

PANTOPS COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE  
IN-PERSON MEETING – MONDAY APRIL 22, 2024  
Kessler conference Room, Martha Jefferson Hospital Outpatient Center  
Charlottesville  
6:15pm -7:45 pm

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: Richard Ruffin, Stephanie Lowenhaupt (Vice Chair), Lou Falzer, Michael Fraser, Judith Joyce, Kate Kaminski, Henry Light, Anne Oliver, Michael Spatz and Ida Lee Wootten. Ron Brownfield and Megan Nedostup were absent.
  - C. BOS liaisons: Michael Pruitt - Supervisor Scottsville and Bea LaPisto-Kirtley - Supervisor Rivanna.
  - D. Guests: Dave Tungate, Director of Operations, and Bethany Houchens, Water Resources Coordinator, of the Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority; Amy Lastinger of the Peabody School.
  - E. Staff Liaison: Abbey Stumpf
  - F. A quorum was confirmed to be present.
2. The Minutes of last month were not approved as they have not been submitted to the Board.
3. Rivanna Water and Sewer Authority – Dave Tungate presented a comprehensive review of the operations. With one hundred employees and an annual budget of \$48,000,000, they deliver ten million gallons of clean water to the community every day. He described briefly the complex processes involved. Bethany Houchens spoke about the five reservoirs within the County that have a capacity well beyond what is required. She also described the comprehensive testing and monitoring activities necessary to assure compliance with EPA standards. Finally they addressed questions about the failure of the Moore’s Creek Pump Station during the high water of early January and said repairs would cost \$20-25 million. The entire presentation was greatly appreciated by the committee and gave reassurance that this important utility is in good hands and that it is serving the wider community very well.

4. Darden Towe Postage Stamp Prairie Parks and Partnership Presentation – Amy Lastinger of the Peabody School, together with two students, told the committee about the school’s Climate Action Project that was one of the winners of the County’s Climate Action Grant Program. The project involves planting deep rooted native grasses to replace fescue grass on a small plot of land in the park. An impressive group of volunteer students participated in this effort, from planning, obtaining the proper approvals, raising funds, and the actual planting and nurturing of the natural plants.
5. BOS Liaison Updates – Bea La Pisto-Kirtley provided an update on several pertinent issues, including that the new county Parks and Recreation Foundation has been granted 501(c)3 status with the IRS. She noted that due to renovations the Elks Lodge will not be available as an election site for the remainder of 2024. She also encouraged members to complete the Survey of CAC members that can be accessed on line. Michael Pruitt gave an update on phase 2 of the Comprehensive Plan and on two recent county ordinances.
6. Committee Business – Michael Fraser provided a thought provoking talk on the relatively new concept of Natural Capital. Akin to the more familiar concept of social capital, natural capital analysis attempts to measure and give a monetary value to natural features, such as stream beds or canopy, that are part of a larger development project. The aim is to provide planners and decision-makers, whether private or public, a methodology for assessing more accurately the value or benefit of a project. He provided the following URL for those wanting to know more:  
[http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural\\_capital](http://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Natural_capital)

Next Meeting: As the 4th Monday of May is Memorial Day, it was proposed that an alternative date be found. One possibility is the previous Monday, May 20th. The Kessler Auditorium is not available then, but the possibility of conducting the meeting on Zoom will be explored. No decision on this was taken.

The meeting was adjourned at 7:45.

Respectfully Submitted,  
Lou Falzer, Secretary