

**Meeting at South County Secondary School
Tuesday, December 7th, 2010 @ 7:30 p.m.**

**** MINUTES ****

BOARD REPORTS (10 Minutes)

Called to order at 7:45 pm.

President Peter Dickinson welcomed attendees and introduced executive officers.

SUPERVISORS/LEGISLATORS TIME and DISCUSSION

Supervisor Gerry Hyland, Mount Vernon District Supervisor

Announced pending vacancy on the Parks Authority Board. Hyland will convene a committee to review nominees and make recommendation.

Feels that we are now where we should have been had BLM sought public involvement on the changes they had considered and were about to implement without public input. Hyland supports restoration and maintenance of the existing horse barn.

Helicopter Forum: first time he was aware of an event where all the helicopter program operators in the region met in one place. Was surprised to learn that there is an upper flight deck limit, but no lower limit. Encouraged about the future now that communities will have a way to find out who flies and when. Member noted that the overflights continue to increase and some have flown low enough to “throw a rock at.” [Figure of speech. Member did not actually throw rocks at an aircraft.]

Redistricting process: Spoke of how a possible tenth magisterial district might be done. Noted that the Board of Supervisors has not discussed the matter in session. Hyland does not currently see the six votes necessary to add the tenth district. Staff are investigating various nine and ten district scenarios to inform the board with several examples. It was noted after inquiry that the residents of Fort Belvoir are not in the equation in so far as magisterial district are to be redistricted. Member acknowledged difficulties of adding a new district. Stated belief that if not done in 2011, it will likely happen eventually. Urged community to start the process of preparation for arguing our interests. Hyland noted that it will be an open process with public meetings. Inquiry about chair of redistricting committee. Hyland could see Walter _____ and Kate Hanley as strong candidates. Also discussed briefly: possibility of a tenth district not encompassing a large part of the south county and cost to county to add a tenth district.

Running for Supervisor in 2011? Hyland said that he would make an announcement by, and most likely at, his annual Mount Vernon Town Hall.

Vamoose Bus service beginning in January between the Lorton VRE station and Penn Station in New York City.

Payment in lieu of proffer at Lorton Station issue: staff continues to work on attempting to place a value on the proffer waiver. They are awaiting input from the property owner.

Inova Lorton initial site plan has been submitted to the Board of Supervisors for review.

Visioning subcommittee reports expected within the next week or so.

Hyland ceded the floor to Irma Clifton. Irma applauded the fine work that the Fairfax County Sheriff’s Inmate Labor program has done in cleaning up the former Nike Missile Site. Hyland noted that he often hears praise for this program. They are know for providing a good service.

Dan Storck, Fairfax County School Board, Mount Vernon District member

Spoke at length about the middle school. Storck was pleased at the strong turnout of several hundred attendees to the middle school meeting. Expected completion before January 2012. Considered January opening, but consensus of vast majority of teachers was to have normal schedule opening. Most teachers saw mid-year opening as disruptive to learning. Middle school building will open in January 2012, but students will not attend until fall. Question raised about why the building was contracted with a schedule that had it complete mid-year. Storck noted the urgent desire of the community to see the process through. [Another consideration, spoken of in previous federation meetings, was a desire to contractually lock in the low construction costs offered at the time]

Noted that there will be a boundary study. Staff is weighing whether to conduct a fairly localized study of the boundaries of the few closest schools or a broader study.

Question about the school budget outlook. Storck answered that much will depend on what the Commonwealth and Board of Supervisors decide in terms of their budgets.

Steven Jerry, Representative Gerry Connolly staff

Legislative update: tax cut extensions, improved access to FBI data for background checks for local municipalities, telephone town hall

Delegate Dave Albo, Virginia House of Delegates

Looking forward to giving a legislative update after the session ends; hopefully in March.

STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS

- Education (Christine Morin)
- Land Use (Linwood Gorham)
 - Presentation on plans to re-develop the area known as Accotink Village; the non-military property surrounding Backlick Road between US 1 and the Fairfax County Parkway. It is surrounded by Fort Belvoir.
 - Linwood noted that the presenter will ask us to weigh in on an out-of-turn plan amendment. Having said that, we are not there yet. This is the very early stage of the re-development process
 - Key points in discussion after presentation
 - If we take no position, some improvement will occur when land is taken for the widening of US 1
 - Taking a position would allow us to influence the process to get more improvement
 - Land Use Committee is in favor of planned development instead of status quo
 - Supervisor Hyland noted that many looked at Accotink Village as ideal for BRAC office space. He noted that any retail involved will be competing with retail shops on base.
 - Developer sees four-story or less buildings
 - Planning Commissioner Earl Flanagan noted a desire to bar uses the community views as undesirable. Recalled recent development of land owned by FedEx that barred such uses via proffers.

- Public Safety (Clint Herbert)
- Parks & Environmental (Gloria Bannister)
- Transportation (Marty Schirmacher)
 - Improper placement of signs in VDoT right-of-ways (ROWs)
 - Prince William County (PWC) has an agreement with VDoT that allows them to enforce sign removal on VDoT ROWs
 - Virginia law allows only VDoT to enforce unless legislature authorizes locality to enforce
 - Delegate Albo has drafted legislation to amend current code
 - Two code sections were discussed
 - One allows only VDoT enforcement
 - Another allows VDoT to ‘deputize’ enforcers and also makes exceptions for political signs, realtor signs, and signs that are date specific
 - Earl Flanagan noted PWC has a staff of three that enforces this and that they are paid out of fines collected from violators.
 - Delegate Albo has drafted legislation to amend current code. He expects resistance and lobbying against it by realtors and other groups.
 - Consensus to examine how PWC enforces the law(s) and pursue a similar method.
 - Earl suggested having the law be limited to Fairfax County
 - Albo noted that laws so limited require 2/3 vote.

OLD BUSINESS

- Lorton Community Action Center (5 Minutes)
 - LCAC thanks the community for a most successful Fall Gala
 - Holiday outreach
 - Donations and organizing at Moose Lodge, December 18th, Noon-3 (giftcards for meals)
 - distribution at same location the following day; contact LCAC for info

NEW BUSINESS

- Discussion of possibility of a new tenth Fairfax County magisterial district
 - Recognized South County Chamber of Commerce chairman Tim Rizer
 - Noted uncertainty of continued excellent representation due to Hyland not yet candidate
 - Expected benefit of specific representation
 - Expected benefit of influence and resource that would accompany a new district here
 - Caveat: loss of neighborhoods required to balance populations evenly across districts
 - Chamber seeks active participation in the process
 - Chamber position is that there is much to gain and little to lose
 - Supervisor Hyland urged the Chamber and Federation to get in touch with Peter Whalen(sp?) and look at maps and populations

- Tim noted that it has been >20 years since that last new district was added and that the population of the county has increased an estimated 400,000 residents since
 - Planning Commissioner Flanagan noted legislation was changed to allow tenth districts in a county to allow Fairfax County to do so. Encouraged those interested to go back and look at the process which resulted in Sully [9th district] being added.
 - Supervisor Hyland said that Mike(Mark?) Long would be good to contact
 - Delegate Albo noted that the populations of several Fairfax County magisterial districts are larger than several states.
 - Tim Rizer noted that the Chamber desires a tenth district, comprised mainly of South County communities, but does not see it this cycle. He feels that it would not be inappropriate to work together with the federation to study and possibly advocate this position.
 - Motion to have the federation consult with the South County Chamber of Commerce to study the addition of a tenth Fairfax County magisterial district, recognizing that the Chamber has publicly taken a position and the federation has yet to weigh in passed via voice vote. It was agreed that Linwood would come up with appropriate wording for this motion and that it will be confirmed in a future meeting.
- Next meetings
 - January 11th (2nd Tuesday) meeting at 7:30PM at South County Secondary School
 - February 8th meeting at 7:30PM at South County Secondary School
 - March 8th meeting at 7:30PM at South County Secondary School
 - Election of Officers
 - Nominating committee nominated the following slate
 - President Peter Dickinson, Vice President Gene Rainville
 - Treasurer Gloria Bannister, Secretary Alan Salisbury
 - No response to open call for nominations from the floor
 - Motions to elect nominees from the nominating committee slate passed via voice vote.

Adjournment at 9:55 PM.

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