

P.O. Box 442, Lorton, Virginia 22199

**Meeting at South County Secondary School
Tuesday, March 10th, 2009 @ 7:30 p.m.**

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

BOARD REPORTS (10 Minutes)

Call to Order/President's Report: Michael Grogan; President.

Called to order at 7:33.

President Grogan welcomed those in attendance noting some new faces. He recognized officials in attendance including State Senator George Barker, Planning Commissioners Tim Sargent and Earl Flanagan, and noted School Board Chair Dan Storck would arrive later.

Approval of Last Meeting Minutes. Passed via voice vote.

Financial Report: Calvin Smith, Treasurer. No changes from last report, balance of \$9,087.51

Vice President's Report: Peter Dickinson; VP. Welcomed Hampton Acres. Still looking to re-engage past members. A draft brochure should be drawn up in the next several weeks.

Distribute attendance sign-in sheet

SUPERVISORS/LEGISLATORS TIME and DISCUSSION (10 Minutes)

Gerry Hyland (Mount Vernon Supervisor)

Wished his chief aide Tom Howard the best. He will be missed. Announced that Christine Morin will be joining his staff. She will share duties with Marcia Hanson for the near future.

Budget matters: BoS adopted a real estate rate of \$1.05 per \$100. Hearings begin at the end of March. Please contact Gerry Hyland's office if you would like to comment on the proposed budget.

Linwood had spoken to Gerry about the issue with landfill. Gerry would be willing to agree to expand construction debris if the community agrees and there is a significant benefit to the community. Clarified that this is for building debris, not trash. An RFP has been issued and EnviroSolutions is welcome to bid. There is another private bidder. There is even a possibility of the county itself proposing to do this themselves. Suggested rather than making a resolution like the one he saw a draft of, keeping it internal. Linwood noted that the motion is to be presented tonight to start discussion. He noted that the language in the draft motion uses "requirements" wording and recommended choosing words that are not so definitive.

He noted that he is recovering well from his car accident of several months ago.

Gerry brought up the possible issue of conflict of interest with having Christine Morin join his paid staff. He noted that in the past he has had in his employ several people who have at the same time served on civic association boards and committees.

George Barker (State Senator)

Noted that unlike contentious sessions of recent years, this year the legislature adjourned on time. There is a very short scheduled session in April to address vetoes and some changes that might be possible from funding from the national stimulus program. Significant legislation on energy conservation, restaurant smoking ban, reduce waiting list for treatment for mentally ill. Several of the bills he supported passed the state senate and failed in the house of delegates. Some progress in terms of talks with state education officials about schools buildings. George was glad they were able to stop proposed elimination of poison hotline centers.

Question about funding Barker and Albo got last year earmarked for middle school. Dan Storck noted that the funds were actually earmarked for BRAC.

Question about HOT lanes. George has been working with concerned groups from northern Virginia in Richmond. There will likely be a decision around July.

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Dave Albo (Delegate for the 42nd District)

Commended George Barker on finding a solution for the highway funding formula debate.

Distributed handout of what might come out of the national stimulus funds for our area.

Noted that he authored the initial draft of the restaurant smoking ban. He had opposed outright bans in the past. This bill is different because of compromises for private clubs and ways for businesses to adopt facilities changes to create separate areas for smokers.

Noted that there were bills that closed loopholes in DUI laws.

Opposed early release of non-violent prisoners as a way to lower costs in these tough economic times. The house got this taken out of the budget and the senate got something in return as part of the negotiations in Richmond.

Education funding formula. One component is school age population. This component has been changed to enrollment. This means areas that have large private school enrollments will get less state funding.

Handout: powerpoint presentation, \$4.6 billion total coming to Virginia this year and next(total; not per year), he noted that not all of the money is transportation, infrastructure and/or job related. He pointed out some specific examples from the handout. Problem with the national plan is that one of the requirements is that the project be in the work phase in the next three years and be in economically distressed areas. That likely means the roads will be built in southwest Virginia before here under the plan as it stands.

Noted the problem of excellent students being turned down by state higher education entities. Though bill was killed in house, got language added to budget securing 70% of slots kept for in-state schools. That did not make it to the final version, but he will try again next year.

Question about Fairfax Federation. Delegate Albo and Mr. Collins(?) nominated Christine Morin, who was chosen as an honoree this year.

Delegate Albo noted he is seeking another term as the Delegate of Virginia's 42nd State House district.

STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Education (Peter Dickinson for Christine Morin) (15 Minutes)
 - Laurel Hill Elementary
 - Elementary Boundary study completed; made map available for viewing
 - Next steps: Principal temporary office, they will likely be looking to involve the community this summer at various events,
 - Middle school planning moving forward quickly
 - SLEEP decision to be made on/near March 15
 - Chair Dan Storck believes there will be changes to accommodate SLEEP concerns, but does not think it will go as far as change the bell schedules. He thanked the community for input on the boundary study and recognized for those east of 95, there are less than ideal boundaries.
 - Delegate Albo recognized the good work that Dan Storck has done and that he is glad that he is not only our Mount Vernon school board rep, but has been elected as chair. Dan acknowledged much help from Christine.
 - Motion to have the federation donate \$100 and \$100 to South County High School and Hayfield High School all night graduation parties. Passed via voice vote.
 - Plan for this fall is to have one bell schedule at SCSS for high school and middle school classes.
- Land Use (Linwood Gorham) (10 Minutes)

