



**Meeting at SCHS Media Room
Tuesday, Oct 10, 2017 @ 7:30 PM**

1. Vice-President Nick Firth called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM.
2. Administrative Matters & Officers reports
 - September minutes - A **Motion** to approve the September minutes was made, seconded, and approved.
 - Treasurer's Report - Larry Clark. There are no updates for this month
3. Supervisors' Reports.

Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity commented on several issues:

- Pension reform – “We are undergoing a review of pensions now. These costs affect our ability to get new employees. Today, 28% of the payroll dollar goes into pensions! So young kids (who are more interested in today’s take-home pay than in great retirement benefits) are not attracted so much. Also, the current system does not incentivize retention; so that at the age of 55 years, employees start to draw their Fairfax County pensions and then leave to work in another county. Any changes in the pension system will not affect current employees . . . For new employees only, there will be changes.”
- Sportplex proposal – Supervisor Herrity opined that building a sportplex in our area would be a terrific addition for Fairfax County. He and others have been impressed by the “Chesterfield Model”, in which their sportplexes “attract athletic tournaments on the weekend and increase occupancy in local hotels. So we have representatives from the Park Authority, the School System, Community College, and business leaders looking at this approach. There is a lot of excitement!”
- Gang Issues – “There are over 2000 gang members in our county, and they have been much in the news lately. Recently, I went out with the Northern Regional Gang Task Force and witnessed several gang members being taken off the street. We are trying to get increased funding to beef up this effort. There are over 4000 undocumented minor children in this county. Our police are doing their jobs relative to gangs; but they are not doing immigration enforcement / raids. There will not be any round-ups of undocumented immigrants. We have to stop making immigrants afraid of the police!” Supervisor Herrity invited Karen Corbett Sanders to comment on the impact of these



children on the school system; and she stated that in recent years “a significant number of immigrant kids have come into our system with no or limited education (even in their native tongue). But we’re obligated to see kids pass. The number of kids behind our standards has dropped by 50%; but this reflects an extra expense to help them catch up.”

- Rolling Road – “We are continuing the effort to start widening this road in Spring 2018, but probably not putting utilities underground.”
- Customer Service Board Matter – “I believe that we need to ask every person who receives a county service of any kind what they think about+ the quality of that service.”
- Question and Answer session: Attendees asked whether or not there is a web site or any capability to check on the status of gang member pick-ups, to which Supervisor Herrity answered “not much.” Another person asked about the number of MS13 murders documented in our county, and the answer was 10.

Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck commented as follows:

- Pedestrian struck by two vehicles - “A pedestrian died last night after being hit by two vehicles in the southbound lane of Route 1 near Hagel Circle, according to Fairfax County Police. Laura Lynn Cornelius, 52, of Lorton, was taken to a hospital and pronounced dead. Shortly after 7:30 p.m., police say, the woman stepped into the right lane and was hit by a 2011 Toyota Camry. Another car then tried to swerve out of the way but also hit the woman. Both drivers remained on the scene, and neither speed nor alcohol are thought to have been factors. There were no crosswalks where Cornelius was hit.”
- South County Police Station & Animal Shelter Information Meeting – “I initiated the South County Police Station Steering Committee to try to make sure that we get community input before decisions are made, so that we get a quality product. Several options are being considered regarding the location. We really need this Station; and the attached Animal Shelter will improve care for our animals. The steering committee is hosting a meeting tomorrow evening, Wed. October 11, at 7:30 PM here in the South County HS Media Room. The meeting is to get input on the future location of the South County Police Station & Animal Shelter. Location possibilities are:
 1. Site A.1: Laurel Crest Drive adjacent to South County Middle School
 2. Site A.2: Silverbrook Road Adjacent to South County Middle School
 3. Site B: Lorton Road at the intersection of Lorton Road and Workhouse Road (Triangular Parcel)
 4. Site C: Richmond Highway, adjacent the basketball courts across from the Lorton Library
 5. Site D: Lorton Road & Hooes Road (Former Nike Site)
 6. Site E: Lorton Road by Giles Run Meadow Park
 7. A few other possible sites brought forward by steering committee members
- Covanta/Air Quality Monitoring – “Covanta should reopen in December. We have met many times. Our objective is that the plant must be safer than it was, especially regarding



state-of-the-art fire suppression, thermal imaging, an emergency response communications system, and that we have air monitoring in place so we can get data quickly. The final piece regarding Covanta's sprinkler plans has just been approved. Our expectation is that they will produce emissions data online showing emissions for each individual stack (this has been hard to get up to this point in time). In case of another emergency, Covanta's will train their employees on how to deploy air tracking monitors, which they will be purchasing so that they have them onsite.

