

**Meeting at South County Secondary School
Tuesday, September 9th, 2008 @ 7:30 p.m.**

**** MINUTES****

BOARD REPORTS (10 Minutes)

President Grogan called the meeting to order at 7:37. Noted the Federation's 25th anniversary this year. Encouraged members to invite their neighbors to our October 14th candidate forum. Noted that there are numerous issues that whoever wins in November can address for the local community. Recognized a police officer from Franconia station will address law enforcement issues for our community tonight. Noted the Alexander Company's candid tour of the former prison along with Vice President Dale Johnson.

Financial Report: Gloria Bannister; Treasurer. Balance: \$9,098.79. Reports were distributed.

Vice President's Report: Dale Johnson; VP. Read from July South County Chronicle "Viewpoint" letter. Thanked Lowell Curtis for the letter and called for current members to reach out to their non-member homeowner associations.

Announce attendance sheet distribution

SUPERVISORS/LEGISLATORS TIME and DISCUSSION (15 Minutes)

Supervisor Gerry Hyland

Noted his request to have the federation be recognized before the board for 25 years of service. Date to be determined.

Noted the handout and summarized several subjects he'd like to address.

- Education -

County Board in closed session considered three proposals regarding the middle school: bonds, Envirosolutions, Clark Construction

Board of Supervisors decided to use bond financing to move forward on the middle school.

School Board still needs to address expediting the middle school in the CIP.

There is still window for ESI and Clark proposals if the expected events regarding the bonds and CIP schedule issues.

Though he could not comment on executive session discussion, Supervisor Hyland assured the federation that the financing is definitely there for the middle school.

- Alexander Company -

Public presentation tomorrow, September 10th by Alexander Company of their findings regarding the adaptive re-use analysis. They will be entering a short period for public comment and will return on September 29th with a plan. In ensuing discussion, Hyland and some members noted that this is the culmination of over 20 years of community involvement regarding the re-use of the former prison property. His response to a question about the Board's plan for Laurel Hill adaptive re-use was to say that the board supports the community's wishes

for the property. Concern raised about finding willing developers in the current economic crisis. Hyland noted that it will likely be three or more years before the contracting is defined. Then again, with BRAC, developers may be eager to move on Laurel Hill hoping for better times in the future.

- Budget –

Estimated \$430 million shortfall. Revenue outlook for the next year are not good. 63% of county budget comes from property taxes. Rate will likely be raised, likely beyond the ‘break even’ point of recent years (higher rates on lower assessments. County is looking at the budget as a whole and foresees some substantial spending cuts.

Pohick Bay Pool closed after a very successful season. He recalled that just in the last few years the pool was in danger of closing permanently. The pool has gone from struggling for attendance to needing crowd control in this most recent season.

- Public safety -

Police have significant leads in the recent murder in a driveway on Paper Birch in the Laurel Hill community. Officials believe that this was not random violence.

Farmers’ Markets are in good shape with some funding from the US Dept of Agriculture

Joe Gartlan: proposed renaming Mt Vernon Mental Health Center in honor of Senator Gartlan who passed this summer.

State Senator George Barker

Noted special session plan that he thought was pretty good passed Senate but failed house.

Session starts again in January. Welcomes input from the community.

Senator Barker noted that one thing that makes it difficult is that a “super majority” is required in the house. 49-48 plurality does not pass a bill in the state senate.

STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Education (Christine Morin)
 - Boundary meetings November 11th & December 1st
 - Design proposals to be voted on soon for Middle School
 - Next hurdle is the school board vote on capital improvements plan (CIP)
 - Meetings to take place in December and January
 - Elementary Boundary: Newington Forest, Halley, Silverbrook, Lorton Station, Gunston
 - Neal McBride made note of a ranking list that the school board had analysts draw up that ranked schools by need of renovation.

