

**Meeting at South County Secondary School  
Tuesday, November 2<sup>nd</sup>, 2010 @ 7:30 p.m.**

\*\*\*\* MINUTES \*\*\*\*

**BOARD REPORTS (10 Minutes)**

Called to order at 7:40 pm.

President Peter Dickinson welcomed attendees and introduced him self and executive officers. He noted that the meeting is taking place on election night and that our guest Chair Sharon Bulova will speak first.

[ There were many first time attendees for this meeting; mostly individuals and not federation members. ]

**SUPERVISORS/LEGISLATORS TIME and DISCUSSION**

**Chair of the Board of Supervisors, Sharon Bulova**

President Dickinson welcomed Bulova and gave some background for the benefit of those who may not know her.

County Budget

BoS and School Board met recently to discuss FY 2012 outlook

Law requires balanced budget

Property tax provides 70+% of county revenue

Recent years had projected \$650 million and \$500 million shortfalls

Property tax adjusted so that average dollar amount of tax remained the same

Expenses have been mainly held to 2009 levels

Cut ~\$200 million for two years; some savings from increased efficiency

School transfer from county unchanged and then reduced 1% in last two years

State delayed payment into VRS; Virginia Retirement System

481 position eliminated in county

Core priorities of county government preserved

Still seeing impact of economic downturn

Property values: commercial decrease, residential increase

Modest revenue increase expected in FY2012, but not enough to cover expenses

Projected \$55 million shortfall for FY 2012

It is projected to cost \$76 million to resume usual school system raises and perks

It is projected to cost \$33 million to resume usual non-school system raises and perks

Board of Supervisors seeks public input and involvement

Citizens are encouraged to try the FY 2012 "Do It Yourself" Budget Toolkit on the county website

Redistricting

County population as of January 2010 estimated at 1.1 million

~117,000 per magisterial district is the ideal for the current nine districts

Mount Vernon has ~125,000, Lee has ~104,000, Springfield is over 117,000

BoS formed citizen advisory committee to recommend redistricting

Virginia is a Civil Rights Act state. U.S. Department of Justice must approve redistricting

Redistricting calendar roughly parallels budget calendar

Supervisor primaries could be scheduled as late as August

Covanta incinerator clarification: county staff is not weighing whether to buy, but whether to even consider buying. If so, there will be a public process. Either way, in the immediate future, Covanta's operations contract will continue; it was renewed this past August.

Meadowwood Stables: BLM has issued RFP to replace 46 stall barn with 20 stall stable

Lorton Road Widening: Land acquisition for this project is expected to take place in 2011

BRAC: BoS asked that \$1.5 million from BRAC funding be used to study transit on the section of US1 that runs through and near Fort Belvoir. Urging consideration of using the old rail line from Springfield to Fort Belvoir

Police Station: Supervisor Hyland's motion to put a south county station earlier in the CIP succeeded.

In closing, Chair Bulova noted there is more info in the handout she brought for attendees, explained how to contact her and her office and encouraged all to subscribe to the monthly Chair newsletter; currently "Bulova Byline." She then opened the floor to questions.

Question about the expected Mark Center/BRAC traffic?

County opposed site selection of Mark Center. Thought that HOT lanes might help with traffic, but Arlington has filed lawsuit to stop some of the HOT lanes. County is looking into alternatives including shuttles from Pentagon and Metro stations. Pending legislation proposed by Representative Jim Moran to tie occupancy permit capacity to traffic and/or parking volume.

Statement followed by a call for comment on Meadowwood by attendee. There is a lack of horse boarding space in Fairfax County. She estimates she spends more than \$30,000 annually in Fairfax County related to Meadowwood stabling. She sees herself as not even one of the big spenders. She works for non-profit with program at Meadowwood. Bulova acknowledged the lack of boarding stables, recognized the historic equestrian character of the county, and said the county is forming an equestrian taskforce.

[There were a significant number of attendees this meeting who came concerned about Meadowwood; estimate 7-12.]

### **Supervisor Gerry Hyland, Mount Vernon District Supervisor**

Spoke briefly about redistricting. Noted that the 125,000 estimate for Mount Vernon could be lower than the census count; which must, by constitutional mandate, be the figure used for reapportionment. Encouraged the federation to examine census tract maps and consider possible changes that will be suggested to reapportion part of Mount Vernon to other districts

Alexander Company is in negotiations with the county regarding the adaptive re-use of the former Lorton prison. Still at issue is a funding gap.

Statement about request for police enforcement of traffic laws on private property. Police can, upon written request of the owner, enforce traffic laws on private property. There are specific laws that police do not need permission to enforce on private property. Even so, police must follow standards as required by law. If a land owner posts a 15mph speed limit on a road that would be given a 25mph limit is a public road, then police could refuse to enforce the 15mph limit.

