



P.O. Box 442, Lorton, Virginia 22199
Meeting at South County Secondary School
Tuesday, January 13, 2009 @ 7:30 p.m.

****** MINUTES ******

BOARD REPORTS

President Grogan called the meeting to order at 7:30.

He wished everyone a Happy New Year and looked forward to 2009. He summarized the highlights of the busy agenda and predicted a longer than usual meeting.

Approval of meeting minutes from November and December 2008. Passed via voice vote.

Thanked Gloria for her service as outgoing Treasurer.

Financial Report: Gloria Bannister; Treasurer.

Income since last report: \$443; \$35.83 earned interest in TIAA/CREF account; \$441.20 expense for 25th anniversary; balance \$9,087.44. Printed copies of financial report were made available as well as an accounting of the income and expenses of the 25th anniversary celebration.

Vice President's Report: Peter Dickinson. Will continue where Dale left off in trying to grow membership. Looking into creating an information pamphlet for the Federation.

Peter, Gloria, Calvin have been asked to look into forming an annual budget.

Distribute attendance sign-in sheets.

SUPERVISORS/LEGISLATORS TIME and DISCUSSION (10 Minutes)

Supervisor Gerry Hyland (Mount Vernon)

Supervisor spoke on several issues including:

January 22nd, school board will vote on where the middle school will be placed in the CIP

Financing for construction of the middle school

Voiced support for the SLEEP proposal that would change start times for the school day

Talked of the next steps for Laurel Hill Adaptive Re-use and efforts to find an alternative site for the ballfield. Said he would be reluctant to support a plan that would not include finding a solution for ballfield supporters should the ballfield not be in the final plan.

Temporary bus depot proposal for 30-35 buses

Update on Envirosolutions proposal for middle school.

Budget: so far \$650 million problem; tax rate will need to be adjusted

Fairfax County still has a AAA bond rating

Farmers' Market in the spring near the VRE; thanked Davis Industries, Mason Neck, Harbin Marine for donating funds for this

22nd Annual Town Hall meeting on January 31st from 7:45 to 1PM at Mt Vernon High School "Little Theatre". There will be a debate between candidates for Chair of the County Board of Supervisors

Remote testimony for Board of Supervisors meeting initiated at the South County Government Center. More testified offsite than in the chamber at the County Government Center.

Special election February 3rd to elect the Chair of the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors.



P.O. Box 442, Lorton, Virginia 22199

Linwood inquired about the Envirosolutions proposal. It is possible that the county will compete against Envirosolutions. Linwood hopes there will be a way for the community to have input on the proposal and possibly change it. He expressed concern about the community being unfamiliar with the process. The purchasing arm of the county will be asked to contact the federation.

Question about bridge closures on inauguration day. The only concession is that there will be allowed pedestrian traffic across them. Bicycles will not be allowed to cross the bridge. Expressed concerns about the difficulties for the disabled and elderly.

Question about "shovel-ready" projects. Gerry said he will find out what projects have been flagged by the county for the economic stimulus proposals for transportation infrastructure spending.

President Grogan addressed some pressing business regarding the federation

Resolution 09-01 to establish committees and appoint chairs Linwood(LU), Christine(Ed), Dale(Trans), Clint Herbert(Safety) and Gloria(Parks/Enviro). Passed via voice vote

Resolutions 09-02 to 09-06. Noted that there have been some minor changes since last time. Passed via voice vote.

Resolution 09-07. Noted the old Transportation/Safety is now two separate committees. Welcomed Clint Herbert as Safety Chair and Dale as Transportation. Asked for participation on the Transportation and Safety committees in particular. Land Use committee has more prospective members than slots. Passed via voice vote.

Sharon Bulova, Braddock Supervisor and Vice Chair of the Board, addressed the federation as a political candidate.

Noted she is running for the Chair in the special election to fill the recently vacated seat formerly filled by, now Representative, Gerry Connolly. Spoke of her long residence and service in Braddock district, involvement in county finances, her successful efforts involving public transportation(VRE in particular), managing growth. Noted improvements in environmental issues and looks forward to continuing the efforts of immediate past Chair Connolly. Spoke of her experience as budget chair. As shown by the county 53% budget expenditure on education, Supervisor Bulova knows well education is the county's #1 priority. Spoke of the safety of the county. Noted building new schools. In this time of economic trouble, human services should not be ignored. She then allowed questions:

What would she like to happen with the prison land? She appreciates the Workhouse Arts Center. She knows we are considering the Laurel Hill re-use.

Will the county buy foreclosures? What are the plans for affordable housing? The county has tagged affordable housing as a priority. Analysts have noted that lack of affordable housing limits good growth. A possible problem is that while encouraging affordable housing to be built, the market forces cause loss of affordable housing when say an apartment building goes condo. The county has purchased some of these units and set them aside as affordable housing. Foreclosures: Silver Lining Program will purchase 10 houses with particular goals and conditions. The program also allows non-profits to team with the county. The county has become eligible for federal funding through the program.

