

5TH AND AVON COMMUNITY ADVISORY COMMITTEE
Sept. 20, 2018
5th Street County Office Building, Room A

Present: Committee members Stephanie Blanch, Karen Davenport, Jonathon Earl, Dan Heuchert, Glen Michael, Rex Linville, Craig Roller, David Storm, Rob Finley, Roger Schickedantz; Supervisors Rick Randolph and Liz Palmer; Planning Commissioner Karen Firehock. Also: resident Ignacio de Cardenas, Dan Mahon (Albemarle Parks & Rec), Kristy Shifflett (Albemarle County), Bob Crickenberger (Parks & Rec director), Andrew Knupel (county staff), David Anhold (Biscuit Run landscape architect).

Absent: Committee members Amy Brereton, Stuart Lowson, Rush Otis, David Thomas; Planning Commissioner Pam Riley.

David Storm called the meeting to order at 7:04 p.m.

Minutes of the August 2018 meeting were approved by unanimous voice vote.

Kristy Shifflett and David Anhold – Biscuit Run Park Update

Kristy: Committee is using community feedback to make some adjustments and create some options, which they are seeking input on. They hope to bring a plan before the Board of Supervisors in November, with possible adoption in December.

David Anhold, landscape architect/planner: (Presents maps) Geography: Streams and Biscuit Run divide park into rough quadrants; a high ridge separates most of the park from the Rt. 20 corridor. There is a lot of variation in landforms.

The plan calls for a trail network throughout. Athletic fields will be sited on the Rt. 20 side of the ridge. Other areas are designated for bike trails, an adventure course, camping and picnicking, special events venue.

(Concern: Buffer between activities and nearby neighborhoods, specifically Mill Creek South. David: There will be buffers; approximately 800 feet between Mill Creek South and the adventure course.)

(Concern: Proximity of athletic fields to Rt. 20 – worry about air quality. The county has not investigated air quality yet. David: There should be enough buffer.)

The committee held a meeting on Aug. 22 and gathered feedback (also online, from other stakeholders). There was some concern that amenities were concentrated to the Route 20 side and away from 5th Street/Old Lynchburg Road side.

The revised map features an adjusted Old Lynchburg Road entrance; added two activity areas near that entrance. It included a 10-foot-wide, paved, ADA-qualified

“circulator trail” to tie elements of the park together. The southern part of the park remains more wilderness-oriented.

There is a potential pedestrian-oriented entrance from Hickory Street.

Topography, access and impervious-surface limits combine to limit athletics fields to a flatter area near the Route 20 entrance. The fields are not intended to be lighted.

Liz suggested that the increasing population on Old Lynchburg Road leads to a great need for dog parks – and good-sized ones, preferably on that side of the park.

Rex asks about accessing the park from nearby neighborhoods without driving in; need sidewalks and bike lanes.

Dan Mahon says he intends to make new approaches to nearby neighborhood associations about ways to access to the park.

Process: Board of Supervisors approves master plan, then takes it to the state Department of Conservation and Recreation.

Liaison Updates

Rick Randolph: Shows off Rio/29 small area plan handouts. Suggests committee members check out video at County website—>departments—>community development—>Rio/29 Small Area Plan video. ... The board is reviewing the community use of county facilities policy, with an eye to Aug. 11-12 legal issues, especially w/r/t parking areas. The board is to vote on a proposal to keep lower lot open for public parking after hours. ... County has agreed to submit a \$2.25 million request for Vibrant Communities Initiative funding for Habitat for Humanity’s Southwood project. ... He is anticipating board action on the Avon Street study approval by end of calendar year. ... Cale crossing to complete preliminary engineering by end of calendar year. ... Board still discussing Airbnb issues. ... Broadband and cell towers – need to reopen the discussion on policy, with cell tower ordinance now 20 years old and new 5G technology on the way. ... Revised Acquisition of Conservation Easement policy to require 35-foot riparian buffers.

Question: Rural broadband updates?

Liz: Meeting next week with Central Virginia Electrical Cooperative about running broadband along electric lines.

Liz Palmer: Transfer station to open soon (ceremonial opening rained out). Had an electronics take-back event. (Notes new company in Ruckersville, K&K, will pick up your stuff for \$20.) Rivanna Solid Waste Authority household hazardous waste collections coming up in late September.

Karen Firehock: The Planning Commission recommended a special-use permit for art studio off Old Lynchburg Road, with conditions limiting sound, traffic, special events. Has not come before Board of Supervisors yet.

NIFI Update-Andrew Knuppel

Avon Corridor Study: Working to finalize contract with Line+Grade; if that gets done, we may hear from them in October.

Cale Crosswalk: Chance to be constructed as early as summer 2019, but summer 2020 more likely.

Other Business

David Storm congratulates board on Willow Tree/Woolen Mills agreement. (Rick says its is unlikely to require further CAC action. However, adjacent properties in county are now more valuable for further economic development opportunities.)

City/county/UVA coordinating committee met today. The Sunset Avenue bridge, washed out in May, has reopened for pedestrian traffic. There was some discussion of reopening that bridge to vehicular traffic, which could relieve some traffic pressure from Old Lynchburg Road. Fry's Spring city residents are staunchly opposed.

Future Meeting Topics

NIFI runner-up projects.

Schools update with Scottsville District School Board rep Steve Koleszar?

New Business

None.

Meeting adjourned at 8:46.

Next meeting Oct. 18, 7 p.m. at Monticello Fire Station.