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# CITY OF HYATTSVILLE SHADE TREE BOARD

## MINUTES | MAY 1, 2024

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**PRESENT:** Randy Fletcher, Zack Dorner, Kathryn Kutzner, Kyla Gallagher, Deborah Taylor, Taylor Johnson, Gloria Felix-Thompson

**ABSENT:**

**STAFF:** Dawn Taft

**VISITOR(s):**

The meeting was called to order at 7:39 pm.

1) **Approval of the April 2024 Minutes**

Taylor motioned to approve the minutes as is, Gloria seconded the motion and the April minutes were unanimously approved.

2) **Kyla Gallagher** (new member) introduced herself to the board, and members of the board each said a few words about themselves. Welcome Kyla!

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

005 is not yet approved. It is a sweetgum tree. Dawn will check this week to see if it should be removed. Four permits were approved (014, 015, 018, and 019). There are four outstanding permits (016, 017, 021, 022). No illegal removals. We are waiting on a court date for the last illegal removal because the homeowner appealed.

4) *From the April Meeting Minutes: A discussion pursued about guidelines for replacement trees if there was no permit. We couldn't find the language in the ordinance, and decided to make this an agenda item for the May Meeting.*

We discussed this and voted to approve the following language:

112-4.2 E. Property owners fined for illegal removal of a tree(s) shall plant a replacement tree(s) per replacement guidelines.

5) **Tree Board Meet and Greet | Streetcar 82**

We have a table reserved for this meet and greet at Streetcar 82, which will take place from 5:00 – 7:00 on Thursday, May 16<sup>th</sup> (National Love a Tree Day). We discussed what literature we should bring to handout. *The tree brochure and Tree Steward Program literature. This program ends in May, but we could have the vine identification sheet that shows which vines to remove and which to leave alone.* Dawn will send us a scan of documents to decide which

to bring. Deb will create a quick “join the tree board” flyer. Randy will bring stick-on name tags and a marker. Dawn offered a tree sudoku. Taylor offered to send an announcement on HOPE, and Kathryn said she would send a follow-up invitation. She will draft a message for review, which can be used for marketing this event. Zack will send an invitation to the Council and Mayor.

Zack asked that we brain storm about what things we as a board can learn about. We could make this an agenda item for a future meeting. A couple items mentioned are *county rules, and tree ordinance/real estate contracts*. We should think about proposing a recommendation to Mayor and Council that they pass a rule that states real estate agents should make potential buyers aware of the Hyattsville tree ordinance. Taylor will try to get a copy of the Takoma Park real estate contract.

6) **New Business**

Zack will be in London for the June meeting and will not be able to attend. Taylor will lead the June meeting.

7) **Public Comment**

none

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 pm

The next meeting will be held on **WEDNESDAY, JUNE 5, AT 7:30 PM.**