



**Meeting at South County High School, Media Room  
Tuesday, May 9, 2017 @ 7:30 PM**

1. President Dale Rumberger called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.
  
2. Administrative Matters & Officers reports
  - April minutes - A **Motion** to approve the April minutes was made, seconded, and approved unanimously by voice vote.
  - Treasurer's Report was provided electronically by Larry Clark,
    - The TIAA-CREF Money Market balance is \$6, 479.97
    - The Sun Trust bank account balance as of May 9, 2017 is: \$2,160.10
    - TOTAL funding is: \$8,640.07
  
3. Supervisors' Reports.
  - **Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity** was not present, but Dale R praised him effusively for all his collaboration, especially in the effort to create a very successful jobs fair. Dale added that we need to advertise Springtime job fairs starting early in the Fall.
  - **Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck** made the following comments:
    - Lord Fairfax – “Each year, the Lord and Lady Fairfax Awards Program honors two volunteer leaders from the Mount Vernon District. I’m proud to say that Dale Rumberger will be appointed. He worked closely with me to get the SCHS built.”
    - South County Job Fair – “On April 29<sup>th</sup>, my office partnered with the Federation, Supervisor Herrity’s office and the South Fairfax Chamber of Commerce to host the First South County Teen Job Fair. There was a huge turnout with over 600 students in attendance and people flooded into the venue as soon as the doors opened. Some kids even had resumes! Great contacts for internships were key. A survey went out to the kids and vendors to try to determine outcomes. We held a resume building workshop, which (to my surprise) was well attended as well. I look forward continuing this tradition with the Federation, and next year, we will have to work twice as hard to outdo our efforts this year.”
    - 
    - Budget Update – On May 2, the Budget was adopted by the BOS. I voted “No” because I didn’t think that the process was open enough.
    - South County Drumline – “This local group traveled to Dayton Ohio for the WGI World Championship. They placed 7<sup>th</sup> in the *world (!)* in the Scholastic Open



Class, and therefore I asked the Board of Supervisors to recognize the team at the next Board of Supervisors (BOS) meeting.”

- Lorton Community Center & the South County Police and Animal Shelter - “Two major capital projects are coming to the Lorton area: the Lorton Community Center, and the South County Police Station and Animal Shelter. We need to connect the Library *with* the new Community Center because you earn what you learn. Although major work on the library is not normally slated for about 20 years, I think that we can save some money by doing this together. We need to work with County Staff, who think that this would be a complex undertaking; but I hope that by working on this together starting at this early point that we can succeed. I will establish a steering committee soon and will depend on their thoughts and input.”
- NVAR Town Meeting – “On May 3<sup>rd</sup>, I held a Realtors Town Hall Meeting, which was well attended. I shared with them my vision for revitalization along Richmond Highway, including the Embark process, and heard from them regarding their thoughts, concerns, and advice.”
- Lorton Farmers Market – “The Market reopened this past Sunday and will go on every Sunday until Nov 12.”
- South Flow Alliance - “I will be hosting a community meeting to bring together the community to address the increased airplane noise over our neighborhoods. We want the planes to fly higher, longer, and over the river to decrease noise in our neighborhoods.”
- Taste of Mount Vernon – “My office will be hosting an event called Taste of Mount Vernon on May 25. We will be inviting restaurants to participate and showcase the food that they are serving in the district. So please, mark your calendar and join me on May 25!”
- Liberty Day – “On Saturday, May 20, from 11AM to 3 PM, the public is invited to see what new development has occurred at the former Lorton Prison site. I am challenging all of you to bring at least 3 other individuals with you to the event. There will be craft beer, food by Red Apron Butcher, Music, Moon Bounce and many other entertainments for you and your kids.”
- Summer Entertainment Series – “The Summer Entertainment Series at the Workhouse Arts Center is slated to begin June 3 and will go on every Saturday evening until the end of August. This series of free, public concerts features a variety of musical performances (such as the South County Jazz Band) reflecting Fairfax County’s diversity, culture and community spirit.”
- Workhouse Brewfest – “Mark your calendars for August 12 . . . the Workhouse Arts Center’s Brewfest is back!”



