

Hyattsville Environment Committee (HEC)

Meeting Minutes

Tuesday, June 13, 2023

7:00 pm to 8:30 pm

HEC members: Thaddeus Waterman (chair), Dawn Taft (staff), Janet Nackoney (meeting minutes), Edouard Haba (Council), Jared Messinger, James Ball, Melissa Schweisguth, Rayya Newman, James Wigley, Priyanka Joshi (staff)

Guests:

Notes:

1. Welcome, Committee Roll Call, & Guest Orientation.
 - Welcome to Priyanka Joshi, Deputy Director of Environmental Operations in Hyattsville Dept of Public Works. Supporting Dawn.
2. Approval of [May meeting minutes](#): **APPROVED**
3. In-person meeting follow up discussion
 - [Availability Poll](#)
 - Low response rate currently; please take the poll and we'll determine a future date for an in-person meeting!
4. [HEC Strategic goals for 2023](#)
 - Lots of options; HEC did some collaborative work to bundle and re-group ideas underneath higher-level objectives
 - Discussion about HEC being more on the advisory side; however, if we wish to undertake specific actions, we can propose to City Council for approval.
 - Important to ensure that they aren't things that the City is already undertaking.
5. Electrification and Efficiency community outreach event discussion
 - Potential for a [Power in the Park](#) event in the City. Silver Spring recently hosted one that Thaddeus attended.
 - There was interest in looking into the possibility of such an event on HVL
 - TW will reach out to organizers to inquire; follow up at next HEC meeting.
6. Announcements
 - From the City (Dawn)
 - Hyattsville [Mosquito Control Program](#) starting up. Recent event promoted the use of mosquito GAT traps. First 100 residents to sign up are offered a \$50 discount for two; two for \$35 instead of \$85; orders accepted until July 7)

- Second annual “Meadow Day” in collaboration with University Park on July 8th. Dawn will be there to talk about monarchs. Will include a native plant swap.
- Trees and invasives: City-wide assessment on invasive vines on trees now complete; [there are almost 4K trees identified that have invasives](#). Held first training last week to mobilize volunteer teams to remove invasives. Continuing the third Saturday of the month invasive removals program, but moving around to different locations now. There will be a total of ten training sessions (two in Spanish)-- [sign up here](#). Looking for community stewards with their own tools.
- Upcoming press release to showcase our first submerged gravel wetland on corner of Armentrout and Baltimore (near DPW and bridge).

7. Adjournment.