Environmental Advisory Committee Meeting Minutes
8/8/17

PRESENT: Chair Sue Beffel, Vice-chair Irwin Flashman, Committee Members Eric Weinstein, Robin Duska, Emily Vorek, Lois Phemister, Carl Mitchell, Jon Damm; Staff Members Katie Shaw, Claudia Thompson-Deahl, Sandy Behrs

ABSENT: Doug Britt

GUESTS: Patti Lentz

I. Procedural Items
   A. Call to Order and Opening Remarks
      Sue Beffel called the meeting to order at 7:05pm, and a quorum was established. Patti Lentz introduced herself and said that she is a new member of Community Engagement Advisory Committee (CEAC) and is attending all committee meetings to see what each committee does.
   B. Approval of August 8, 2017 Meeting Agenda
      The agenda August 8, 2017 was unanimously approved as amended: Biophilic Cities was removed from the agenda and will be included on the September agenda with Doug Britt giving a report.
   C. Approval of July 11, 2017 Meeting Minutes
      The meeting minutes for July 11, 2017 were unanimously approved as amended (include dates of briefing to the BOC and Board of Directors and that Doug Britt gave both briefings).

II. General Communications
   D. Comments from RA Members—

III. Action/Discussion Items
   E. Representation at County Environmental Event -- Sue thanked Emily Vorek for representing the EAC at the recent Fairfax County Green Business Event along with Doug Britt.
   F. Light Plan Presentations -- Robin Duska, Sue Beffel, and Irwin Flashman attended a recent presentation by Bob Parks, former Executive Director of the International Dark-Sky Association and current Executive Director of Smart Outdoor Lighting Alliance. Mr. Parks was presenting to the Pedestrian Lighting Group and others on August 3, 2017. EAC is waiting for a date from Larry Butler to do a presentation on the RASER lighting section to the Ped Lighting Group—this will likely happen in September or October. EAC also needs to brief the DRB.

   ➢ Eric Weinstein entered the meeting at 8:05pm

   G. RASER – Prioritization of Recommendations --Robin Duska
      The committee focused on how to prioritize RASER recommendations and developed a list of types to indicate which entity would have prime responsibility for implementing each recommendation (RA board, volunteers, RA staff, etc.). The EAC discussed which type would
apply to several recommendations; the RASER Working Group will map this out further on 11 August and report out to the September EAC.

H. Litter Working Group (LWG) – Discuss and Vote on First Pilot Project
Irwin Flashman presented the LWG litter pilot project at the Lake Newport Soccer Fields in North Point with the committee. If approved by the committee, the draft proposal would be sent to the RA BOC for consideration on September 11, and onto the RA Board for consideration and approval at its September 28 meeting. The hope is that the project could commence in October. If the project is approved, EAC volunteers may be needed to assist.

*The following motion was made by Sue Beffel, with a second from Carl Mitchell:* Move that the EAC approve the draft proposal for a litter pilot project at the Newport Soccer Field and that the proposal be sent forward to the BOC for consideration on September 11, 2017.

The motion was unanimously approved.

I. CSF Reconstruction, updated costs of solar -- Irwin Flashman reported that at the Budget Working Session on Monday, August 7, 2017, the Board reviewed capital projects, including the CSF reconstruction.

*Solar Panels* -- the original estimate on solar panels (an EAC recommendation) had been $375K which included strengthening the roof; the new estimate is $340K, which is unlikely to be approved. Another option would be purchasing electricity from renewable sources. Over time, this could provide a savings of 5 – 15%. Information on how much energy was consumed for the last two years, the monthly cost, and the rates being charged has been requested by the EAC.

*Windows* -- The estimate to install a film to prevent bird collisions with the new windows is $15K.

J. Biophilic Cities – There will be a presentation on biophilic cities at the September meeting.

K. County Proposal to Raise Reston Density Caps – Hunter Mill Community Meeting scheduled for September 25, 2017 for public comments on the density caps.

L. Date of Next Meeting – Tuesday, September 5, 2017 at Nature House.

M. Activities and Updates – Bird Walk on Sunday, August 13, at Brown’s Chapel Park, 7:30-10:30am

Friday, August 11, Summer Shorts Film Series at Nature House

August 16, RA Camp Scholarship Fundraiser at Sweet Frog

IV. Adjourn

The meeting was adjourned at 9:30pm without objection.

Respectfully submitted by,
Sandy Behrs
Committee Secretary