South County Federation
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- Land Use (Linwood Gorham & Dale Johnson) (15 Minutes)
 - Next month possible resolutions
 - BRAC task force has taken a first look at the six nominations affecting our area
 - Linwood said the community wishes and taskforce finding were very similar
 - Thanked Dale Johnson for his help with land use issues and gave floor to Dale
 - Noted distribution of two flyers about upcoming Laurel Hill re-use presentations
 - Also noted the public general schedule of the Laurel Hill adaptive re-use project
 - Noted on the website is a summary of the presentation and the June meetings
 - President Grogan urged the community to think about a realistic sustainable re-use. He advocated a strong mixed-use environment.
- Transportation and Public Safety (Shean Robinson) (5 Minutes)
 - Recognized Officer Allie Eggers from Franconia District Station Crime Prevention Unit who introduced herself and her partner Officer Bower and urged the community to express their concerns to the public safety officer at any of the stations serving our area. She noted that though it may seem at times the department is keeping the public in the dark, it is not with the intent of nondisclosure, but it is for the purpose of investigation. She referenced the JonBenet case as an instance of what can happen when a department does not sufficiently control information related to a case.
 - She talked about the department website incident mapping
 - She noted there has been a sharp rise in “vehicle tampering” (theft of GPS, broken windows) encouraged not leaving any item of value in your car and lock it. Try to park in well lit areas and be aware of yourself and your vehicle. Discussion included theft of catalytic converters and gas theft(not common from personal vehicles)
 - She covered a range of subjects. Be sure to lock your sliding doors. Take pictures of your possessions so that it will be easier to identify stolen items and get them back to you when recovered.
 - Susan Fremit addressed concerns of the Lorton Station community involving the four way stop in front of the Lorton Towne Center. VDoT has yellow striped the turn lanes from Lorton Station Boulevard to the center and the street across from it.
 - **Resolution 08-30** calling upon VDoT to address concerns of Lorton Station community to street mark the inside lanes with street “left & through” arrows at Lorton Station Blvd and to expedite the installation of the new traffic light at the VRE station. Passed 42-0-2
- Environmental/Parks and Environmental (Gloria Bannister) (5 Minutes)
 - Resolution 08-29 adopting new charter for the Environmental. Passed 44-0-5
 - Nation Public Lands Day: September 27th Volunteer opportunities at public parks.

Adjournment at 9:09

OLD BUSINESS

Lorton Community Action Center (Tim Rizer)

November 1st LCAC Fall Gala at Workhouse Arts Center

October 11th Cold War Museum meeting

NEW BUSINESS

South Fairfax Chamber of Commerce “Benefiting Commerce and Community” soon to open, foresees benefits of involving the chamber in the federation.

Lorton Arts Foundation: Workhouse Arts Center grand opening September 19-27

NEXT MEETINGS (meeting through end of 2008 at South County Secondary School)

October 14th Candidate Night with Gerry Connolly and Keith Fimian

November 11th & December 9th

	Member Associations	Member Through	Here	Non Aligned Caucus Members	Paid Thru	Here
1	Afton Glen		Yes	Clifton, Irma		Yes
2	Barrington			Lally, Eleanor		Yes
3	Crosspointe					
4	Gunston Corner THOA					
5	Gunston Manor					
6	Gunston Square		Yes			
7	Hallowing Point Civic Assoc			Other Attendees		
8	Harbor View					
9	Hollymeade			Gerry Hyland (Mount Vernon Supervisor)		Yes
10	Laurel Hill Community Association		Yes	Tom Howard (Hyland's Office)		Yes
11	Laurel Highland			George Barker (State Senator)		Yes
12	Lorton Station		Yes	Officer Allie Eggars		Yes
13	Lorton Valley		Yes	Officer Julia Bauer		Yes
14	Mason Neck Civic Association		Yes	Greg Werkheiser		Yes
15	Newington Forest		Yes	Brenda Simms (Connection Newspapers)		Yes
16	Newington Woods			Conrad Meehan (EnviroSolutions)		Yes
17	Non-Aligned Caucus (see upper right)					
18	Occoquan Overlook					
19	Overlook Point					
20	Pohick Square		Yes			
21	Saratoga Community Association					
22	Shepherd Hills					
23	Springfield Oaks					
24	Shirley Acres		Yes			
25	Silverbrook Hunt					
26	Southpointe					
27	Spring Hill		Yes			
28	Stone Manor					
29	Wildwood		Yes			
30	Williamsburg Square		Yes			