



Aurora Highlands Civic Association

Minutes from Monthly Meeting

Wednesday, 13 April 2016

MINUTES

Attendees: 15 members (see attached sign-in sheet pages 1-3).

Proceedings:

- Meeting called to order at 7:03 PM, by President Natasha Atkins.
- Draft minutes from March 2016 were approved and finalized.
- *Community Updates*
 - Paul Guttridge gave an update from Arlington Water Pollution Control Plant's Solids Master Plan meeting on March 16, 2016. Paul said he would post copies of the March 16, 2016 presentation online. He noted that this was only for the solids part of the plant as the liquids part was completely redone several years ago. Paul explained that the solids portion of the plant would not be getting any bigger (maintaining 14 million/day or 3 truckloads), and the main issues were regarding the processing of the biosolids. Paul also noted that after the March 16 meeting, he was asked to rank approximately 19 qualitative criteria/factors in terms of priorities for the updated plant (and did so based on information discussed at a prior AHCA meeting – e.g. aesthetics, odor, environmentally friendly, etc.). These criteria rankings would be combined with other representatives rankings to form an overall priority ranking list for the group to use going forward.
 - Natasha provided an update on the intersection of 18th and Joyce about whether the current stop sign configuration should be changed. The county put up a traffic monitoring camera in that area. Results should be ready in approximately 6 weeks.
 - Natasha provided an update on the compliance with the zoning ordinance Crystal House in Crystal City. Natasha explained that the Zoning Department determined that the lights were not in compliance with the ordinance and that Crystal House was not allowed to turn the lights back on absent approval from the Zoning Department.



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- April 2016's social will be a happy hour at Sine Irish Restaurant and Pub in Pentagon Row. It will be on April 28 @ 7 PM.
- *Memorial Tree*
 - **MOTION** – A motion was made by Cheryl Mendonsa for funding in the amount of \$250 for a tree and plaque to be planted in Virginia Highlands Park in memory of Marty King. Marty died last May after serving in this community for decades as ACHA president, newsletter writer and editor, and so much more. A dedication ceremony is planned for May 7 (time TBD), when his children will be visiting Arlington. The motion was seconded. The Motion was passed without objection.
- *Proposed Neighborhood Conservation Project Approval Process*
 - David Litman, our NC rep gave a brief presentation about a proposed new process for determining priorities for NC projects and funding. David briefly explained the proposal and stated that he would be posting it online on our website, nextdoor.com and the 4-D listserv. The proposed NC selection/approval process can be found here: <http://aurorahighlands.org/news/proposed-neighborhood-conservation-project-selection-process/>. David stated that we would be discussing the proposal in further detail at the May meeting and voting on it.
 - A question was raised about our current projects. David noted that the Fern Street Sidewalk project was close to beginning the construction phase, although there were still a few issues to be worked out. David stated that he did not expect there to be any action on the Nelly Custis park project within the next 3-6 months. David also explained that currently in the queue were two projects: the primary project being the construction of a sidewalk on the 900 block of 21st Street South and the secondary project being the 800 block of 19th Street South.
- *Study on Relocation of Senior Programs During Construction*
 - David Litman provided an update on this topic. As the Aurora Highlands Community Center will be undergoing renovations beginning in mid-July



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2016 (approximately), the County plans to relocate the Senior Center programs to another site. The proposed relocation sites are Gunston Community Center or the Carver Center. David provided information on how to obtain and complete a survey for voting on these relocation plans. The survey would remain available through April 20. For additional information, please contact David.

- **County CIP Update**

- Natasha provided information on the County's CIP update: The current CIP is a ten-year planning document, which is updated every two years. It not only identifies the immediate needs but also seeks to capture long-term capital needs. The CIP typically includes major investments in parks, libraries, transportation, community centers, facilities, technology, water, sewer and stormwater infrastructure – along with other areas that support the community.
- The County's currently adopted CIP can be viewed at <http://budget.arlingtonva.us/adopted-fy-2015-fy-2024-cip/>. Natasha explained that the county is currently seeking input on the county's next bi-annual CIP (due to be adopted this upcoming summer). Natasha noted that individuals may submit their CIP ideas by April 22 directly to the county here: <http://budget.arlingtonva.us/cip/survey/>, and asked if there were any priorities that AHCA, as the civic association, would like to request that the county prioritize. Natasha noted that, as discussed in the April 2016 newsletter, we could request that the County accelerate its funding and construction of the an access road through the Army-Navy Country Club, which would provide emergency vehicle access from one side of I-395 to the other (between Army Navy Drive and Hoffman-Boston Elementary School) as well as be open to bicyclists and pedestrians. In the currently adopted CIP, design funds are not slated to be spent until 2020, with construction scheduled for 2022-2023.



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- It was the general sentiment of the membership that we should write a letter to the county asking them to accelerate its funding and construction of the emergency access road through the Army-Navy Country club.
- *Guest Speaker – County Board Chair Libby Garvey*
 - County Board Chair Libby Garvey spoke on a variety of topics including parkland, updated plans for the Long Bridge Aquatics Center, zoning issues, Arlington’s tree canopy, bringing more services/information to Arlington’s websites and apps, including county board meetings and planning commission meetings.
 - Chair Garvey also said that she would get back to us about the “22202” comprehensive transportation study.
- Meeting adjourned at 9:04 PM by President Natasha Atkins

I certify that these minutes are a true and accurate representation of the business conducted at the meeting and were adopted as the official meeting minutes by the membership of ACHA.

Date: _____

Robert Sidman
Recording Secretary