

Hyattsville Environment Committee (HEC)

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, September 10, 2024

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

HEC members: Thaddeus Waterman (Chair), Melissa Schweisguth (minutes), Dawn Taft (staff), Danny Schaible (Council), James Ball, James Wigley, Rayya Newman

Guests: Maximiliano Vasquez

Notes

1. Welcome, Committee Roll Call, & Guest Orientation
2. Approval of [August Meeting Minutes](#): **Approved**
3. Public Comment Period
4. Stormwater Runoff Challenges
 - not able to attend
5. Green Summit 2024 Planning
 - October 19th at Driskell, event info [here](#)
 - Thaddeus reached out to Tree Board and they did not have detailed plan yet. They expect to focus on Healthy Tree events and invasive removals and have a tree ID activity
 - Who will volunteer: Rayya, possibly Thaddeus
 - HEC's focus: Scavenger hunt/Q&A with completion prize and draw (stickers, cutting boards). ALL HEC members are asked to provide inputs for the scavenger hunt/Q&A
 - Promoting event - Danny will reach out to City comms to get in newsletter
6. Hyattsville Climate Action Plan
 - At prior meeting implicitly agreed to have subcommittee. Officially voted to have subcommittee, all in favor.
 - Interested members include James, Thaddeus, Melissa, Janet and Gosia. James B is willing to lead. This is more than quorum so not everyone can attend a given meeting. Danny would like to be involved.
 - James B noted that some community members are interested in weighing in on the scope. Do we add them to subcommittee or just invite to meetings. Thaddeus will follow up with Nate/clery and Lily/committee admin.
7. Better Bag Bill
 - a. Following up on Sierra Club request that City send a letter to council opposing County councilmember Oriahda's proposed weakening amendments.

- b. Danny: There is a long track record of City supporting this. Sierra Club expects the County Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment committee to hear it on 26 September. For the City council to vote on a letter it would need to be on the 16 Sept agenda.
 - c. Motion: HEC to send email to the [City Clerk](#) and cc Danny stating that: HEC is concerned that the proposed amendments to the county's better bag bill, as stated in CB-053-2024, could undermine the Better Bag Bill's effectiveness. We ask that the City send a letter to the council and the Transportation, Infrastructure, Energy and Environment committee opposing CB-053-2024.
- 8. New Business
 - a. None
- 9. Announcements
 - a. Hispanic Heritage Festival 9/15 at Lane Manor 1230-530, will have Eco area
 - b. City has electronics, bulk waste and paint collection this month
- 10. Adjournment: James Ball left at 8:06, when we lost quorum and ended meeting be default.