

DRAFT Minutes
October 9, 2014
Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee

1. Roll Call and Brief Neighborhood Report
2. Approval of July, 2014 Minutes (unanimously approved)
3. Officers and Staff Report

Presentation by Meg Tuccillo:

John Egge - What is the relationship between what the School Board recommends and what the county approves? Meg Tuccillo - The relationship is that we all work together and come up with the ideas. There are disagreements, but we do our best to work those disagreements out. Phil - Is there a plan for the High Schools? Meg Tuccillo - There is work and adjustments that can be done at Washington and Lee and will give us more seats. We also have some internal efficiencies. We are looking at the career center as well. Dennis McGarry - Are you a looking at Arlington Traditional School (ATS) and Woodlawn and moving them to Rosslyn? Meg Tuccillo - ATS is an elementary school so it limits our ability to build at Wilson. We didn't think it was efficient to double the size of ATS. John Kirkpatrick - How confident are you in the growth projections? Will they be different in 10 years? Meg - The dip was in the early 80's. There have been ups and downs but no significant dips. We got complaints that we didn't move fast enough. Enrollment this year will be up. We also know that the demographics will continue to change and we will need to do our best to plan for those changes. Tim Wise - Has APS looked into online schools as a way to alleviate overcrowding? Meg Tuccillo - It would be looked at in the High School level. We have discussed those options. Bill Schimmel - Will most of the green space at Thomas Jefferson be preserved? Jim Presswood - Some of the half mile track would be removed. The wooded area would be preserved. Meg Tuccillo - The more recent schemes are less invasive. Jim Todd - When will schools stop using trailers? There is no space for existing students now. Meg Tuccillo - We are working on it. Swanson has very limited space. If we had a place to put the cars, we could use existing parking lots. We know enrollment is still going to go up so the issue will not go away. Sarah McKinley - We spent a lot of money to re-do Wakefield. Why didn't we take into consideration that enrollment would go up?

Meg Tuccillo – A strong community value is the size of the school. Wakefield is not at capacity. We don't build structures where we add floors because we need additional space. Ed Fendley – The Wilson site is an urban site that has its assets like bikability and walkability, which are both positive assets. The county and the school system have not traditionally worked well together. I would like us to work together for the common good. Meg Tuccillo – If we build a school at Wilson, it will be a tremendous asset to the community.

Waverly Hills NC Plan:

Rob Swennes – The plan only recommends one sidewalk project. Was that a mistake? Sandi Chesrown – We had originally included more sidewalk projects, but pulled some out due to the controversial nature. We altered some of the recommendations to make it clear that sidewalks are a priority and that the Association would support them. Paul Bolejack – We also outlined what the qualifications were. Jan Bauer – What is the issue with not wanting sidewalks in the community? Sandi Chesrown – Many of the anti-sidewalk residents state that they like the rural character of the neighborhood. We will never change those individuals' minds, but we do know the demographics will change. Paul Bolejack – People also don't know where their property lines are and it creates some confusion when discussing where sidewalks will be placed. Motion to approve the Waverly Hills NC Plan and recommend that the County Board accept the plan – Bill Braswell. Jim Todd – Second. All in favor.

Discussion on Newspaper Boxes by Dennis Jaffe:

Lynn Pollock – Is there anything in the petition that would ask to remove the boxes if they are not being used? Dennis Jaffe – No, it's a reasonable goal and I would support it. We are asking for enforcement standards. Sarah McKinley – I thought this would be a non-controversial issue but I had two Board members push back. They stated it was a regulation issue. Dennis Jaffe – Some regulations go too far. We are asking for common sense.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm