsville Environmental Committee for support as urban farming is incredibly beneficial for reducing waste.
 - iv. Councilmember Liaison McClellan proposed reaching out to the Hyattsville Race and Equity Task Force for support as urban farming would help address issues with food security. Identified Equity Officer Shakira Louimarre as the appropriate POC.
 - v. Discussed having local resident Ileana Trozzo provide a farm tour to the city council. Tentatively set for Thursday, June 8th at 5:00 PM.

3. Next Meeting

- a. Date of next meeting to be confirmed by the availability of committee members and Staff Liaison.