#### 4. Legislative Updates –

- **Delegate Mark Sickles** mentioned that this is his 14<sup>th</sup> year in the General Assembly.; and that he is on 3 subcommittees– Transportation, Higher Education , and Health & Human Resources. His specific comments included:
  - Old CSX railroad bridge over Rte 1 - “This is going to be replaced, and we are negotiating with the railroad companies regarding their cost share.”
  - The Economy – “We are working hard with the Governor to diversify VA’s economy, and this is needed because (as an example) 50% of jobs in Hampton Roads are related to the federal government.”
  - Health Care –“If the Senate passes the health care law, as approved in the House of Representatives last week, this would have a huge impact on Medicaid in our state. Right now, in Virginia, more than 800,000 people have health care coverage through Medicaid; and 10,000 additional people are on a waiting-list for Medicaid. For a half-century, the Commonwealth has partnered with the federal government, and have shared in the cost, to improve the accessibility and quality of care for low-income and medically vulnerable children and adults. If passed into law, the recently-passed House bill will particularly impact the market for individual insurance. The same is true for Medicaid. This would result in one of two different outcomes: the residents of Virginia will pay more or the most vulnerable populations will lose access to much-needed services – or both. How do we react if the Senate approves the House bill? We need a place for everyone to get primary and preventive care.”
  - Proffer Law impact – Martin Rizer pointed out to Delegate Sickles that very few applications for re-zoning have been made since the Proffer Law was passed. Mr. Sickles said he didn’t know there was that much of a problem but can look into it.
  
- **Senator George Barker** – highlighted the following:
  - Sequestration has hit VA, MD, and Alaska hard because all three states depend heavily on the federal government. Things are now improving in VA, but we are all very worried at the prospect of another round of sequestration.
  - In an effort to improve Virginia’s economic situation, investments have been made and Mr. Barker started “Go Virginia” (an initiative to foster private-sector growth and job creation through state incentives). As a result, although we have seen an increasing number of jobs in the state, the level of overall salaries has trended down. We experienced only 1.7 % growth in 2016, and are now projecting growth of 2.5% this fiscal year. Planned teacher salary increases had to be taken out of the budget.
  - Transportation issues – Senator Barker acknowledged the major challenges with the METRO system, but says that he has faith in the new general manager.



Senator Barker established a Metrorail Safety Commission that is totally independent from the Metro Board. He feels that although it is important to look at operations, we need more focus on maintenance issues and on capital expense needs (replacing cars, etc).

- Education – We need to put in money to increase funding for our schools. We are \$7000 below the national average for teacher salaries.
- Substance abuse and mental health – VA has not done the best compared with national trends. We added \$2M this year to support mental health services. A major problem is that people who are on waiting lists remain there indefinitely until/unless they go into crisis; so this ends up costing us more money than if we provided outpatient services. As for the serious ongoing Opioid crisis, we are providing more programs to address it.

- **Delegate Dave Albo** – As Dave took the floor, several attendees expressed their thanks for the excellent job he has done in representing our community over the past 20 years.

Everyone applauded. Dave then continued with his comments:

- “The sewage holding tank in Alexandria commonly overflows, thus sending raw sewage into the river. The target date to completely repair is not until 2025 because of cost to work in historic areas. Alexandria’s sewer fees will likely increase by 500%.”
- “We have greatly diminished court time in cases involving child custody just by changing the definition of “Visiting time”. Now, visiting time and parenting time mean the same thing.”
- “We have improved our ability to fight terrorists in Virginia by including all terrorist activities which occur, including activities in other States. Until now, a person could do something in, for example, Maryland, but live in Virginia; and we could not legally pursue them here. Now that has changed.”
- “Virginia’s child abuse or predation law now adds incidents from States other than VA.
- We continue to fight to get more in-state slots in our public universities. Except for William & Mary, most universities have met or increased their compliance toward the standard of having at least 75% of undergraduate students from Virginia. To increase pressure on those public colleges and universities which do not meet the 75% standard, the law now stipulates that those schools shall:
  1. Immediately increase their out of state tuition to the level of private schools and use all the money generated by this increase to create more in-state student slots.
  2. In the future, all new increases in state funding shall be used first to increase the number of in-state slots for our Virginia High School Seniors.”



## 5. Committee Reports

- **Transportation**, Dale Johnson, Chair - No new issues, although Dale asked for more clarification about various aspects of the Route 1 corridor project. Several audience members also chimed in with opinions.
- **Public Safety**, Jonathan Kiell, Chair - No new issues.
- **Environmental & Parks**, seeking Chair  
I-95 Landfill Bee Project - Eric Forbes, the Complex Manager at the FX County landfill, along with George Mason University, has partnered with Covanta on a project to install hives of honeybees and also pollinator habitat at the I-95 landfill. Eric explained several motivations for such a project: 1) Promotes the BOS Environmental Vision; 2) As a multidisciplinary program, it can demonstrate how our county landfill can become a productive ecosystem; 3) Also, it provides an education platform for community, employees, students/faculty, naturalist groups, and outdoor science labs.

Eric then explained the many anticipated positive outcomes: 1) Provides sustainable habitat for pollinators because the habitat will include species of native plants vital for pollinators (e.g. Milkweed for bees); 2) Reduces maintenance costs associated with mowing (mowing will occur only once a year, as opposed to 6-8 times throughout the growing season); 3) Reduces storm water runoff by allowing for increased infiltration and uptake; 4) Creates an aesthetic buffer around the landfill; and 5) Provides staff with a greater connection to the environment.

