

Architectural Advisory Board
George Mason High School Library, 7124 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA 22043
January 2nd, 2019

The meeting was called to order 7:35 p.m.

1. Roll Call: Mrs. Friedlander, Mr. Osburn, Mr. Way, and Mr. Wong were present. Mrs. Duggan was not present.
2. Petitions: There were no petitions.
3. Consent Calendar: There were no consent calendar items.
4. Old Business: There was no old business.
5. New Business:
 - a. Recommendations and Feedback requested on the Site Plan for Big Chimneys Park, located at W Annandale Road, RPC #53-309-413 & #53-309-415 of the Falls Church Real Property Records, zoned B-2, Central Business. MUNIS#: 2018-0646. Includes presentation from the Applicant.

City staff presented the planned changes to Big Chimneys Park after which the board discussed the following items:

There may be issues with skateboarders using the low walls around the play areas. Because the ground cover is mulch, there isn't any problem anticipated, however, the city should be prepared to install preventative devices on the low walls.

City should consider some form of lighting in the pavillion area, especially something that is motion activated. While a permanent light may not be desirable (because it could prove inviting to visitors after the park is closed), some form of lighting may be prudent for safety purposes.

With respect to the accessibility ramp projecting into W. Annandale Rd. and its design, the City should consider including high-visibility bollards or other elements to alert drivers and cyclists to its presence for safety.

City should consider and plan for inclusion of an archway park entrance arch at

the W. Annandale Rd. entrance (as well as the Shirley St. entrance) for consistency with other current parks in the City. While the Board understands that budget constraints currently prohibit the inclusion of such elements, the City should plan for the opportunity to incorporate the archway if funds are available in the future.

6. Administrative Business:

- a. Elect Chairman and Vice Chairman – Mrs. Friedlander nominated Mr. Way as Chairman. Mr. Way accepted the nomination, Mr. Wong seconded, and Mr. Way was elected unanimously. Mr. Way nominated Mrs. Friedlander for Vice Chairman. Mrs. Friedlander accepted the nomination, Mr. Osburn seconded the motion, and Mrs. Friedlander was elected unanimously.
- b. 2018 AAB Draft Annual Report – The Board commends Mr. Hollern for drafting the Board's first Annual Report. The Board will provide some additional narrative content to be incorporated prior to it being sent to City Council. City Staff and the Board will also double-check to determine if there were any other projects considered in 2018 that are not currently in the report.
- c. 2019 AAB Draft Calendar – The Board requested City Staff change the July 3 date to July 10. Otherwise, the calendar is accepted as presented.
- d. 2019 AAB Rules and Procedures – City staff will make one minor change to update the meeting time to 7:30 p.m from 7:45 p.m. Otherwise, no other changes were recommended.
- e. AAB Discussion – Looking ahead for 2019 – Staff and the Board discussed planning for 2019. The Board appreciates the proactive efforts to get projects included for review early in development so Board input can be considered and incorporated. The Board also appreciates the opportunities to participate in work sessions with other city groups, but recommends these be planned as individual events and not incorporated into regular meetings so as to allow enough time for substantive input. City Staff also mentioned the possibility of educational speakers, and the Board would appreciate being invited to relevant opportunities. City Staff also mentioned that they have created an online library of projects that will allow the Board and others to view documentation related to future and current development in the City.

7. Minutes:

- a. Minutes from the December 5 2018 AAB meeting were reviewed. Mr. Wong made a motion they be accepted as submitted, seconded by Mr. Osburn, and passed unanimously.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:30 p.m.

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