

DRAFT Minutes
November 13, 2014
Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee

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

Mary Hynes Presentation:

Jim Todd - When Arlington works well, it is amazing. One area where the process breaks down. School Board and County Board. Have you thought about integrating those two spheres to have more collaboration? Has the County Manager worked on this as well? It can appear from an outsider that there are two different silos. Mary Hynes - I spent 12 years as a school board member so I know how it is. We have been working to find better ways to work together. The superintendent works for the school board so it's hard for the county to do anything on that end Jim Todd - What are you as the County Board thinking about? Mary Hynes - The whole issue of land, we are working toward a more coordinated approach. We have many needs to balance and we are trying to work together. There is a lot of competition for money right now and no one can get it all. The land and the siting of schools seems like the best opportunity to work together. Edie Wilson - What happens if NC goes through the process and gets money and nothing happens. We are trying to have credible processes but we need to work together. NC's reputation rests on actually delivering a product in a timely manner. Mary Hynes - One of the things I asked them to do was a risk analysis for the projects and the Board gets to see the projects and how they are progressing. I encourage you to engage with staff on a way to move forward. Bernie Berne - I was kind of surprised to hear your statement that NC goes through the neighborhood process. Mary Hynes - This program works on a neighborhood consensus. Jonathan Levine - When I vote on projects, I vote out of respect for neighborhoods and what they want to do. Bill Braswell - We also look to you to help us come up with ideas. Mary Hynes - I would encourage you to consider what Sarah has to say. This group works well and holds things together. I would encourage you to look into it. I have some ideas, but you need to think about sharing them with me as well.

David Cristeal Presentation:

Jim Todd - In Cherrydale we've had a huge loss of affordable units, but recently there has been talk of finding new county land for housing. The housing department needs to be careful how you integrate affordable housing with other county plans and policies. Bill Braswell - Maureen is on the Lee Highway task force and she needs to work to help get dedicated funding. You all received tons of comments on affordable housing. Your Civic Associations need to comment. How do we comment? David Cristeal - We have a comment form on the website, but we need to continue the conversation and balance those needs with other priorities. We want to be careful that we also keep things moving forward and not get derailed. Edie Wilson - I appreciate the study housing did. The Parks and Recreation Commission asked to do a study, but was turned down. Those things don't help the credibility of the housing goals. We need to have a study and analyze what the park needs are as well. I think the county can also be held responsible for the destruction of affordable housing as much as it wants to create it. David Cristeal - How we help a community develop is an important and difficult task for a government. I'm not sure what the alternatives are if we don't get involved in the process. Edie Wilson - What you do with existing density is important and it's not a good goal to target parks and open space. David Cristeal - I understand and the one highlight is the Arlington Mill center. We still need to go through a community process. Sarah McKinley - There are a lot of people who work here that can't afford to live here. When you focus on the 60% level it's not fair and you should be looking at the 80%. The Arlington Mill apartments are wonderful, but there is a real disparity between the types of affordable units. David Cristeal - It's part of the budget conversation. The 60% range is coming up and we are looking at it. Bernie Berne - The affordable housing has been destroyed in our neighborhood. The zoning plan changed and the trees were all destroyed. Jim Presswood - I would echo the concerns about public land for public good. I support the conversions with existing centers, but the conversions need to be clarified. Jesse Boeding - Where is the review of looking at affordable housing in a global context? David Cristeal - We have to help each other do more and that means different things in different localities. The struggle we have is the whole issue of access. We want to try as a region and do we want to limit Arlington housing for Arlington residents? How do we create more opportunities to get people to live here?

Meeting adjourned at 9:30pm