On Monday, Sept. 25, I hosted an Air Quality Monitoring Meeting, including representatives from DPWES, DEQ, the SCF, and my office. We talked about lessons learned and how we are going to protect residents in real time, day-to-day. We also talked about ambient air monitoring, and if there was a desire for this. Quickly, we found out that ambient air monitoring is regulated by the State and related to transportation improvements. Also, ambient air monitors are meant to measure long term emission data, not short term. The science behind where the air monitors are placed might show that regionally, the air monitor needs to be placed somewhere else, and not in Lorton. Our goal is to get real time information to the public, and make the data/graphs easily understandable.

One concern this week is that a piece of equipment caught fire but was quickly managed following the new protocol.”

- ESI Closure progress - “I set up a meeting on September 29 with representatives from ESI, Fairfax County Park Authority, County Attorney's office, Department of Public Works, VA DEQ, Chairman Bulova's office, Supervisor McKay's office, and my office to discuss ESI's closure. ESI's new CEO & President, Dean Kattler, also was present. ESI is legally required to be closed by December 2018; and they currently are working towards closing in the fall of 2018. A number of plantings remain to be done and ESI is doing this. The post-closure process will take two years, bringing in fill to cap the landfill, so you will continue to see trucks until 2020. After 2020, there is a 10-year post-closure monitoring process, during which DEQ will continue to monitor the site for leachate, ground water, gas emissions, and cap monitoring to ensure they are complying with their permit regulations. After this 10-year period, DEQ can sign off on the permit, in which case monitoring ceases and the landfill becomes a dormant landfill.

This will be ESI's first closed landfill. Because of the gas emissions, leachate, and several ponds around the property, ESI contends that during this period, the landfill is an “attractive nuisance” and the company does not want to grant public access to the site. But the view from up there is stunning, and we'll be spending more time to try to work this out. The County is looking at all the options and analyzing which option would be the best way to move forward. I have asked that county staff and DEQ work together to create a timeline that I could share with the community for ESI closure.”

- Transportation Public Meeting
“FCDOT has scheduled a series of public meetings for the community to learn more about the unfunded projects proposed for funding. Each of the meetings will begin with



an open house followed by a formal presentation and a Q&A session. There will be map display boards for residents to view of the unfunded projects as well as transportation projects currently underway. The Mount Vernon District Meeting will be held at the South County Government Center – 8350 Richmond Highway, Alexandria, on Wednesday, Oct. 11, 2017, from 7-9 PM”

- 2nd Annual Tour de Mount Vernon – “Our tour starts at Workhouse Arts Center at 8:30AM on Saturday, Nov 4th and ends at the Workhouse Arts Center in Lorton. I encourage everyone to sign up on line. We are biking mostly in Lorton and the South County area. It’s a 35 mile ride – If I can do it, you can do it!”
- Pension reform - Supervisor Storck agrees with Supervisor Herrity that reform is necessary, and he supports this as long as it does not affect existing employees. “Options and benefits are needed, and we must be competitive with salaries throughout our area.”
- Q&A session – A few attendees raised concerns about various streets with traffic and/or parking problems; and one neighborhood complains about drag racing, even though traffic calming measures have previously been activated. Supervisor Storck referred these citizens to Tae Choi for followup.

4. Legislative Updates

- Candidate Lolita Mancheno-Smoak, Delegate 42nd District, was scheduled but not present.
- Candidate Kathy Tran, Delegate 42nd District – Ms. Tran introduced herself as an immigrant who was brought here at a very young age from Vietnam by her parents. While employed at the US Department of Labor, she worked in various management positions to improve national workforce policies. She is currently the President of her PTA, and said that she wants the State to invest more in our school system. She described herself as “dedicated to making education more affordable, and assuring that Medicare and Medicaid is continued.”