Horse boarding: Estimates close to \$1 million economic benefit to county. Recognized failure to seek public comment/forum for those affected; by federal Bureau of Land Management. Reminded of the recent near closing of Pohick Bay Regional Park pool facility.

Question about redistricting: might the board take one block of 8,000 from Mount Vernon? Though the easiest math way to solve the problem, the board and redistricting committee should expect to weigh the wishes of residents of any parcel that would be moved in or out of a magisterial district.

Question about email sent to Hyland regarding signs in public roadside right-of-ways? Hyland has seen the emails and noted that he saw Dave's [Delegate Albo] input in the email thread. Discussion of working out a way to deter/punish those who repeatedly abuse the right-of-ways without imposing stiff fines on those who place small numbers of non-commercial signs in a measured, temporary manner.

Suggestion about extending bonds to provide more funding for schools and parks. Hyland noted that the law provides by design increased bond funding referendum authority for public school purposes.

At a later point in the meeting, Hyland said he felt compelled to follow up on a remark he made about the custom of not drawing lines in a way that places current supervisors outside their current districts. He stated that he would not support redistricting actions that intend to place candidates for Supervisor in or out of specific districts.

#### **Dan Storck, Mount Vernon member of the school board**

Noted the presence of fellow school board member Liz Bradsher.

Foresees a difficult year ahead, but in no way as difficult as the current and last year.

There have been two straight years of RIFs, salary freezes, hiring freezes.

Lauded Hyland for being a great advocate of the county schools.

South County Middle School

Recent meeting summary: estimate construction complete in about a year, consideration of mid-year opening, which programs would be offered, expected boundary study. Noted that school staff heavily favored regular opening.

Stated his support to have Lorton Valley area in boundaries of South County elementary and middle instead of current boundary of Hayfield and Halley. [ Lorton Valley across Lorton Road from Shell/BurgerKing. Currently, elementary kids drive past SCES on their way to HalleyES. ]

Question on name of south county elementary.

To be determined soon after the boundary study is completed; expected either Spring 2011 or fall/winter 2011/12

Question about SCSS trailers.

New middle school is expected to eliminate the need for trailers at SCSS.

#### **STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Education (Christine Morin)
- Land Use Committee (Linwood Gorham)
  - Discussion of offer of monetary compensation in lieu of proffer compliance
    - LUC has heard a few ideas about how to spend an estimated \$100,000
    - Rough straw poll yielded the following suggested uses: clock tower landscaping/beautification, partial funding of Laurel Hill House preservation, façade roof for

new LCAC building, snack bar and restroom building for recreation courts/fields across US 1 from Lorton Library, bus shelters, federation fund.

- LUC generally disliked first three, somewhat favored fourth (snack bar/restrooms), thought shelters not cost effective
  - Federation ExComm did not want to add administration of a sizeable fund to the duties of the federation officers
  - Hyland concerned about fair compensation. The PCA will waive the proffer in perpetuity. He feels that the lump sums being offered are not enough.
  - Linwood noted that the owner desires short term resolution and is not interested in a deal where the federation gets a portion of revenue gained by not having to comply. Also noted lack of response to repeated attempts to contact representatives of the community that is the home of the physical property affected by the proffer.
  - Hyland will ask his staff to take a shot at determining the monetary value of having free use to lease, rent or sell the space currently restricted by proffer.
- Public Safety (Clint Herbert)
  - Parks & Environmental (Gloria Bannister)
    - Resolution 10-xx asking Bureau of Land Management to cease and desist considering closing or reducing capacity of boarding stables they manage in Fairfax County. Trend in the county has been closure of facilities to public boarding. Motion passed via voice vote.
    - Adopt-A-Highway cleanup, Saturday, 13 Nov, 9am, Gunston Plaza, near Gunston Flowers
    - Ash Landfill public hearing, 9 Dec, Lorton Library
    - Gerry Hyland asked to be kept informed of possible use of waste gas at LAF.
  - Transportation (Marty Schirmacher)

## **OLD BUSINESS**

- Lorton Community Action Center (5 Minutes)
  - LCAC Gala on November 6<sup>th</sup> at Harbor View

## **NEW BUSINESS**

- Motion to appoint nominating committee to recommend officers for December election
  - Motion to appoint Linwood Gorham, Christine Morin, Lisa Adler passed via voice vote
- Next meetings
  - December 7<sup>th</sup> meeting/party: 7PM, South County Secondary School library
  - January 11<sup>th</sup> (2<sup>nd</sup> Tuesday) meeting: 7:30PM, South County Secondary School library
  - February 8<sup>th</sup> meeting: 7:30PM, South County Secondary School library

Adjournment at 9:47 PM.

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