

City of Hyattsville Tree Board Meeting Minutes

Friday 4 March 2022

Zoom Meeting

Present: Millard Smith, Gloria Felix-Thompson, Keondra Freemyn, Taylor Johnson, Zack Dörner

Absent: Randy Fletcher

Staff: Dawn Taft

Visitor: none

The meeting was called to order at 1.38 pm.

The minutes from the January meeting were approved

The following outstanding permits were discussed:

17 came in, 9 approved, 2 denied, 1 sent for 3rd party consultation, 6 outstanding that are not yet reviewed. There is one 135" oak tree that will come down because it dying. 😞

IL-006 from the January meeting-fine postponed because we were not sure of size. It measured 92.4" at cut trunk, estimate 80" at 4.5 feet above ground. The tree shows signs that it was clearly in decay and home owners may have been concerned about that. Recommend a fine of \$300 minimum plus \$50 for every inch over 75". $\$300 + \$250 = \$550$. Motion passes.

Revision of ordinance

112-3a-was postponed from last month. According to city clerk, the term of three years is in city code, supersedes any city policy. Revise to read: **term of office of the members appointed shall be at the discretion of the mayor and council.** Approved.

112-3b – propose to change to **"It shall be the responsibility of the Board to assist the City's municipal arborist in the development of Tree education and Outreach programs and updating a written plan..."** Such a plan will be presented annually to the City Council **by the City Arborist ...** And add **"The Shade Tree Board will assist the municipal arborist with tracking, follow-up and confirmation of tree replacements."** (bold are changes to an existing statement) – changes approved.

Election of officers:

Secretary – Randy Fletcher

Vice-Chair- Gloria Felix-Thompson

Chair – Taylor Johnson

New Meeting time- discussion ensued over meeting time regarding city employee times, board members being able to attend considering day care, work schedules, and so forth. Having made no decision, we will continue for the next month at 1 April at 1:30.

New Business:

Discussion with Hyattsville Environmental committee about removal of invasive ivy. They have formed a partnership with Hyattsville Aging in Place to form a group to remove ivy from trees of members of Hyattsville Aging in Place. They need volunteers.

The last of storm water grant workshops is Green Housekeeping, 23 March at 7pm discussing household cleansers and their environmental impact, and teaching people how to make their own environmentally safe cleansers.

On April 4, Healthy Trees Hyattsville initiative goes to council to assist low income with pruning removal, mosquito control, training for crews and residents on proper care for trees. The Shade Tree Board unanimously voted to support this initiative.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:37

The next meeting will be 1 April 1:30