

# Places29-Hydraulic Community Advisory Committee Minutes

## Monday, February 15, 2021 | 5:30-7:00pm

### VIRTUAL MEETING

*This meeting was held pursuant to and in compliance with Ordinance No. 20-A (8); An Ordinance to Ensure the Continuity of Government During the Covid-19 Disaster.*

**ATTENDEES:** Augusta Enns, Greg Harper, Dena (student), Lily (student), Sophia (student), Lang Ze (student)

### AGENDA:

#### Design Features and Amenities for Affordable and Eco-Friendly Community

Augusta Enns, 7<sup>th</sup> & 8<sup>th</sup> grade project-based teacher

- School project presentation by four 8<sup>th</sup> grade students: Dena, Lily, Sophia, and Lang Ze
- Ideal community includes features that benefit that benefit all neighbors, including social spaces, open spaces, and aesthetic updates
- After the students presented their work, committee members commended them for their hard work, thoughtfulness, and creativity

#### Climate Action Plan (CAP)

Greg Harper, Albemarle County Chief of Environmental Services

- This presentation was originally made to the Board of Supervisors in October. The Board is committed to climate action planning (Resolution passed in October 2019).
  - Resolution: community emissions will be reduced by 45% by 2030 and net zero by 2050.
- In 2018-19, they recruited partners, engaged with community, established sector teams, and developed strategies, then drafted plan and presented to Board of Supervisors
- Second half of 2020, they produced the final CAPP document with the list of strategies and actions to mitigate climate change: 11 Goals → 31 Strategies → 135 Actions
  - The 135 Actions were split into immediately actionable (36), need planning (49) and assess opportunities (50)
- CAP is built on accepted science and a holistic approach! CAP is a commitment to track progress and reach goals!
- Categories: Transportation / Land Use, Buildings, Renewable Energy Sourcing, Sustainable Materials Resourcing, and Landscaping / Natural Resources / Agriculture
  - Transportation / Land Use and Buildings are the most impactful areas.
- Next phase: Refinement of Plan – prioritizing actions, SMART goals, etc.
- Greenhouse gas emissions inventory: Every two years, has a new forest component (the trees help offset greenhouse gases)
- Implementation – focus on immediately actionable and initiate planning categories
  - Solar installations, sidewalk programs, updates to COBs, AHIP & LEAP support, C3 (Community Climate Collaborative) classroom kits, electric vehicle chargers, etc.
- Mr. Harper encouraged the group to read the plan at [Albemarle.org/climate](http://Albemarle.org/climate)

Questions from the Group

- Kate Acuff (member of the Albemarle County School Board) asked how we can improve/partner re: school related transportation (buses, high school students, staff). Schools are working on

efforts to improve. In response, Mr. Harper indicated he would like to partner further with schools – lots of room to grow!

- Bill Love asked whether the plan incentivizes solar.
- Kim Swanson asked whether we have building code that includes energy efficiency for affordable housing. The group had a brief discussion about affordable housing and equity in climate change. Mr. Harper indicated that they hope to have an equity committee as part of the climate plan.
- Julian Bivins asked if school projects / pilot programs happen in the future, they consider Jouett and Greer! Mr. Harper indicated that the Climate project is expanding to all 4<sup>th</sup> graders next year.
- Mr. Bivins asked about the plan to deal with agriculture (majority of land in Albemarle County) regarding farm use and livestock. He pointed out that there are many action items regarding cars, but not much about rural/farm actions.
- Vito asked about recycling – is it important, is it worth it? Mr. Harper responded that it's a piece of the puzzle and does have impact, but much less impact than buildings and other biggere categories.
- John Lewis asked about dedicated bike support for electric bikes, infrastructure, etc. Mr. Lewis and Mr. Harper may meet offline to continue to discuss support for cyclists.
- Rosemary Miller asked about whether the County was working in conjunction with the city on climate projects. Mr. Harper let the group know about the overlap with many of the same/separate goals.
- Diantha reminded the group that we cannot forget the old neighborhoods when we are working to bring the county up to par for climate initiatives. It's great to have new neighborhoods with solar panels and electric vehicle hookups, but the established neighborhoods need to make changes as well. Jane Fogelman and others agreed.

### **Planning Commission Update**

Julian Bivins, Albemarle County Planning Commission

- Tomorrow (Feb. 16), they will be looking at the Rio Intersection – Albemarle Square, Fashion Square, etc.
- Giving opportunity to developers to “breathe new life” into Fashion Square area

### **Board of Supervisors**

Diantha McKeel, Albemarle County Board of Supervisors

- County Executive Jeff Richardson will be presenting to the Board of Supervisors on Feb. 24 at 12pm. This is the beginning of the budget process!
- Re: budget, Kate Acuff reminded the group that funding request presentations will be made to the School Board on Feb. 18.

NEXT MEETING MARCH 15