What has been done so far? Eric mentioned that the initial Pollinator Meadow was planted in the Fall of 2016, mostly by hand. They used a leaf mulch incorporated with dredge material.

Considering that bees can fly up to 2 miles from the hive, it is hoped that this project may eventually restore 7 million acres of land for pollinators.

For more information, call 703 690-1703 or [Eric.forbes@fairfaxcounty.gov](mailto:Eric.forbes@fairfaxcounty.gov)



- **Education, Seeking Chair**

Karen Corbett Sanders, the Mount Vernon District representative on the Fairfax County School Board made several points.

- Budget issues continue to plague the school system. Among the causes: the BOS has prioritized keeping the property tax flat; the Meals Tax proposal was defeated; and efforts to change the impact of the Virginia Retirement System have not been very successful. The Pension Fund needs to be brought up to 100% of actuarial value. One of the most significant problems regards improving teacher pay to make us more competitive with other school systems. The State has been unable to adequately fund education, and so \$33 million had to be plugged in from local coffers. We are still \$40 million short, and have changed elements of the pension fund going forward, including increasing the period for calculating the final average salary from 3 years to 5 years. There have been some discussions about increasing activity fees and / or raising class sizes from 17 to 18 for special education classes. We also may need to increase numbers attending regular classes. With all that, we may be able to balance the budget. But there could be a huge challenge in the following school year if the Health Care Bill recently passed in the House of Representatives also passes in the US Senate. This is because Medicaid funding would be severely impacted, and Medicaid pays for a big part of special education. Karen said, “We may have a very tough time next year, and so we’ll soon establish a budget task force to get an early start on planning.”
- Superintendent Search – Karen is optimistic that we will have someone fairly soon.
- Auditor General Search - should yield a name in a couple of weeks.
- Congrats to the South County High School Drumline! (see Supervisor Storck’s comments on page 1).
- School Trailers are used to increase classroom space; but trailers with toilets are considered “permanent” classrooms, while trailers without toilets are considered “temporary” classrooms. We are trying to change standards relative to these trailers .

- **Land Use, Nick Firth, Chair**

- Sumner Crossing Homeowners request for increased parking. The following Resolution was presented and discussed. A Motion was made, seconded, and passed by voting members of the SCF.

*Whereas, Sumner Crossing Homeowners Association is located at the intersection of Richmond Highway and Telegraph Road and comprised of Old Pohick Way and Old Pohick Court; Whereas, the community is comprised of 45 townhomes of which 19 are non-garage townhomes and 26 are garage townhomes; Whereas, the*



*HOA currently has 55 total parking spaces within their private street system which are currently assigned only to non-garage owners and visitors and not assigned to garage owners; Whereas, Virginia Supreme Court in the Manchester Oaks Homeowners Association, Inc. case, ruling number 111949, ruled that garage unit homeowners have the right to the same amount of common area as the non-garage units, which includes parking spaces owned by the HOA;. Whereas, some garage townhome owners within the community have requested that the HOA come into compliance with the above ruling; Whereas, the community, to continue to provide at least two parking spaces per non-garage townhome, proposes to construct 35 additional parking spaces, which requires the reduction of open space below the currently approved proffer; Whereas, Sumner Crossing HOA has submitted a PCA requesting a reduction of the proffered open space percentage to allow such construction and has agreed to mitigate such reduction with additional landscaping and trees; Now, therefore, be it Resolved, The South County Federation supports the Sumner Crossing HOA request.*

6. New Business –

- Dale Rumberger emphasized that we really need significant foot traffic at Liberty’s public event on May 20. We need to advertise this in our communities.
- Dale also recognized the work that the Park Authority has done in implementing a Foot Path along Silverbrook Rd, ending at Monacan Rd, and in creating a new concrete ramp connecting the path and road.
- Dale then introduced two Candidates running for a delegate seat. Each spoke briefly.
  - Kathy Tran (Dem) – running for the 42<sup>nd</sup> District. She is active in her community and school, and has served on the PTA as President. She also has worked at the Department of Labor on workforce and education policy.
  - Tilly Blanding (Dem) – running for 42<sup>nd</sup> District. She described her youth in the Jim Crow South, has a professional background as a Social worker and is in a military family. She wants to support the school system and to help families in general.
- A **Motion** was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn. Dale R adjourned the meeting at 10:05 PM.

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NEXT MEETING: June 13, 2017 at 7:30 in the Workhouse.



Future Meetings: June 13, July 11, September 12, October 10, November 14, Dec 12