

DRAFT

Affordable Housing Study Working Group

October 23, 2014

Meeting Notes

Members present: Dr. Leonard Hamlin (Chair), Dave Peterson, Steve Sockwell, Saul Reyes, Michael Spotts, Dave Leibson, Dr. Hamlin, Joan Lawrence, Bob Bushkoff, Doris Topel-Gantos, Linda Kelleher, Matthew De Ferranti, John Grant, Steve Sockwell, Umair Ahsan, Kathryn Scruggs, Ori Weisz

Staff: Russell Schroeder, Joel Franklin, Rolda Nedd, David Cristeal, Marsha Allgeier

1. **Welcome** – Dr. Hamlin convened the meeting at 7: 38 by welcoming everyone and thanking them for participating in this ongoing housing study.

2. **Public Comment:** Char Mahoney, a resident of Arlington Forest Civic Association thanked Russell Schroeder for his presentation to the Civic Association. Out of a resident survey of 278 responses, 95% disagreed with building housing on Lubber Run site. Protecting the local park and community center is very important to residents of the neighborhood. Park land is for public uses and residents would like to preserve it for that purpose.

Doris Ray: Representative of Endepence Center of Northern Virginia and Disability Advisory Commission commented on draft Goals and Objectives. One major objective should be to provide adequate supply of accessible housing and provide incentives to developers to provide more than minimum requirements provided by Virginia State code. Universal design principles are not a legal standard. Must use fully accessible standard. Type- A fully accessible unit strongly advised – full roll in shower.

3. **Approval of meeting notes:** Correction to read Joe Onyebuchi replaced by Matthew Del Ferranti not Umair Ahsan.

4. **Report on LRPC** by Steve Sockwell's comments:

- Commissioners questioned needs analysis as it relates to values
- Principles should be strongly stated
- The question of sustainability of affordable housing production came up. There may be a stronger case involving the economics and practical reasons for Affordable Housing.
- Quantifiable measures/targets required.
- See this as an opportunity for Arlington to be innovative in the context of smart growth.
- Looking forward to seeing progress and presentation to LRPC in 2015

Comments from members: Bob Boshkoff suggested that there should be more public education on Affordable Housing Policy; what it is and why it is needed. The case should be laid out in public documents. Matthew de Ferranti added that the Working Group may want to quantify goals and provide specific numbers; such as production targets.

Dave Leibson asked whether there will be new targets or would we use existing targets? Russell Schroeder commented that we would look at the needs analysis and also existing targets.

5. Recap of October Workshop

- Comment on Amsterdam as an example built for expansion and conversion; range of incomes accommodated. Group should look internationally for best practices to achieve what is needed.
- Using air rights over I-66, for parks, buildings
- Policy areas 1, 2 , 9 were noted
- People appreciated the opportunity to discuss concerns. Michael Spotts – important to be clear and remind everyone of the limitations of the study to minimize misunderstanding.

6. Group discussion on Goals, Objectives and Policies (separate combined notes).

7. **Next Steps** - Russell Danao-Schroeder gave overview of upcoming meetings and described briefly what would be covered in each; no Working Group meeting in November due to Thanksgiving Holiday. Today's notes will be available by November 4th. He will set up calendars with meetings and reminded members to respond with their availability for upcoming meetings.

8. Subcommittee Reports

There were no subcommittee reports

9. Announcements/take aways:

The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 with closing remarks from Dr. Hamlin