

CITY OF HYATTSVILLE
CODE COMPLIANCE ADVISORY COMMITTEE
AUGUST 16, 2023, MEETING MINUTES

ATTENDEES

Jamie Bean, Chair
Ian Fay, Vice Chair
Arinee Flurry, Recorder
Gloria Felix-Thompson, Member
Angel DuBose, Member
Stacey Dennery, Member
Joe Brewer, Code Compliance Committee Liaison
Jimmy McClellan (Councilmember Liaison Ward 3)
Kareem Redmond (Councilmember Liaison Ward 5)

MEETING NOTES

Arinee advised committee meeting she was unable to record notes for today. Committee decided to record the meeting.

1. Approval of April and May Meeting Minutes

Unanimously approved by quorum members.

2. Committee News & Updates

a. Urban Farming

- i. Kim Rush Lynch, a Planner & Program Manager with the Urban Agricultural Conservation Program at Prince George's Soil Conservation District provided a presentation to the committee to explain the best practices for becoming an urban farm, the work that is being done at the county, and why this is so important for our communities. She also provided background for issues that have come up and how her office has assisted the county code enforcement in addressing these issues.
- ii. Urban agriculture provides a variety of benefits including healthy food access, economic development opportunities, positive environmental impacts, community development and engagement, and recreation. Prince George's County has identified urban agriculture as one of the

essential strategies to combat food insecurity (Food Security Task Force Recommendations 2021) and climate change (Climate Action Plan 2021). The county passed a new zoning ordinance that went into effect as of April 1, 2022. This updated ordinance includes changes on urban agriculture which are in conflict with our current code, including the allowance of the limited keeping and raising of fowl (excluding roosters) on urban farms. There is a lot of support from Hyattsville residents on this who would like to see our city code changed to be consistent with the county.

- iii. Jamie will reach out to the race and equity task force and environmental committee heads to solicit interest in the urban farming initiative and ask Jimmy and Kareem about suggestions for next steps.
- b. City Council Presentation on Chapter 113 Proposed Revisions
 - i. The Code Compliance Supervisor, Joe Brewer, and Code Compliance Advisory Committee Chair, Jamie Bean, discussed the proposed revisions during the City Council meeting on August 7, 2023. Councilmember Waszczak had asked if our equity officer had developed an equity analysis of this update specifically about the potential or expected impact on lower income families and lower income small businesses. City Administrator Tracey Douglas confirmed that we have not had an equity analysis done on this but said we may ask the Race & Equity Officer, Shakira Louimarre to take a look at it. Jamie will reach out to Shakira to request this.
- c. [§ 65-25 Accumulation of debris; obnoxious growth of grass or weeds](#)
 - i. Committee decided to place any edits on hold until after the urban farming update because of possible impacts.

3. Next Meeting

Next meeting scheduled on September 18, 2023 –Committee will further discuss urban farming issue.