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- Presentation regarding the Laurel Hill Middle School and nearby park sites
 - Basic plan is to have the county park authority and county school swap land
 - School construction person noted that there will be a significant section that will remain park use land, may use the pond there for educational trips
 - Discussion about lighting for athletic fields. Noted that there is new tech for lighting that he invited the public to come see this spring. A question was asked from residents of an adjacent community about whether a study was done regarding the new fields.
 - Linwood noted the park authority is willing to compromise. He provided background and history of these pieces of land. The current, pre-swap, plan allows lit fields that would be located in the south end of what will become, post-swap, the middle school property.
 - Neal McBride noted that the harsh lighting from the school were bought just before a new standard was imposed on county bought/managed lighting equipment
 - Question about the need for the large number of lighted fields. Need assessment was made with a survey across the county. Shortage currently is roughly 80 fields. Lighting is in demand due to shorter and shorter natural light times in the fall.
 - How late could lights be on? Current practice is up to 11 PM.
 - It was suggested that, post swap, there will be four fields available. Assuming pre-swap there would be only two fields, and knowing that a lit field is given a weighting as being worth 1.6 unlit fields, four unlit fields are as good or better than two lit fields.
 - Christine noted with currently secured funding, it is not enough to build a middle school on the pre-swap property.
 - Tim Sargent asked about noise ordinances and about light “spill” ordinances. Asked if there are similar sites in the county that run lights until as late as 11 PM.
 - On April 9, 8-9:30 PM, lights will be on at Nottoway Park. April 23, 8-9:30, lights will be on a Patriot Park (Parkway and Braddock)
 - Linwood referenced the comprehensive plan and noted wording of a southern orientation. Park authority rep noted the ‘2232’ showed a lit field in each half of the parcel.
 - Linwood in conclusion noted that the community concern is mainly with the lighting of fields in close proximity to residential areas.
 - It was asked is the middle school fields could be used. Dan Storck noted the existence of at least one field that is at a middle school that is lit and maintained by park authority.
- Discussion of proprietary parts of the proposed plan
 - 2018 close date on landfill
 - Issue of getting heavy haul trucks off most local more local roads
 - County has proposed that a public bid process be initiated
 - Problem with RFP (county) process, is that it does not include two items very desirable to the community that are proprietary and can only be provided by EnviroSolutions
 - Land Use considers these proprietary issues more important than the recreational issues of the SportsPlex
 - President Grogan noted that what is under consideration is not household garbage or trash or even retail or commercial garbage or trash. It is mainly construction debris and rubble.
 - Linwood read the document referred to by Supervisor Hyland

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- Noted that Conrad of Envirosolutions is offering something that we as a community cannot get through other means. The recycling center use is “by right”. Conrad or any future buyer of the parcel concerned could operate a business just like Davis Industries.
 - President Grogan said the federation wants to influence RFPs involving our community. Letting the world know that there are key objectives that the federation communities generally not compromise on.
 - Issue of whether it will be seen as the federation trying to tailor an RFP to the point that it only fits one possible bidder
 - It was noted that due to past failures the county can only do construction debris processing if no business will do so
 - Motion from member Mason Neck Civic Association authorizing executive officers of the federation to represent our community concerns discussed at the March 2009 general membership meeting. Passed 41-0-0.
 - [Discussion was broad and involved and there were issues not recorded in these minutes.]
- Transportation (Dale Johnson) (5 Minutes)
 - 24/7 VDoT number works; Dale gave out a flyer last meeting
 - Sign clutter laws
 - Immediate previous chair Sean Robinson has returned to serve on transportation committee
 - Still considering resolution favoring county laws regarding signs in/on public roads
 - Public Safety (Clint Herbert) (5 Minutes)
 - Called for committee volunteers and discussed some areas that are being considered.
 - Parks & Environmental (Gloria Bannister) (5 Minutes)
 - Alice Ferguson watershed cleanups coming: April 4th official date, but other cleanups on close dates
 - Eagle Festival

OLD BUSINESS

- Lorton Community Action Center (Anda Ostergard) (5 Minutes)
 - Bloom Food drive / Feinsein Challenge

NEW BUSINESS

- Next meetings
 - April 14th meeting is at the South County Secondary School.
 - May 12th meeting is at the South County Secondary School.
 - June 9th meeting is at the South County Secondary School.

Adjournment at 10:03.

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

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Members	Member Through	Present	Non Aligned Caucus Members	Member	Present
Afton Glen			Gomolinski-Lally, Eleanor		yes
Barrington	2009		Fedorshick, John		
Cavanaugh Crossing			Clifton, Irma		
Courts of Laurel Crest		yes	Meeker, Rose		
Crosspointe	2009	yes	Dreude, Thomas		
Gunston Corner THOA					
Gunston Manor	2010	yes	Other Attendees		
Gunston Square		yes			
Hallowing Point Civic Assoc	2009		Gerry Hyland		
Harbor View					
Hollymeade			Conrad Mehan (EnviroSolutions)		
Laurel Hill Community Association	2011	yes	Tim Sargent (Planning Commissioner)		
Laurel Highlands			Earl Flanagan (Planning Commissioner)		
Lorton Station	2009		Kirk Holley (FCPA)		
Lorton Valley		yes	Kelly Davis (FCPA)		
Mason Neck Civic Association	2010	yes	Mark Hilty (FCPS)		
Newington Forest		yes	Leanna O'Donnell (FCDPZ)		
Newington Woods					
Non-Aligned Caucus					
Occaquan Overlook					
Overlook Point					
Pohick Square					
Saratoga Community Association					
Shepherd Hills					
Springfield Oaks					
Shirley Acres					
Silverbrook Hunt	2009	yes			
Southpointe	2009				
Spring Hill		yes			
Stone Manor	2009				
Wildwood		yes			
Williamsburg Square	2009	yes			