



Friendship Court Advisory Committee Meeting  
14 December 2017  
Grimm + Parker  
Meeting Notes  
6 pm – 8 pm

Advisory Committee Members: **Sheri Hopper, Myrtle Houchens**, Crystal Johnson, **Betty Lowry, Kathy Galvin, Yolanda Ross, Kevin White, Tyquan Mayo, Bill Edgerton, Zafar Khan, Sarah McLean**, Mike Murphy, **Tamara Wright, Angela Brooks, Daemond Nowlin**

PHA Staff Members: **Sunshine Mathon, Karen Reifenberger, Claudette Grant, Beth Kennan**

PHA Board Members: **Beth Meyer**

Consultants Teams Represented: **Grimm + Parker, Timmons Group**

***(Bold) indicates present at the above referenced meeting***

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As background, the last two meetings of the advisory committee were design charrettes. The result of these meetings was a need by the advisory committee to discuss and learn about open spaces, streets, traffic calming and other forms of connectivity and their relationship to proposed buildings.

A. Introduction

Sunshine welcomed the group and outlined the evening which included:

- Open Space Discussion
- Connectivity / Circulation Discussion
- Conclusion Exercise
- Recap / Review Next Steps

B. Open Space Discussion

- Key definitions with examples were reviewed including: Private Open Space, Community Open Space, Public Circulation Space, and Public Gathering Space.
- A review of the previous charrette takeaways was done these included: better playground, areas to sit + eat, garden + produce areas, benches + sitting areas to name several.
- Then a discussion of how the master plan approached or proposed how to approach these spaces.
- Terms such as "Necessary, Optional, and Social Spaces" were introduced to educate non-design professionals on how these terms relate to areas they see each and every day. This also led to a question from a resident, "if we have more open spaces what



happens to the size of the buildings?” A key issue that the design team will work to balance through the process.

C. Connectivity / Circulation

- The group then discussed streets and how they can be used to connect areas. In this discussion they reviewed areas where streets and sidewalks work and what makes them work and what doesn't work. This led to a discussion on the Charlottesville Downtown Mall and why it isn't necessarily an inviting place for residents of Friendship Court and how it has changed over the years to become less of a social place where you might have chance encounters.
- Pedestrian walkways and bike paths were also discussed.
- This led to a discussion of what makes a street design work, again images were used for this portion of the discussion and how traffic calming can be used to help ease concern over high speeds, child safety, and other concerns that arise from the incorporation of new streets. It was acknowledged that streets need to be incorporated into the redevelopment in order to help connect to the surrounding areas.

D. Conclusion Exercise

- The concluding exercise was a discussion of what the advisory committee members liked and disliked about these topics. These are under review by the design team.
- The meeting concluded after this exercise. The Advisory committee will discuss in greater detail the results at the January meeting.

E. Meeting Schedule

- January 18, 2017
- January 25, 2017