

DRAFT Minutes
March 12, 2015
Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee

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

Urban Forestry Presentation by Vincent Verweij

Lynn Pollock - Does the Urban Forestry Master Plan include school property?
Vincent Verweij - Yes it includes the entire county. Edie Wilson - Are there target areas for places that have low tree canopy? Vincent Verweij - Not at this time. We are trying to think about ways to specify tree canopy targets. Does it include Civic Associations or a broader target? Bill Braswell - For street trees do you plant and take care of them. Vincent Verweij - Yes, we do, but site plans plant their own and take care of their own. Harry Spector - What about the gator bags? They seem to get dried out. Vincent Verweij - We do refill them but the water will get soaked up quickly. That doesn't mean the tree is not being watered. Sarah McKinley - I'm curious about VDOT projects especially the mounds that were planted along Arlington Boulevard. Are they going to be planted? Vincent Verweij - Yes. VDOT is putting fill dirt on top of the mounds that will accommodate trees. We know there is a lot of other material under the mounds, but they are supposed to install plenty of good soil for the trees. Jesse Boeding - Shirlington Crest where I live is a new development and a lot of wrong trees were planted. Do you look at site plans and monitor? Vincent Verweij - We try to as much as possible. We've gotten better at it. Jesse Boeding - How can we make a better partnership with developers? Vincent Verweij - The soil volume you need is taken up by a whole building. It's impossible to get what we want so we need to prioritize. We have been looking at more of a cluster planting of trees as opposed to spot plantings that are restricted. Bill Braswell - How do we reach out and communicate with people to let them know what we have available. Vincent Verweij - I've tried but it's hard. I will keep working on it.

Facilities Study Update by Ginger Brown:

Ed Hilz - There seems to be less focus on process and we need good a good process to make this effort work. Ginger Brown - We are going to be using some other information that could be useful for us. We are going through this process systematically. We need a big picture view of what we need and what we have and where it can go. John Kirkpatrick - Are you looking forward or working on old decisions? Ginger Brown - Some of the immediate needs we are not looking at. We are looking at siting. We need to figure out where we can put things. We are not looking at affordable housing. Phil Klingelhofer - Will you be assigning a value to what the county owns? Ginger Brown - We have not gotten there yet. The Department of Parks and Recreation is pushing hard for land evaluation and we will get there. Tracie Morris - What about Virginia Hospital Center? It needs to expand. Are you looking at that site? Ginger Brown - We have not done the facility needs component and will do that next. I'm part of the Lee Highway Alliance so I'm familiar with it. I don't think we'll be looking at specific sites or recommendations. Tracie Morris - Our Association voted to have the county vote on what to do with that site sooner rather than later. Edie Wilson- I think it's interesting that we're bringing in an outside consultant to reconcile numbers. Can we make sure the reconciliation happens on a regular basis? Can we come out of this with Schools and the County working together better? Ginger Brown - APS uses a different set of numbers than the county so the data does not match up because they are done for different purposes. Sarah McKinley - In the first meeting, the Chair of APS said this is a great process, but we are moving forward with our needs before the process is complete. Ginger Brown - We are looking at things long term and we want the county and APS to work together for the greater good.

Meeting adjourned at 9:15pm