

Crozet Community Advisory Committee
Crozet Elementary School
Wednesday, March 15, 2017 from 7:00 pm to 9:00 pm

Dave Stoner: Welcome's everyone and turns meeting over to Emily Kilroy, with Albemarle County.

A quorum is established.

Citizens Present: Steve Walsworth, Mark Helt, Dan Mahon, Sandra Mears, Pat Groot, Heidi Carlstedt, Cliff Fox, Mia Schneiner, Tom Loach, Shawn Bird, Drew MacQueen, Diana Keeton, Jenny and Hayden Stearns, Erik Haltgren.

CCAC Members Present: David Stoner, James King, Kostas Alibertis, John Savage, Phil Best, John McKeon, Dean Eliason, Beth Bassett, Jennie More, Kim Gunther, Mary Gallo, Mike Kunkel.

County Representatives Present: Ann Mallek (White Hall District) and Emily Kilroy.

Emily Kilroy: Thanks for being here tonight to help us talk about the Neighborhood Improvement Funding Initiative (NIFI).

Lori Allshouse, the Director of Management Budget: This is a brainstorming meeting...there will be another meeting to prioritize things, but tonight is about thinking about ideas that will improve your community.

Emily: There will be a program guide passed around to each table. This is a one-time program that is about revitalizing community projects that have a big impact on everyday life.

Projects can include landscaping; funding a capital improvement project...it's not about anything with an ongoing expense.

The total budget is 1.4 million dollar total and there are 7 CAC's so the money will be divided among them all, but it has not been determined how the money will be divided yet.

Two lists are passed out...one has the Master Plan and the other has the Annual Transportation Priority List, another handout is priorities that the CCAC has already identified. The other thing coming around are the online comments...citizens were asked to submit ideas online if they couldn't be here tonight.

Groups will discuss their ideas for 45 minutes and then a group leader will submit their ideas to the rest of the group. Again, to reiterate, this is an idea and brainstorming session. Identify a scribe and group presenter who will speak for the group.

Group discussion ensues.

Ideas:

-Community center. A place, centrally located that would have basketball courts, softball field, dirt bike track, BMX track.

-Youth community center. 10-18 year-old underserved. Another community center for an arcade, movie theater, etc.

-Comprehensive transportation plan...how do you tie in walking, biking, hiking, driving.

-Have all 1.4 million dollars given to one project...the Crozet square.

-Walkability study. Dire need for sidewalks.

-Statue of Claudius Crozet.

-Marketing Plan for bringing visitors into the area.

-Parking study.

Round 2 of ideas:

-What we can do to maintain a small town feel. New streetlights and landscaping tree. Holiday wreaths and lights. Seasonal streetscape plan.

-Skateboard park

-Multi-modal comprehensive plan study.

-Handicap ramps can't be built on county property.

-More things for teenagers and young people...disc golf course, exercise stations.

-Hilltop sidewalks.

April 19th is the next meeting. All of the lists will be taken in and there will be another opportunity online to allow for more input.

In May, all projects that had strong community support will be up to be considered.

Ann Mallek: Property Tax Waiver program forms are on the table. For new applicants the deadline is Halloween.

More handouts are available.

Dave Stoner: Next Wednesday, there is a Virginia Festival of the Book event at 6:30.

Last months minutes are approved.

Dave Stoner was nominated for the Chair for next year and John McKeon was nominated for Vice Chair and Mike Kunkel volunteered for the Secretary position.

Mary Gallo, Beth Basset, and John Savage and have timed out and can no longer serve so thank them for their service to the CCAC.

(Round of applause).

John Savage: Now I can sit in the peanut gallery and say whatever I want.

(Rolls of laughter)

Ann Mallek: Old Trail is feeling left out when it comes to planning. It would be great to invite them, who have serious concerns about traffic on Route 250. Parking at Western is a particular issue. High-density issues are popping up. I will continue to encourage them to come to the meetings.

Dave Stoner: Jim Neligan, who is President of their HOA was here tonight and will hopefully continue to join us.

Dave Stoner: I would urge everyone to think about prioritizing everything that was talked about for the next meeting. We need to continue to be well positioned to have a proposal ready so it would be ready to be funded.

Mary G: How will the money be best spent? How can we get the biggest bang for our buck?

Ann Mallek: Getting the layouts and plans for a project would really be the best idea and you'd get much more further along particularly if a matching program came along. Have a well-supported target list and we are well on our way for that. For sanity sake, I would not be encouraging us to take all of the money because there are other communities that are later in the process than you are.

Emily Kilroy: There are hundreds of projects coming out of this process. The expectation of staff is that none of these projects will die on the vine. They will go into buckets with various organizations...they'll be worked on later in other ways. We really do appreciate everyone doing this idealistic session today.

Ann Mallek: We should take the online list and look at that as well.

Emily Kilroy: Should we put in green dots for the projects that we like and red dots for the ones we don't like?

Mike Kunkel: Is this a purely democratic process?

Emily Kilroy: It will help us prioritize projects more effectively.

Dave Stoner: I can work with you (Emily) to bundle the online projects so we don't have a list of 30 to vote from if they are very similar. If I don't get consensus I can keep them on.

Meeting adjourned at 8:50 PM.