

Hyattsville Environment Committee (HEC)

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, February 14, 2023

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

HEC members: Thaddeus Waterman (chair), Janet Nackoney (meeting minutes), Dawn Taft (staff), Ben Simasek (Council), Jared Messinger, Melissa Schweisguth, Joseph DeMarco.

Guests: Rayya Newman

Agenda Items:

1. Welcome, Committee Roll Call, & Guest Orientation.
2. Approval of [January meeting](#) minutes: **APPROVED**
3. Ivy Removal Initiative Update
 - The City has submitted the grant for ivy removal support with CCAN (see HEC Minutes 11-08-22 for more information)
 - Included [HEC's Letter of Support](#) among others
 - Vote to approve: **APPROVED**
 - Should hear back around mid to late March
4. [Plastic Bag ordinance](#) - Letter of Support Discussion
 - Ben will be bringing a motion to City Council to support the ordinance at the March 20 Council Meeting.
 - Janet & Melissa to prepare a Letter of Support
5. Review draft of guidelines for HEC recommending legislation
 - Sets criteria for bringing forward legislative recommendations for HEC to consider supporting (for requests from HEC members or the public)
 - Open for edits; suggestions welcome
 - Thoughts on where this document would live? (revisit for next meeting)
6. Announcements
 - Upcoming events (Dawn)
 - March 11 @ 9:30am Pruning and Planting Trees class with Casey Trees at Driskell Park. City will work on outreach efforts to get increased Hyattsville resident participation.
 - May 6th Family Fun Day at Driskell Park with tree education theme
 - Audubon Healthy Yards initiative update (Dawn)
 - The Prince George's County Audubon Society is training seven additional residents to conduct Audubon yard assessments (adding to the three resident volunteers already)

- Healthy Trees Hyattsville (Dawn)
 - Mosquito control efforts being rolled out: subsidized program for mosquito traps (modeled after the University Park program)
- Suggestion to focus on [Rewiring America initiative](#) at next month's meeting (HEC letter of support?) (Thaddeus)
- Setting strategic goals for HEC in 2023– next meeting? (Jared)
 - Review [HEC gap analysis from 2018](#)

7. Adjournment.