President Grogan expressed the community's desire for a police station in our area.

Noted that she has seen a lot of success from the community and praised Gerry Hyland for his work and dedication; tenacity. She said he is a tireless advocate for our community.



P.O. Box 442, Lorton, Virginia 22199

Question about immigration, is it a drain on the system? Fairfax County took a much different approach (from Prince William County). Fairfax County chose to enforce related issues when safety is involved, such as overcrowding, and is happy to aid the federal government when requested, but decided not to actively do the job of ICE (Immigration Customs Enforcement).

Question/statement about feeling that some county staff might be working against the middle school. She clearly expressed her support for the middle school.

Springfield Supervisor Pat Herrity address the federation as a political candidate.

Lived here all his life, born here, raised here, graduated VA Tech, parents still live here, has watched the county evolve from sleepy bedroom community to what it is today, spoke of his experience running successful businesses as well as fixing troubled ones, involved in the community, former president of a civic association, active in coaching youth sports. Knows the county is facing tough times: likely \$750 million shortfall coming, you can eliminate many major departments completely and not reach \$750 million. Believes the problem is due to misplaced priorities such as proving housing assistance to families making 6 figures.

Looking at building \$60 million admin building when teachers are looking at pay freezes

Transportation needs to continue to be a priority.

Gangs, crime, dispersed police coverage

Middle school

Faced families at Braddock to let them know that despite a wing meaning no boundary study, he would support building a middle school rather than a wing.

Hopes the county can get federal funds for shovel ready projects.

He took questions: could he name some specific shovel ready projects?

Telegraph interchange, complete parkway, NoVA is probably best positioned area of the state

Gerry Hyland noted that he will get list of shovel ready projects

What should happen to prison land?

What makes sense is a "town centre" project with not a lot of density[assume housing density - Alan]

Community police station support for our area

Yes, but with caveat that we are facing a budget crisis. Noted that our officers are facing salary stresses and they are somewhat stretched in terms of coverage.

BoS has been aggressive in cutting real estate rates?

Did not support rate increase, proposed 3 cent reduction.

How do we close the gap?

Not strictly anti-tax. The problem is spending. Some proposals: combining staffing for the county and the county schools. Seek larger commercial tax base.

Meals tax?

Spending more problem than lack of revenue. I would cost a lot money to put it on ballot. Doesn't think it can pass.



P.O. Box 442, Lorton, Virginia 22199

Questions for school board members Liz Bradsher and Dan Storck(Chair)

[I hoped to capture the highlights of a fast Q&A. – Alan]

Newington Forest, #20 out of 63 on a priority list, is scheduled for no earlier than 2020 to be renovated.

LB: the school system needs to find a better process for renovation that should be looked at by the whole board.

Clarification, possible 9:40 AM start time for Halley.

LB: According to her sources:9:25 to 4PM

SCMS 940-430

DS: Main factor affecting the change in start times is buses. 2nd largest bus system in the nation. Need to move the same number of students as now, but in different schedule.

LB: urged federation members to inform and involve their communities and impress upon them the possible impact on their lives

DS: there is give and take in all of the plans, none of the plans are ideal,

DS: basic idea is that elementary school kids are more awake in the morning, teens are not, and middle school kids need supervision in the afternoon (often by their older siblings?)

Both

Member noted that the plans seem to have been drawn up by someone unfamiliar with the realities in our area.

Member announced community meeting at Silo Center of New Hope Church, Thursday at 7PM.

Opinion on grading changes: LB: agree there should be a change in scale and take another look at the weighting of honors and AP classes

DS: recognizes that although local colleges are familiar with the scale, others across the nation are not, also, there are some scholarships that have hard requirements for GPA, GPAs for those who concentrate in areas that AP classes are not offered are not able to benefit weighting

LB: the assumption that current high Bs will become As is a false assumptions, teachers may give and 89(B) in the new scale for the same work that teachers graded as a 92(B) in the old scale

DS: legislature is considering making the 10 point scale the state standard

A member familiar with the admissions process stated that schools that get lots of admission requests may never give students on a 7point scale a chance beyond their GPA in the first round of winnowing.

DS: it looks inevitable that there will be some communities that will be negatively impacted, the reality is that changes are needed to prevent any one school from being so overcrowded that education suffers, the board seeks to reach a balance that negatively impacts the least number of students.

Member hoped that the process itself can be changed; it seems boundary studies always turn ugly.

Member expressed feeling county school staff does not take community wishes under serious consideration.

DS: major middle school vote coming in about 10 days, we have reached the point we are currently at through county support and creative funding and community involvement,

President Grogan noted that thanks to both monetary and supplies donations, we were about \$77 in the black for the 25th anniversary celebration.



