Neighborhood Advisory Committee Report to City Council

Updates from the Issues Forums and Future Plans

February 11, 2020

Neighborhood Advisory Committee (NAC) Members

- Anna Sexton (Lives in Burton Street) - represents 28806/28728
- Barber Melton, Chair (Lives in Haw Creek) - represents 28805
- Bobbette Mays (Lives in Shiloh) - member at large
- Cissy Dendy, Vice Chair (Lives in The Heart of Chestnut Hill), member at large
- Greta Bush (Lives in Parkway Forest) - member at large
- Joe Fioccola, Secretary (Lives in WECAN) - represents 28801
- Mike Wasmer (Lives in South French Broad) - member at large
- Pastor Spencer Hardaway (Lives in Shiloh) - represents 28803/28704
- Phil Lenowitz (Lakeshore Heights) - represents 28804

Role of the Neighborhood Advisory Committee

- The Committee consists of nine (9) members, all appointed by City Council, with representation from neighborhoods throughout the City.
- The Committee was established in 2012 to improve communications between neighborhoods and the City Council and to submit reports concerning issues facing neighborhoods.
- The Committee acts as a sounding board for neighborhood issues and is a conduit to bring these issues, along with strategies for improvement, to City Council.
- We held two (2) Issues Forums and currently planning for a Festival of Neighborhoods (May 2020).

Issues Forums

Last year, NAC re-evaluated holding regional meetings due to diminishing participation. Instead, looked at holding issues forums on concerns mentioned in previous regional meetings and settled on the top two, traffic and noise in June and August, respectively.

Issues Forum: Traffic

The main issues addressed by neighborhoods included:

- Traffic Calming / Congestion
- Traffic Enforcement
- Pedestrian / Traffic Safety
- I-26 Related Issues

Issues Forum: Traffic

- City staff in Transportation, Police, Planning along with the NCDOT local Division 13 reviewed the issues.
- Comparisons were made on issues that are already in line for review and/or how the remaining traffic matters will be addressed, for example - some are part of the I-26 Connector project, or the Tunnel Road Corridor study.
- Follow up made with all attendees on the issues addressed and next steps.

Issues Forum: Noise

- This issues forum was provided by the Development Services Dept. on results of the survey and meetings with groups and residents.
- All information regarding the Noise Ordinance Revision can be found at bit.ly/NoiseOrdinanceCOA.

Neighborhood Invitation Series

- We also have began to invite neighborhoods to present at our regular monthly meetings about their history, successes and concerns.
- We have to date heard from Shiloh, Burton Street, West End/ Clingman Avenue (WECAN), Haw Creek, The Heart of Chestnut Hills, Asheville Housing Authority and Hillside Terrace (which is a newly registered neighborhood).
- Plans are to continue hearing monthly from neighborhoods for 2020.

Neighborhood Invitation Series

What we heard:

- Housing cost / gentrification / housing supply
- Traffic, parking
- Break-ins, crime and safety complaints
- Loss of community involvement / diminishing civic participation
- Homeless issues / access to mental health services, job skill training

Neighborhood Invitation Series

What we observed:

- People do care about and love neighborhoods.
- People do want to help their neighbors.
- People will work with city planners and the police.
- What people get out of their neighborhoods depends, in part, on what they put into them.

Plans on a Page

Two neighborhoods added Plans on a Page and/or Registered with the City:

- Oakley Neighborhood
- Hillside Terrace Neighborhood



May 16, 2020

Martin Luther King Jr. Park
More details coming in March

2019 Neighborhood Hero Award



This award is given annually to neighborhood members or groups who continually do extraordinary work on behalf of their communities.

Presentations & Training

NAC has heard from or participated in following last year:

- Homestays
- Revenue Diversification
- Infill
- Development Notification Tool
- Open Space / Tree Save
- Noise Ordinance
- Urban Centers
- The Budget Process
- Advancing Racial Equity 101 Training

Thank You!