5. Committee Reports

- **Transportation**, Dale Johnson, Chair, provided this information:
 - EMBARK is coming to a close in December and then we’ll make our recommendations to the planning board.
 - When Lorton Rd was expanded, a study regarding several traffic signal intersections began in August, so we have input into the findings.



- **Public Safety**, Jonathan Kiell, Chair, mentioned that the Police Station/Animal Shelter Update already has been covered by Supervisor Storck. He then commented on:
 - Open House at Fairfax County Fire and Rescue Stations – “All stations will host an open house on Saturday, October 14 from 10 - 4 . This will be your last chance to visit the Armisted Rd station. I encourage all to visit the stations.”
 - Great SouthEast Shake Out - “At 10:19 on 10/19, our region will participate in this “Shakeout” drill for earthquake preparedness.”

- **Environmental & Parks**, seeking Chair. No report.

- **Education**, Seeking Chair
 - Teacher Salaries - Karen Corbett Sanders stated that “We are at 189,000-plus students, and still the 6th largest school system in the country! Last year the supervisors supported increasing teacher salaries. We can see some positive results already; because we had a lower turnover rate, and started the school year with “only” 70 unfilled vacancies, which is a big improvement.”
 - School bond – “This is important and I encourage you to vote for it!”
 - Positivity Project - Ms. Corbett Sanders was very upbeat about this new initiative in our schools. As defined on their web page, “the Positivity Project is a non-profit organization dedicated to empowering America’s youth build strong relationships by recognizing the character strengths in themselves and others. We aim to create citizens and leaders who will enhance our communities and country by internalizing the belief that ‘Other People Matter.’ Positive psychology’s 24 character strengths serve as the foundation of The Positivity Project’s curriculum. We believe that character is more than just behavior – it’s what is inside all of us. By partnering with schools across America, we are enhancing students’ self-confidence and strengthening their relationships with each other.” Ms. Corbett Sanders stated that, “All South County schools are participating in the ‘positivity project’ and we are working on building these competencies.”
 - Graduation Rates – “We have 99% graduation rates from SCHS. Our standards continue to be very high.”



- **Land Use**, Nick Firth, Chair,
 - Workhouse Road Single Family Home Development Proposal and Resolution
Vote.

A powerpoint proposal by Mr. Gregory Riegle, (McGuireWoods LLP) and a vigorous audience discussion was held regarding the potential development of a “difficult” property off of Workhouse Road. This area is abutted by homes along Old Ox Road and homes in Hollymeade. There are currently 8 older single family homes in this area, many of whom lost land due to the widening of Workhouse Road. The major perceived concern of many current homeowners is a higher density of homes per acre in the proposed new development. However, the Resolution states that “prior applications on this property were at a dramatically higher density and inferior quality.” The Resolution further states that “the current application would be a major improvement to the existing condition of the property and would dramatically improve the streetscape along Workhouse Road, which is a major entrance into Fairfax County from the south and the Workhouse Arts Center across the street.”

This **Resolution** was put to a vote: “Be it resolved that the South County Federation supports this application to include the Comprehensive Plan amendment and the rezoning to allow no more than 37 single family homes to be built on the 18.56 acre combined properties.” After voting to delete one paragraph, the **Resolution** was approved by a vote of 43 to 2.

- Community Center Update – Martin Rizer reminded all that the Center will be behind the Lorton Library on Route 1. Breaking ground should be in 2020 or 2021. The goal is to build a facility which will attract many people to our area. By comparison, Martin visited a center in the Metro West area in Vienna, where there is a 33,000 sq ft facility and it is highly used, including a Fitness Center. The Architectural firm has done other similar projects and they have been very successful in these areas. Martin stressed, “We are open to all kinds of ideas as to what we want in the center. This should be a big asset to this area.”

6. Old Business – None

7. New Business – Due to the late hour, a vote on the proposed change in the SCF bylaws is tabled until next month.

A **Motion** was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn. Nick Firth adjourned the meeting at 10:00 PM.

NEXT MEETING: November 14, 2017 at 7:30 in the SCHS Media Room.

Future Meetings: December 12