P.O. Box 442, Lorton, Virginia 22199

STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Land Use (Linwood Gorham) (3-5 Minutes)
 - Mr. Parker will be coming next month to talk of the temporary bus depot proposal
 - LUC concern: already large number of heavy trucks on nearby roads
 - Lorton Arts Foundation proffer amendments
 - Spoke of some things the LUC has discussed
 - Abandonment of Lorton Road
 - Nike Missile Site
 - School Park Swap discussed
- Public Safety (Clint Herbert) (3-5 Minutes)
 - Introduced himself; president of his HoA, 36 years in public safety, looking forward to working to help his community,
- Environmental (Gloria Bannister) (3-5 Minutes)
 - Cleanup projects coming in the spring
 - Looking for new members for his committee
 - Upcoming watershed presentation
 - Peter spoke in memory of Greg Lyle, longtime community resident, who passed recently
 - (note to self: email Peter to get more for minutes)
 - President Grogan requested a card be sent from SCF to Greg's family
- Transportation (Dale Johnson) (3-5 Minutes)
 - VDoT officials on HOT(High Occupancy, Toll) Lanes (20 Minutes)
 - Young Ho Chang recognized his associate Lee ____, and also Tim Young and Jeff Cole of Fluor Transurban
 - Upcoming hearings Feb 9, 10 & 11 from 5-9PM at Potomac High, Lee High and Minnie Howard Schools
 - HOT lanes project will expand current stretch to three lanes
 - Plans to provide access to EPG with construction funded by military
 - Q&A (20 Minutes)
 - Will there be a cap on the toll? No, the toll will be determined by the traffic level to give potential users a disincentive to add to the traffic in the HOT lanes
 - Will the HOT lanes be used in the evacuation plans? VDoT has authority to suspend the tolls if an emergency evacuation is declared.
 - Are tolls always in effect? Yes, 24/7, but HOV will also be in effect 24/7.



P.O. Box 442, Lorton, Virginia 22199

- Would it better to wait on some of the system to gain the hindsight that would help us plan the secondary part of the HOT projects.
 - Suggestion: table the current HOT Lanes project, VDoT make some of the improvements, see what we can learn, then see if the proposal still makes sense.
 - Question about environmental considerations. Available online is more info.
 - Crosspointe contested VDoT claim of compliance with silt reduction regulations
 - Impact of squeezing three lanes where there are now two. 11 and 12 foot lanes in places, 2.5 foot shoulders.
 - Clean fuel waiver? No.
- Education (Christine Morin) (20 Minutes)
 - Large number of issues that impact school children and their families
 - School Board votes on CIP this month; critical for South County Middle School
 - January 22nd vote
 - Elementary School Boundary Study
 - Made map of staff recommendation available for review
 - Hearings: January 29th possibly on Feb 4th
 - Feb 19th: decision on boundary will be made
 - County School Budget Hearings: decisions to be made Feb 5th
 - Gatehouse II: purchase of building for school admin staff
 - Citizens' School Renovation Priority Committee
 - FairGrade
 - Later school start times, S.L.E.E.P.

OLD BUSINESS

- Lorton Community Action Center (Anda Ostergard) (3 Minutes)
- 25th anniversary budget review

NEW BUSINESS

- Next meetings
 - February 10th meeting is at the South County Secondary School.
 - March 10th meeting is at the South County Secondary School.
 - April 14th meeting is at the South County Secondary School.

Adjournment was at 10:18

Note: South County Federation website is at <http://www.southcountyfederation.com/>



P.O. Box 442, Lorton, Virginia 22199

Members	Member Through	Present	Non Aligned Caucus Members	Mem	Present
Afton Glen		yes	Gomolinski-Lally, Eleanor		yes
Barrington			Fedorshick, John		
Cavanaugh Crossing		yes	Clifton, Irma		yes
Crosspointe		yes	Meeker, Rose		
Gunston Corner THOA			Dreude, Thomas		
Gunston Manor					
Gunston Square		yes	Other Attendees		
Hallowing Point Civic Assoc		yes			
Harbor View			Gerry Hyland		yes
Hollymeade			Tom Howard		yes
Laurel Hill Community Association		yes	Supervisor Pat Herrity		yes
Laurel Highlands		yes	Supervisor Sharon Bulova		yes
Lorton Station			Juliana Stroup (Halley School Meeting)		yes
Lorton Valley		yes	Sal Dangelo(sp?)(Halley School Meeting)		yes
Mason Neck Civic Association		yes	Charles Jones		yes
Newington Forest		yes	Dan Storck (School Board,Mt. Vernon,Chair)		yes
Newington Woods			Liz Bradsher (School Board, Springfield)		yes
Non-Aligned Caucus			Greg Schuckmann		
Occaquan Overlook			Tim Sargeant (Planning Commissioner)		
Overlook Point			Steve Lam(sp?)		
Pohick Square		yes	Anda Ostergard (LCAC)		
Saratoga Community Association			VDoT reps (HOT Lanes presentation)		
Shepherd Hills			Fluor TransUrban reps (HOT Lanes)		
Springfield Oaks					
Shirley Acres					
Silverbrook Hunt		yes			
Southpointe		yes			
Spring Hill		yes			
Stone Mannor					
Wildwood		yes			
Williamsburg Square		yes			