

5th @ Avon Community Advisory Committee

December 15, 2022, Meeting Notes

Present: CAC members: Mary Katherine King, Nathan Holland, Karen Davenport, Evan Macbeth, Robert Finley, David Storm, Roger Schickedantz. (There were sufficient CAC member attendees to establish a quorum). Supervisor: Jim Andrews. County Staff: Emily Kilroy.

Disclosure read: Meeting being held pursuant to and in compliance with Ordinance No. 20-A(16), an ordinance to ensure the continuity of government during the COVID-19 pandemic.

No changes were made to the September meeting minutes. The minutes were approved.

Topic: New Protocols for CAC Meetings – Emily Kilroy

Mary Katherine King and Emily Kilroy presented new procedural changes for CAC meetings.

- The CAC liaisons will now be staffed out of the Office of Public Engagement, Allison Wrabel will be the liaison for the 5th & Avon CAC, beginning January 1. Emily will attend at first to help make the transition.
- CAC meetings will be in person. While a desire has been expressed to have digital-only or hybrid meetings, State code requires in-person meetings, and the County doesn't have the resources to run hybrid meetings. The State requirements do allow for 25% of meetings to be virtual (3 out of 12 in a year) but there cannot be more than 2 virtual meetings in a row. It was noted that public access is not necessarily better or worse with in-person vs. digital meetings. The State legislature is revisiting this rule. Jim Andrews suggested contacting our delegate if anyone wishes to express an opinion on this.
- Post-COVID, the CAC's will return to the old model in which agenda topics are up to the discretion of the Committee when the agenda is not filled with a community meeting.
- It was noted that the CAC members appreciate receiving regular updates from County Staff related to topics such as transportation, parks, the Comp. Plan, and zoning.
- CAC members also appreciate having access to County reporting documents, and expressed a desire for the Development Dashboard to be resurrected in some form (a new database is being created). It would also be nice to have current Neighborhood 4 & 5 maps of permitted developments. David Storm requested advance notice of budget approval issues and to receive e-mailed meeting minutes from other CACs.
- CAC's remain free to document concerns jointly in the form of resolutions. Regardless of the form of communication, (joint or individual) the Supervisors and Planning Commissioners appreciate hearing the concerns and issues of the community.
- CAC members like having periodic joint CAC meetings that address ongoing County issues.
- Topics for future CAC meetings could include: transportation updates, review of the ongoing rezoning process.

Other Topics:

- The role and function of the Site Review Committee was clarified.

- Community Meetings typically only occur once in the application process. A second meeting may occur if there are substantial changes to the design or proffers.
- The 1906 Avon Street Extended project will be on the PC meeting agenda on Feb. 14th.

Board of Supervisor Update – Jim Andrews

- The Southwood rezoning was approved with an option for a school site. The proffer expires in 2027 if the County does not purchase the property.
- The 5-year budget process is underway, along with school budgeting. There is an intent to maintain the AAA bond rating. Tax rates will be reviewed in Feb-Mar, any changes advertised, and approved in May.
- Legislative priorities promoted by the BOS include ranked choice voting, climate risk & vulnerability planning, flexibility on cell tower locations, and zoning modernization. Ranked choice voting is currently only available for County elections because the County has the jurisdictional control to establish the rules.
- The PC recommended approval for the 600 acre solar farm in Southern Albemarle (on a 2300 acre clear cut tree farm). The capacity is projected to provide energy for 25,000 homes annually. [Rob Finley cautioned that the nameplate capacity is based on ideal full sunlight conditions, and that in most cases only 1/3 of that will be achieved].

Schools Update – David Storm

- The School Board has sent a proposed budget to the BOS.
- Mountainview School was scheduled for an expansion in 2019/20 that was put on hold due to the COVID pandemic. Bids came in high at \$9 – 10M.
- High School Center #2 remains a priority.
- The School Board determined that at least one new elementary school is needed. They are proposing for one to come online by Fall 2026. The Southwood site is an option.

Possible Future Meeting Topics (requiring County staff prep)

- Zoning process, and how it aligns with the Comprehensive Plan
- Transportation Update: Smart Scale and other budgeting, current regional transportation planning, progress on transit options

Closing

Next meeting: January 19th

Meeting adjourned.