

Hyattsville Environment Committee (HEC)

Meeting Minutes

Wednesday, August 09, 2022

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

HEC members: Rich Canino (chair), Janet Nackoney (secretary), James Ball, Melissa Schweisguth, Thaddeus Waterman, Dawn Taft (staff), Ben Simasek (Council)

Guests: None

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome, Committee Roll Call, & Guest Orientation.
2. Approval of [May meeting minutes](#): Approved
3. Updates to the Committee Mission Statement/Worksheet (Rich)
 - a. Several comments were resolved; improvements made to clarify language
 - b. Janet to send final document to Lillie
4. Verizon unused space initiative (Ben)
 - a. Ben asked the City about their previous engagement with Verizon. There was some discussion previously about partnering with Verizon to use the space to increase City parking. However, no agreement was reached with Verizon. Communications with Verizon indicate they are deciding whether to sell their office building and that will likely determine the use of the lot space.
 - b. MNCCP has also reached out to Verizon about acquisition of the property on behalf of the City of Hyattsville (MOU arrangement for City use)
5. Sustainable Maryland's Meeting on Prince George's County Climate Action Summit (Rich)
 - a. Rich attended the meeting back in May 2022. Thinking it would be helpful to have a write-up of requirements needed to engage in different climate legislation at different jurisdictional levels (county vs state)-- will work on a document to share for feedback.
6. Ivy removal coordination and next steps (Janet)
 - a. HAP: Lots of progress made in past few months. Janet now has 8 HAP residents with ivy to assess and 5 volunteers. Will be removing ivy from a HAP yard this weekend with another volunteer.
 - b. CCAN: Thaddeus will follow up
7. Announcements
 - a. Mosquito control workshop on Aug 24th-- featuring Univ Park as a model. Getting the City to abstain from spraying.

- b. City engaging with [PG Audubon Society program](#) to certify residents' yards. Recruiting volunteers to do yard assessments. Focus is on how to make yards more native-friendly. Advertising through the City about this program is forthcoming.
- 8. Adjournment.