

PANTOPS COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE IN-PERSON MEETING
MONDAY, AUGUST 28, 2023, 6:15 – 7:45 PM

Kessler Conference Room, Martha Jefferson Hospital Outpatient Center Charlottesville

1. Call to order, Introductions & Agenda Review

- A. The meeting was called to order by Chair Dick Ruffin at 6:15 pm. The meeting agenda was reviewed.
- B. CAC members present were: Richard Ruffin, Stephanie Lowenhaupt – Vice Chair, Judith Joyce, Kate Kaminsky, Henry Light, Michael Spatz, Ida Lee Wootten, Ron Brownfield, and Lou Falzer (absent: Anne Oliver, Michael Fraser)
- C. County personnel present were: Donna Price – Board of Supervisors Chair, Bea LaPisto-Kirtley – Board of Supervisors
- D. Guest: Sue Friedman of the Charlottesville Area Alliance. Sue is also Secretary of Places 29 CAC.
- E. A quorum was confirmed to be present

2. Approve Meeting minutes–Dick Ruffin, Chair

The minutes of the July 24, 2023 meeting were unanimously approved with the correction that Chair Donna Price was not present.

3. Discussion of Purpose of Minutes

Minutes are for the purpose of recording decisions of the CAC and consensus views on issues brought before the committee. Major ideas should be noted. Verbatim notes are unnecessary.

4. Election of Secretary–Dick Ruffin, Chair

Louis Falzer was unanimously elected as Secretary of the Pantops Community Advisory Committee.

5. CAA Presentation-Sue Friedman, CAA

Sue Friedman of the Charlottesville Area Alliance gave a presentation about the history and purpose of the CAA. It aims to create an age-friendly environment in the region, where 65% of the population is over 65. It has wide support among local government institutions and works closely with AARP. It aims to qualify as a designated “livable community” by meeting the criteria for 8 life elements. The CAA is now focusing on two of these – transportation and social participation.

Three of our committee indicated interest in working closely with the CAA.

6. Issues and Opportunities in Pantops

One purpose of this meeting was to gather input from PCAC members regarding crucial issues that may need more attention and emphasis. How might our committee assist in assist in achieving greater focus on these issues?

The following issues were identified as important for Pantops:

- A. Fostering connectivity to strengthen sense of community in area. Realization of the proposed bicycle/pedestrian bridge across the Rivanna has become more urgent because of the increased use of electric bikes. Creating additional common areas (Parks, trails, etc.) would also help.
- B. Traffic at intersection of 20 and 250 is a problem. There is Smart Scale funding to improve this intersection, timeline uncertain.
- C. Promoting use of the new micro-transit option in Pantops. Assuring access for all.
- D. Need for more restaurants like new Thai Kitchen. Location of old Shadwell restaurant is ideal except access is difficult, in part because of inadequate signage.
- E. No line of responsibility for maintenance of stop signs and sidewalks. Problems persist without solutions.
- F. Ash bore problems create safety hazards and need to be addressed.

G. Need for additional trees to screen new residences at Alta Vista, opposite Martha Jefferson Hospital. Important to follow up with developer who had promised a connecting trail to Old Mill Trail.