

Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee
May 10, 2018

Meeting Minutes – DRAFT

Meeting location: Navy League Building
2300 Wilson Blvd.
Arlington, VA 22201

1. Roll Call and Brief Neighborhood Report
 - a. Arlington Heights- Eileen Janas mentioned that a DES (not NC) project is almost complete which will bring a big improvement to Irving and Rt. 50. She hopes everyone will be able to see it this summer when they visit the Arlington County Fair.
 - b. Ashton Heights- Jim Feaster introduced, Brent Burris and Lutz Prager, who will be the new representatives for Ashton Heights. Jim and Ken will remain active until Brent and Vince feel comfortable with NCAC. Also as an FYI, they are currently looking to replace the liaison for the Parks and Rec committee as well.
 - c. Boulevard Manor- Phil Kingelhofer announced that a new phase of the Bluemont park restoration and sidewalk project has been started.
 - d. Cherrydale- Harry Spector announced that the fundraising goal for Sena's plaque was reached and exceeded. The excess funds will be donated to the Arlington food assistance center. If anyone would still like to contribute, the page will remain open for one (1) more week. Also, the tree sculpture at Oak Grove Park has been named Sena's Totem.
 - e. Columbia Heights- Sarah McKinley announced that the Columbia Heights NC plan is being updated and a charrette process will be used to engage the community. So far, 30 people have signed up. Sarah will be leading the meeting but needs help facilitating the exercise to help residents brainstorm improvements for the neighborhood. The charrette is open to all NCAC reps and a request was made for volunteer facilitators. Tim will send out the flyer to the group along with Sarah's contact information. Please reach out to her if you are interested and available to participate. Fyi, child care for charrette attendees will be provided.
 - f. Douglass Park- Megan Lynch introduced herself as the new representative of Douglas Park at the meeting.
 - g. Glencarlyn- Kathy Reeder shared that the project at 24th St passed approvals and will be announced soon. A list of possible projects was presented to the County for consideration--Kasey Spriggs is going to do a walkthrough of all of the sites to understand who owns those areas and how they can be addressed.
 - h. Leeway Overly- Robert Swennes shared that this week they lost Carrie Johnson and Lucy Deny (a founder of NC), two very influential members of the Arlington community.

- i. Rock Spring- Jerry Paull announced that two (2) projects on Williams Blvd (NC project and Storm Water) are both nearing completion--trees and shrubs were being installed today 5/10/18.
- 2. Approval April 12, 2018 NCAC Minutes:
 - a. The Meeting Minutes were approved unanimously.
- 3. Officers and Staff Report
 - a. Tim McIntosh shared that NC Planners (Angela Marshall, Laura Simpson, and Naudy Martinez) have been re-assigned/assigned to the neighborhoods this week. The updated list will be shared soon.
 - b. Tim reminded the group that the deadline for neighborhoods to submit or re-affirm a project for the December funding round is May 15th.
- 4. Discussion / Action Items
 - a. Presentation on Biophilic Cities, David Howell, Arlington County Parks and Recreation Commission

Questions/Comments:

- i. Lauren Bailey- What are the metrics that need to be met to be considered a biophilic city?
For more information, see attachments shared before the meeting and Biophilic Cities [website](#).
- ii. David Litman- We are currently struggling with balancing recreational open space vs unstructured natural space-- are there examples of other cities that are balancing these outdoor needs and are there examples of their outcomes?
David H. responded that NYC, Philly, Boston are good examples. Ultimately, as cities develop, they must be thinking about and integrating these types of open spaces into their plans.
- iii. Bernie Berne commented that the open space masterplan recommends meadows, but no meadows have been implemented.
David mentioned that CF smith has a meadow and Natural Resources is also working w/ Dominion along Four Mile Run to begin integrating meadows into those areas.
- iv. Sarah McKinley commented and asked about a large Willow Oak in her community that is at risk of getting cut down for development. Are there any suggestions for what they can do to prevent and protect natural environments like this?
David mentioned that creating tax advantages to create/protect natural habitats could be a solution but implementing things like that has been a struggle.
- v. Bill Braswell- Tim, can you share information about the Ace free tree program with the group?
Tim will share the information. Note: There is just one (1) more month left to apply for the program. Also, the tree program is funded by the fees that developers pay when they develop an area.
- vi. Jim Feaster- Which photo was not yours?
The photo of Ballston area park, Welburn Square
- vii. Jackie Wilson- One of the challenges of implementing programs like this is that there is no ownership, is this correct?

David responded that for programs like this to be initiated, there should be interest from the community. There are lots of resources that have been shared and the hope is to generate interest from everyone to get programs like this going.

b. Community-Based Farmers Markets, Rob Swennes, Vice Chair, NCAC

Questions/Comments:

i. Terron Sims- Where can you go to find more information?

Go to field2table.org for more information. There you can find more information about the organization and the three (3) markets mentioned in the presentation. FYI, Lubber Run will be opening in 2 weeks on May 26th.

ii. Ed Hiltz- How do these markets compare to the others in the area and who operates them?

The other markets are located in high density areas--Rosslyn, Ballston, Crystal City, and are organized by each Business Improvement District (BID). The markets are contracted out and managed by FRESHFARM markets (which runs about 15-17 markets in the DMV). They are good markets but not community run or driven. There are also have markets in Columbia Pike corridor, Pershing, Arlington Hill CC, and Clarendon Metro (Clarendon Alliance) that are run by other organizations.

iii. Sarah McKinley- What happens when the markets start to saturate the community?

At this point that doesn't seem to be the case for Arlington--DC is a good example of a place that hasn't slowed down/has not been negatively affected by the increase in Farmers Markets. Also, the markets are very neighborhood based.

5. Other/New Business:

- a. Tim mentioned that one (1) week from Saturday, the bond recommendation will be coming out.
- b. Alexandra announced that today is Mother's Day in Central America.

6. Meeting adjourned.