

## Quality of Life Committee

### Summary notes

11/13/12

In attendance:

Kay Cooper

Mike Cook

Kim Cook

Carol Turner

Nancy Vorona

Staff:

Mike Congleton

Elisa Lueck

### Windshield Survey with DCC

- Kay described her tour of the area with Bob Burk of DCC and displayed and discussed photos.
- Issues noted:
  - blocked fire lanes/loading areas at Home Depot. Fire equipment was having difficulty entering the site and pallets, trucks, and landscaping and other material consistently block traffic.
  - signs in disrepair
  - outside display of goods such as mattresses and retail goods which block walkways and are unsightly
  - properties not well maintained, including structures and surrounding property
  - display of illegal signs throughout the area both on public and private property
  - panhandlers
  - lack of preventive maintenance of roadways and associated structures by VDOT

Provided an opportunity to learn about some things that can look bad, but aren't necessarily violations; and some things which are violation, but don't necessarily look that bad.

Jay Rauschenbach provided an overview of parks and recreation grant opportunities.

Recommendations:

Fairfax County consider a proactive approach for code enforcement instead of the complaint-driven model. Additionally recommend that VDOT take a proactive, rather than complaint-driven, approach.

Fairfax County considers advising new businesses at time of issuance of business license of sign and development regulations.

Fairfax County/VDOT consider a proactive approach for code enforcement regarding vehicles stored on service drives.

VDOT consider consolidating signage on utility /traffic control devices and minimizing the number of sign posts and, as appropriate, signs.

Educate new members of the community in cultural norms and expectations for property maintenance, signage, etc. If needed, translate documents that explain sign regulations, in order to ensure that all in community understand

Discussed that BIDs are likely not the approach for Fairfax County to take; rather, a Chamber (possibly via BCRC) is a potential route to enhance communications and form a more engaged district.

Requests:

The Committee would like to meet with the owners/managers of the properties and/or businesses in the area at their January meeting.

The Committee would like to be provided with a summary of the future plans for the Willston Center.

Staff to check with Aaron Frank/Liz Hagg about providing the Committee with the names of business owners in the area at the December meeting.

The Committee would like to review development regulations in the Zoning Ordinance, and provide feedback around areas they believe should be amended. Asked staff to provide them with information on the specific section(s) of the regulations/Zoning Ordinance they should review.

Requested Matt Flis provide committee members with copy of the letter issued by BCRC

Would like Lauren from VDOT to address newspaper dispensing machines when she comes to speak to the committee at their December meeting

Decisions:

All future meeting agendas will have estimated times for agenda items.

Public input will be limited to the last 20 minutes of each meeting.