

DRAFT Minutes
July 9, 2015
Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee

1. Roll Call and Brief Neighborhood Report
2. Approval of May and June (unanimously approved)
3. Officers and Staff Report

Discussion of Proposed Process Changes:

Rob Swennes - Could some of the other people talk about what the impetus was to go through this process? Sharon Dorsey - Could someone also discuss what the differences are between the proposed process and the current one. Sarah McKinley - We've had several projects rejected, didn't take into account the entire community, money spent. We are asking Civic Associations (CA) to do more work. Jim Feaster - You are shifting the onus from property owners to CA. Sarah McKinley - DES also spends a lot of time on these designs. Owners are paying for projects. Sharon Dorsey - 50% of the people who come or the whole Association? Sarah McKinley - 50% of those who come. Randy Swart - What are we doing about proxies? Sarah McKinley - There was discussion about proxies. We thought that we would not have proxies. Bill Braswell - Should we say no proxies or yes? Randy Swart - I am a no proxy person and would do think we should do proxies. Edie Wilson - The notification process is much more detail oriented. If we were to pass this it has implications for Civic Associations. You could argue proxies either way. Paul Bolejack - When we pass an NC Plan the CA conducts a vote, but any resident can vote. If we participate in the NC Program, it tells us what we need to do. Bill Braswell - We will need to approve and finalize these rules so we need to be diligent about having a record. Rob Swennes - I'm not sure that this will address the problem. We are asking CA's to do a lot of work here. Mark Luncher - It is about greater participation. For the Williamsburg Boulevard project, we would have liked greater neighborhood participation. We need to make it clear that it's not limited to just the affected homeowners. Sarah McKinley - Our decision making process for our priority projects is pretty loose. We would not be able to do that anymore. Bill Braswell - If we approve this, it would not apply to the fall funding round. Ed Hilz - You have to look at the process and what you are trying to accomplish. Proxies don't get to the discussion. Thora Colot - If folks cannot make the meeting they should

have a way to vote. Edie Wilson - Having a short process angers people. We are going to have to be instructive and we need to be careful. We don't want the Board to question a funding package. Bill Braswell - You have a strong point. In 50 years, the Board has never turned down a funding package. We need to be careful about this. Parker Harrington - Who is eligible to vote? Single vote per household, per person, what about high rises? Sarah McKinley - In high rises, the property gets one vote. Renters are stakeholders as well. Liz McGonigle - What about projects that border two Association. Sharon Dorsey - We are changing it from a percentage to a vote and changing it from affected homeowners to CA vote. Have you thought about modeling previous projects to see how it would affect votes? We could vote on this and it may not work. Sarah McKinley - We need to try it and maybe we will have to tweak it. John Egge - How do we find out if a project is viable that we are voting on? Sarah McKinley - We would have a good idea of that. Mark Luncher - I think we should leave it up to the CA to determine how the meeting should be run. John Seggerman - What about dues paying members. Would this supersede the current Association rules? Paul Bolejack - This would be an NC vote. Brian Hannigan - I'm not for proxy voting. One policy should apply county wide. Bill Braswell - Should the NC guidelines allow proxies or not? Jim Feaster - The difference is that we are directing the CA's to do this. They will have to prove they went through the process and they will have to defend that. There are also CA's that don't meet that often. Edie Wilson - We are talking about the fiduciary responsibility to have one rule across the county. Ed Hilz - After we come up with the revised process. Is it up to NCAC to implement it? Bill Braswell - It will be up to NCAC. Rob Swennes - I've got a number of concerns about this. I'm concerned about the CA's being able to do this. My sense is that most CA's don't issue newsletters. I don't think CA's will be able to handle this. This has the potential to do all kinds of things that are bad. It could break Associations or scare people away. Documenting the meetings will also be a problem and determining due process. Our process isn't perfect but we still have a well-documented process. We will likely get less projects. If we are talking about projects that are priorities of the county, we should go to the County Board and ask them to set aside a separate pot of money to do those. Due process is a big issue for the County Board and they will back off. Brian Hannigan - I have concerns for the administrative burdens for CA's. Marshaling the resources to do this will be difficult. Is there a role in this for the CivFed, which I think needs to do more for CA's? Sarah McKinley - We have over 3000 households, mostly in high rises and it's beyond our ability to do mailings. Randy Swart - This is not the same program as it used to be. We modeled our most recent project after this type of proposal. NC staff should send out the first class letters not the Associations. Edie Wilson - I talked recently with Hope

Halleck about how there has to be a strengthening of the CA's. We know the CA's are going through change. I would like to see the County Board, which has built our government on CA's, do a study and go to CA's and find out what's working and what's not working. Jesse Boeding - Why can't we allocate a certain amount of funds to do the communication to our neighborhood. Bill Braswell - We have capital dollars not operating dollars. Jim Feaster - You would like us to take this to our CA's and solicit feedback? Thora Colot - If you are going to impose this due process on CA's you are going to have to list everything we need to do, sort of a checklist. Sharon Dorsey - We don't have full representation from all CA's here and the timing is tough to get feedback. We need strict definitions about what we need to do.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm