



Meeting at South County High School, Media Room

Tuesday, Jan 12, 2016 @ 7:30 PM

**** MINUTES****

1. President Dale Rumberger called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM. Dale then introduced himself, as well as all of the newly-elected SCF officers, and spoke for a few minutes on his style of leadership.

2. Administrative matters & Officers reports

- A **Motion** to approve the December 8th minutes was made, seconded, and approved as submitted.
- Dale spoke out strongly about the need for everyone to support local businesses, warning that if we do not, we may lose them. As an example: he praised, and provided a brochure from, Cody's Kitchen, a catering business located in Lorton at 10716 Richmond Hwy Suite 107. Dale will try to highlight a different business at every SCF meeting.
- Dale reminded all that the development of Liberty Crest at Laurel Hill (old Lorton Prison complex) began with groundbreaking in December. He continued, "We now have a narrow window to provide input by Jan 21 regarding what we want to see there" by submitting responses to a survey provided by Elm Street Development. Dale asks that all of us forward the survey link to our neighbors, HOA members, and community leaders. Dale will send out an email tomorrow morning with the linked survey address.
- After confirming SCF's new officers and our five committees, Dale stated that we really need permanent new representatives on the Safety Committee and the Education Committee. For the time being, Christine Morin has agreed to continue as the temporary rep for the Education Committee.
- Dale read a memo regarding Liberty Crest development, and he requested that the memo from Elm Street Development to the SCF be included in the minutes.

"Greetings to the South County Federation! I am pleased to announce that work is underway to transform the old Lorton Reformatory and Penitentiary into Liberty Crest at Laurel Hill. I saw several of you at the groundbreaking ceremony on December 7, and I thank you for your interest and support of the project. I am sure you have noticed some construction activity in the last few weeks. The Alexander Company has begun demolition of interior spaces in the buildings of the Reformatory Complex. That work will continue for several weeks in preparation for new construction in those buildings. The formal pre-construction meeting with Fairfax County staff is scheduled for Wednesday, January 13. Following that meeting, site work will begin. The William A. Hazel Company is our site



contractor. The first tasks to be performed are the installation of erosion and sediment control measures (silt fence, the sanitary sewer connection to the pump station located on Spring Hill's property. The new sanitary sewer line crosses the existing Cross County Trail (CCT), requiring a temporary detour of the CCT during construction in this area. We have worked with Fairfax County and the Fairfax County Park Authority to select the detour route. The detour route is located on Park Authority property or public right-of-way, please see attached plan. The detour will go into effect in mid-to-late February, and it will last approximately 4 months. I look forward to seeing you at your meeting on February 9." Signed by Jack B. Perkins, Vice President, Elm Street Development.

- None of the other officers commented for the record.

3. Supervisor report

Newly-elected Mount Vernon District Supervisor, Dan Storck, was unable to attend this meeting due to a long Board of Supervisors meeting, but was ably represented by Christine Morin, the South County liaison. On behalf of Supervisor Storck, she made the following comments:

- The latest Mount Vernon District Supervisor's handout is always online at mtvernon@fairfaxcounty.gov
- Supervisor Storck and staff are working hard to schedule meetings with the many, many people who have requested face-time.
- Marcia Hanson is retired, and Christine Morin will continue as the South County liaison.
- Donna Slaymaker is the office administrator and Brett Kenney is the chief of staff.
- The Supervisor also will hire a communications director to develop a strategy for constituent outreach, including multi-media.
- Some of the Supervisor's early goals (quoted from his Jan 4 news article) include:
 - "Improving communication from his office, based on "best practices" performance standards. These include responding to your communications within a day, advising you of the person working to address your issue or concern and resolving it as soon as possible.
 - "My office is always available as your first phone call to access county services or to answer your questions about local government.
 - "Beginning this week, our office will have evening hours every Thursday until 7:30 PM and Saturday hours on the second Saturday of each month.
 - "We will be utilizing modern technology to connect and communicate with you including immediate keep-in-touch type messages, regular articles, a monthly newsletter, and a variety of social media to engage and inform you."
 - Implementing a Supervisor's line of business review



4. Committee reports

- Education, Christine Morin, acting Chair, deferred to Karen Corbett Sanders, the new Mount Vernon District representative on the Fairfax County School Board in Virginia. Her comments follow.
 - **Critical School Budget:** “The Superintendent of Schools presented her budget proposal to the school board last Thursday, 7 January. The budget provides for a maintenance of effort and does not make cuts. It rather reflects the values that Virginia has historically placed on education. It is this value system that has led to so many companies and people moving into Fairfax County. The budget represents a 4.8% increase over last year’s budget and if we do not receive more money from the state would require an increase in the county transfer of 6.7%. The proposal recognizes the value that the community places on the breadth of programs offered and does not make any of the cuts recommended by the Budget Task Force. The proposal recognizes the value the community places on its staff and is comparable to similar increases the county executive talked about for county staff, funds to bring the lowest wage employees up to a living wage and salary increases for teachers to allow FCPS to be competitive in attracting and retaining the best teaching talent. The budget also recognizes the value of having smaller class sizes for elementary schools by bringing all of these classrooms below 30 students where space is available. We need the community’s help in making sure that the general assembly votes to allocate more funding this year.”

 - **School Boundaries:** “Some communities are asking about boundaries, especially split feeders where students at an elementary school may go to different middle and high schools. I am trying to better understand the boundary process myself. I am scheduled to speak with facilities planning and am speaking with the regional assistant superintendents. I have asked for some background and will certainly be talking to the community once I know more and can have an informed discussion. At this point, I am not aware of any boundary proceedings anticipated in South County this year. People should know that with the exception of very minor shifts in population, boundary changes are subject to a lengthy process with opportunities for residents to provide input.”

 - **Capital Improvement Plan:** “The plan was briefed in December. The School board had a public hearing last week and its first work session this past Monday. The current plan calls for Newington Forest to have a capacity of 600 students when its renovation is completed in SY 18-19. There is some discussion that part of this capacity could be used for an Advanced Academic Program (AAP) Center in the South County Pyramid. The Silverbrook renovation is expected to be



completed in SY 2021 with a capacity of 825. This is another location being discussed as an alternative for an AAP Center in the pyramid. Lorton Station and Laurel Hill's capacity are being monitored.”

- School Personnel: “Principal selection process began (in January) for Mt. Vernon HS. Chairman Williams, an experienced retiree, is the acting principal at Newton Forest, and Dale Rumberger will be filling in for Assistant Superintendent Angela Atwater when she goes out on medical leave.”
- As a final thought on the budget process, Karen reminded that the School Superintendent presents a budget to the School Board, and it is then sent to the Board of Supervisors. There will be a presentation later in February. Karen said, “We are hoping that the taxation level will be high enough to enable us to cope with whatever ends up coming down from the State level.”
- Transportation, Dale Johnson, Chair, reported the following:
 - The VDOT adopt-a-road program is still active
 - Lorton Road Project Update: Am in touch with Volkert Construction. Have an invitation submitted for the March meeting, as I will be absent for the February meeting. They will get back to me. Hopefully the Project Manager will take this on, Ben Lineberry, the same chap who conducted the Pardon Our Dust meeting in March of 2014. As the project nears completion, I would like to explore the impact of the Lorton Rd project completion on the Lorton Rd – Silverbrook intersection
 - “The Embark Richmond Hwy” Advisory Group Meeting was held Dec 9th (next is late Feb TBD)
 - The Giles Run Connector Road – we will be working on getting this removed from the Comprehensive Plan
 - Also we will work on getting VDOT to accept the Laurel Crest turnover
 - Mowing in the growing season is always an issue (based on the class of the road). The standard is 3 times per season for Silverbrook Rd. and others similar. If mowing does not get done, please contact the Transportation Chair.
 - Question - Who is responsible for patching or other work on certain roads?
Answer - We can help VDOT to prioritize their interactive map. More to follow.
 - Earl Flanagan mentioned that the Supervisor for Northern VA District of VDOT resides in Lorton, and so it could be very useful to contact him. Dale thanked Earl for this insight.
 - A request from the floor was made to please look into a problematic intersection in the vicinity of Route 1 and Furnace Road. More to follow.
 - Dale would like to form a task force to work on the placement of the new police station within our boundaries



- Land Use (LUC), Martin Rizer, Chair rose to make final comments about the Gunston Shell station application for a special exception amendment application. Martin stated that County Staff had been to the site in 2011 and identified some issues, which had not been noted on their prior assessment. Over the course of 2 LUC meetings, the LUC worked with the applicant to address these issues, and they have agreed to all four recommendations, mostly site landscaping and improving the building's facade. Mark Jenkins, an attorney representing the Shell station presented the site plan to help the SCF understand all this.
 - Linwood Gorham made a suggestion to change the verbiage in one item to "Make a good-faith effort to make the façade of the 4th bay more esthetically pleasing and congruent with the other bays."
 - Another comment from Peter Weyland, a resident of this area was, "We consider this station to be an asset to our community, and would generally support the proposed exception."
 - A **Motion** was made, seconded, and approved, 44 to zero, that the SCF does not oppose the approval of Gunston Shell's SEA application, provided that the applicant's commitments are included in the Development Conditions

Following this vote, someone asked about the status of the Seven-11 application to re-do their gas pumps in addition to changing the underground tanks. Answer: it was passed at the board today, Jan 12; and it was passed with VDOT having allowed the right-in / right-out turn that had been requested.

- Environmental & Parks, Gloria Bannister, Chair Linwood Gorham, the Mount Vernon District Representative on the Fairfax County Park Authority Board, stated that "Not much is going on, other than ramping up for the 2016 Bond regarding park improvements."

5. New Business

- Dale again mentioned the need to fill several empty Chairs: Education Committee, Safety Committee, and the Lorton Fourth of July celebration and parade.
- Nick Firth has been appointed to chair a group regarding the site choice and other issues regarding the new Police Station. Dale asked him to come back to the SCF with recommendations.
- Peter Weyland brought to SCF's attention that Dominion Virginia Power is seeking permission to clean up coal-ash ponds at the Dumfries Possum Point Power Plant in a manner some experts say could put groundwater and the Potomac River at risk of contamination from toxic chemicals. Dale will ask Gloria Bannister to look into this and report back.



- 2016 SCF Dues: : Larry Clark proposes to change SCF by-laws regarding membership dues. The Executive Committee has already recommended this change. The proposal is being made during the January monthly meeting and will be posted on the Federation website for review. A vote on the proposal will be taken during the regular February 2016 meeting on February 9, 2016. The proposed change reads:

RECOMMENDATION FOR CHANGE TO THE SOUTH COUNTY FEDERATION BYLAWS

In accordance with the provisions of Section 1, Article XII - Revision to Bylaws - of the South County Federation, the Executive Committee (EXCOMM) desires to make a change to the Bylaws in regard to membership dues.

In an effort to ease any possible burden on the membership, the Executive Committee (EXCOMM) has recommended a change to the dues structure for the Federation. Currently, dues are \$25.00 payable on an annual basis. The EXCOMM recommends that the dues structure be changed to the following:

- 1) Members may choose to make a one-time payment of \$50.00 for a permanent membership. Such payment will provide for membership in perpetuity.
- 2) Any members that so desire, including new members that may be unsure of their desires to become permanent members, may pay the current \$25.00 in annual dues. Should they decide at some later date that they would like to become permanent members they will be required to make the same one-time \$50.00 payment noted above for permanent membership.
- 3) Any HOA that has already paid their 2016 membership dues prior to the approval of this amendment will be afforded the opportunity to pay the additional \$25 to exercise the one-time payment option should they choose to do so.

A **Motion** was made by Dale to adjourn the meeting. This was seconded and approved unanimously. Dale adjourned the meeting at 9:25 PM

NEXT MEETING: February 9th, 2016 at South County High School , 7:30 PM