

## Hyattsville Environment Committee (HEC)

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, August 8, 2023

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

**HEC members:** Thaddeus Waterman (chair), Dawn Taft (staff), Janet Nackoney (notes), Jared Messinger, Melissa Schweisguth, Joseph Demarco, Rayya Newman

**Guests:** Jessica Hale, Malgorzata Bereziewicz

### Notes:

1. Welcome, Committee Roll Call, & Guest Orientation.
2. Approval of [July meeting minutes](#): Approved
3. Public Comment Period
  - a. No comments
4. [Prince George's County Green Summit](#) (Oct 21)
  - a. Will be an annual county event, hosted this year in Hyattsville (we were selected). Organized by Low Impact Development Center.
  - b. Hyattsville DPW is looking for recommendations for activities and vendors to propose to the county. Deadline this coming Thursday to put ideas forward.
  - c. One idea could include Dawn's invasives removal in Driskell, which overlaps with the event that day. HEC could also participate in staffing a table on invasives and related City initiatives. Janet and Reyya volunteered to help staff a table.
  - d. **ACTION:** Dawn will include ideas already considered by DPW in [this document](#) and HEC will add more ideas by Thursday.
5. [Maryland Climate Pathway Report](#) Discussion
  - a. Provides an analysis of actions needed for Maryland to meet its climate goals of a 60% reduction of GHG emissions by 2031 and attaining a net-zero economy by 2045.
  - b. Maryland is leading the way on this type of initiative; it's pretty ambitious
  - c. Open comment period to [submit feedback](#) until late September. There is also an option to attend a virtual meeting to provide comments. How can HEC and the City of Hyattsville participate?
    - i. MS: Maryland needs more incentives to transition away from gas in homes and convert to electric (AC and heat pumps). However, Maryland electric grid will need to expand. MPower Maryland aims

to reduce pressure on the electric grid, so the two programs have certain incompatibilities.

- ii. JD: New York state has some useful ideas for [city-specific programming](#) for the IRA. A key gap is awareness-raising as people [generally know little about the Inflation Reduction Act](#)
- iii. ACTION: Dawn will recommend that the City include an announcement in the Sept City newsletter, City social media and email blast. HOPE listserv can also be used.
- iv. [Register](#) for listening sessions and other events

6. Announcements

- a. RN - Empower Maryland silver Certificate for insulation (MS got one too!)
- b. TW - [White house releases IRA information](#) on 1-year anniversary
- c. RN - [Cross-border map PEPCO](#)
- d. DW - Increase tree canopy, several trees on a site is ideal
- e. DW - City website will have updated data for CCAN invasive removal - community stewards get tools to do it, - less than a year for addressing invasive and vines on private property, aiming for completion in March of 2024

7. Adjournment.

Announcements: