



**Meeting at SCHS Media Room  
Tuesday, Jan 16, 2018 @ 7:30 PM**

1. President Dale Rumberger called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM.
2. Administrative Matters & Officers reports
  - December minutes - A **Motion** to approve the December minutes was made, seconded, and approved by voice vote.
  - Committee Chair appointments - Dale Rumberger stated that Chair appointments for 2018 are: – Dale Johnson (Transportation), Nick Firth (Land Use), Jonathan Kiell (Public Safety), Howard Bishop (Environmental & Parks). The Education Committee Chair still is vacant. A **Motion** was made to accept all of these Chair positions. The motion was approved, without dissent, by voice vote.
  - Fairfax Alert System - Dale Rumberger took a moment to encourage everyone to register for this alert system to protect themselves and families. As stated on the Fairfax Alert System website, “This system enables Fairfax County to provide you with critical information in a variety of situations, including severe weather, road closures, missing persons and neighborhood evacuations. By registering you will automatically be subscribed emergency alerts, which may be sent to all registered devices.”
  - Treasurer’s Report - Larry Clark stated that our total funding status now is \$8575.95. In addition, he has another \$70 in hand from new SFC members.
  - South Fairfax Chamber Report – This spring, the SFC will again co-sponsor a Teen Job Fair together with the SFCC, Supervisor Dan Storck and Supervisor Pat Herryty. This event, which was tremendously successful last year, will be 1 of 4 in the area.



3. Supervisors' Reports.

**Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity** was not in attendance nor represented.

**Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck** began by wishing a happy New Year to everyone, then continued to address several items:

- Meeting with County Executive Bryan Hill - "On Friday, new County Executive Bryan Hill will be coming to the Mount Vernon District (MVD). My plan is to give him a tour of the area and share with him some of our top priorities (Economic Development, Affordable Housing, Tourism). It will be a great way for him to get a grasp of what is important to Mount Vernon District residents."
- Covanta - "Covanta has been up and running since December 27, which you may have noticed by driving South on Richmond Highway. With all of your help, I believe that overall we have a much safer building. However, there are still some outstanding issues that need to be addressed. Therefore, I will be bringing forward a Board Matter next Tuesday."
- ESI - "I will be continuing my conversation with the CEO of ESI and Director of Fairfax County Department of Public Works, James Patteson, regarding ESI's closure. We are tentatively scheduled to meet again in early February. They (ESI) have expressed an interest in finding ways to allow community access (to the future park). My expectation is that there WILL be a park".
- Stempson House - "Back in December, Lieutenant Commander Steven McCullough signed a lease with the Fairfax County Park Authority for the Stempson House. This is the first house to be renovated under the Park Authority's Resident Curator Program. The Stempson House property is located at 9501 Furnace Road and was built in 1937 by inmates of the nearby Occoquan Workhouse and Reformatory, later known as the Lorton Prison, for use by prison employees as a residence, and later as a security office. You can follow Lieutenant Commander McCullough's progress by visiting his blog and signing up for his updates." ([www.stempsonhouserestoration.com](http://www.stempsonhouserestoration.com))
- Lorton Community Center "Members of the Lorton Community Center Steering Committee were presented with preliminary renderings of the Lorton Community Center at their last Steering Committee Meeting. The Steering Committee will be reaching a decision on whether or not the location is good."



- South County Police Station & Animal Shelter “The South County Police Station & Animal Shelter Steering Committee has been making some great progress. They will be meeting again as a committee tomorrow.”
- 31<sup>st</sup> Annual MVD Town Meeting “Please mark your calendar for February 3, 2017, Super Bowl Saturday, for the Annual Mount Vernon District Town Meeting at Mount Vernon High School. The Exhibit Area will open at 7:45 AM. and the meeting portion of this event will begin promptly at 9:30 AM. This year, we will have the new County Executive Bryan Hill, Chairman Bulova, the new FCPS Superintendent Dr. Brabrand, and Mount Vernon District School Board Rep Karen Corbett Sanders as speakers.”
- New MVD Planning Commissioner – Supervisor Storck introduced Walter C. Clarke, and applauded the retiring Commissioner, Earl Flanagan, who will continue to work until the end of March.

4. Legislative Updates - Karen Corbett-Sanders , the Mount Vernon District representative on the Fairfax County School Board, touched on several topics:

- “Fairfax County Public schools will be approving their CIP soon.”
- “In looking at enrollment trends, I think there will be under-representation in certain areas because of the Embark project.”
- “The Superintendent has asked for 1.2% increase in budget and 86% of the budget is dedicated to instructional programs. But since 2010, percentage of students needing special education has really increased.”
- “Fairfax County teacher salaries are not competitive right now.”
- “Most of our schools in the Mount Vernon District are at, or close to, capacity.”
- “We receive \$198 per military student; but we really need to up the ante and seek support for increasing impact aid funding for this group.”
- Karen provided some perspective about why Virginia’s current political struggles over whether or not to support Medicaid and CHIP has very significant impacts on our school system. She stated, “Medicaid funding actually provides auxiliary services for all the special needs kids. Also, CHIP has not been funded since September, so county taxpayers are having to pay more to pick up the slack.”
- “From Jan 29-31 we will have public hearings on the budget. We need your support.”



## 5. Committee Reports

- **Transportation**, Dale Johnson, Chair, provided the SCF's 2018 Transportation Priority List (some of these are carryovers from last year)
  - Route 1 CSX Underpass
  - FDOT Traffic Study Results, especially the intersection of Silverbrook and Lorton Roads
  - FDOT Road Widening Analysis Results – Hooes Road from the Parkway to Silverbrook Road
  - Highway Maintenance Status with emphasis on mowing season. Dale added that he is going to relook messages from last year.
  - I-95 congestion in the southbound corridor (especially the underpass) from Lorton to the Occoquan. Dale feels it is really important to keep up the pressure on FDOT and VDOT.
  - Results of Citizen input for unfunded transportation projects.
  - Handheld cell phones and texting.
  - VDOT acceptance of Laurel Crest from Silverbrook to the golf course.
  - Fiscal efficiency of VDOT-funded mobile emissions stations.
  - Embark impact on Route 1 lower Potomac district (the Embark plan called for bus service all the way down to Occoquan).
- **Public Safety**, Jonathan Kiell, Chair, reinforcing Dale Rumberger's earlier comment about Fairfax Alerts, reminded everyone that Fairfax Alerts is free and each recipient selects the information (what to be notified about) and the location(s) of interest for the notices that will be sent to them. It only takes a few minutes to register and you can adjust your settings anytime. Go to: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/alerts>
- **Environmental & Parks**, Howard Bishop, Chair – Kelly Davis, Landscape Architect at the Fairfax County Park Authority, provided an update on the Laurel Hill Central Green (part of Laurel Hill Park; it is an area north of



Lorton Road between Hooes Road and Silverbrook Road). Using 2 large annotated display boards, her comments included:

- Overview and History of Laurel Hill Park - the Park Authority acquired 1200 acres of the former Lorton Prison complex in 2002. The majority of the park property as well as this current project is located within the National Register boundary of the DC Workhouse and Reformatory Historic Overlay District. There is also a MOA that stipulates coordination with VDHR, SCF, and the Lorton Heritage Society. The overall master plan and 2232 (a review process which determined that the plan is in substantial accord with the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan) for the park was approved in October 2005. Since then the Park Authority has been working on opening up portions of the park areas to the public *as funding allows*. To date there are roughly 9 miles of natural surface trails located throughout the property, a disc golf course, equestrian riding ring, interpretive signage within the park and the adjacent Laurel Hill golf course.
- Development of the Central Green – Intent is to develop it similarly to the Burke Lake Park picnic area and the Bull Run Regional Park Picnic area, including shelters (able to reserve) with associated amenities. Trails will provide connectivity to the Laurel Hill Greenway and other elements of the park. This open green area is one of the few large open play spaces for informal recreation in the park system.

With the widening of Furnace and Lorton Roads, FCDOT agreed to leave a portion of Furnace Road in place to preserve the relationship between the Barrel Bridge and the Barret House and to allow it to be used as an internal Park Road to access the Central Green area.

The Central Green Area is proposed to have a one way loop road with parking and a sidewalk. There is also an overflow parking area on a portion of the old Furnace Road alignment. Within the Parking Loop are 3 low profile picnic shelters, 1 large shelter that can accommodate 250 people and 2 smaller ones that can accommodate 160 people each. In addition to the picnic shelters, there will be a playground area and a restroom facility. The restroom will also function as a sort of orientation station with informational / interpretive signage located on the building. There will be a natural surface trail that meanders through the meadow area with interpretive signage as well. The trails will connect back into the Laurel Hill Greenway.
- Other areas near the Central Green- The area to the west of the Central Green is the Heritage Recreation Area and that is planned for active recreation. It is the only flat area within the 1200 acres that can support athletic fields. The field is located outside of the Historic Overlay District to avoid conflict with the district guidelines. The fields shown on the plans are a conceptual idea of what could be



done *should funding become available* for that section of the park.

Further west, on the corner of Lorton and Hooes Roads is the Nike Missile Site. It is shown on the display as being preserved as an interpretive site for the Nike Missile program. Our Cultural Resources Department is working toward making this site a National Register site as well. The plans for this are conceptual as well but they show trails, a themed playground and interpretive signage as part of the development.

- **Education, Seeking Chair**
  
- **Land Use, Nick Firth, Chair**
  - Lorton Community Center Resolution – A vigorous discussion regarding this resolution was almost totally focused on whether the new Community Center should be constructed next to the Lorton Library, or across the street, or even somewhere else.
    - Linda Patterson, the Executive Director of Lorton Community Action Center (LCAC) Board of Directors spoke first, describing the broad scope of services provided by LCAC (hundreds of meals per week, etc.). The LCAC sits in an old converted house near the Library, and she said, “All of us on the Steering Committee support doing this in proximity to the Lorton Library. Of the people served by the LCAC, 45% walk to the current facility, so moving it across the street would be problematic.”
    - There is a very small park next to the Library. Three HOAs in close proximity to this park (Shepherd Hills, Williamsburg Square, and Highland at Gunston) have passed resolutions requesting a change in the location of the new Community Center to the northbound side of Route 1. Chris Ambrose, who lives in Shepherd Hills, expressed concern about the loss of green space when LCAC moves over next to the Library. He said, “This is the only park (and heavily used) in this heavily developed area, and to build the new center here would take a significant amount of green space. He urges building the new center on the other side of Route 1. Howard Bishop of the Williamsburg Square HOA cited the recent Lorton Community Center survey which indicates that (contrary to Ms. Patterson’s statement) a majority of prospective users of the Center would be driving, not walking. Chris Ambrose then added that no one knew of the project, and that everyone was completely surprised (to learn of the probable site for the new center).
    - Chris Ambrose tried to summarize by urging an overview to at least compare the costs of other options, such as the impact of the Sewer Bond. He wants a serious effort to look at what can be done, and perhaps determine the most cost-effective way to do it.



- Dan Storck responded to Chris that, “The default is what the plan is; but I have instructed staff to bring back to the search committee your information about the site and take a look at the site across the street.”
  - Dale Rumberger recommended that the concerned residents meet with staff on Feb 13th, and we will table the larger issue and vote until the next SCF meeting.
- ESI Resolution -This really is a request for follow-up. Larry Clark began the discussion by saying, “Unless someone in this room can say so, there is not a County plan in place for closure!” He then proceeded to lead a discussion regarding more than 50 (!!!) requirements in SEA-1, most of which have no known /documented compliance. For example, the perception of several people who daily have "eyes on" the truck traffic, is that that the pace of the dumping has appreciably increased. It is thought quite possible that ESI has already surpassed the allowed 412-foot maximum height of the hill.

After discussion, the following **Resolution** was put to a vote:

“Therefore, be it resolved that the South County Federation requests that the following actions take place:

1. DPWES will be requested to make an update presentation to the SCF at its March 2018 meeting.

2. DPWES shall establish a specific folder regarding the Lorton Landfill closure in a conspicuous, readily accessible manner on the County website that is continually and routinely updated through and including 1 year after the scheduled closure date.

3. That the questions / concerns included in the matrix below be responded to specifically either at or before the March 2018 SCF presentation in a manner such that all questions / concerns may be easily and clearly understood by all the county residents attending the meeting.

4. That DPWES provide a detailed, chronological plan that identifies any and all actions that will be needed to ensure that the closure takes place on the date specified or earlier should fill levels be reached.

5. That a representative from the County Legal Department make a detailed presentation on all of the past deliberations and decisions regarding Overlook Park and provide an explanation of the County’s path forward to require ESI to construct the park as a part of the closure or whatever other provisions will be made. In other words, SCF would like to know, clearly and concisely, whether or not there will ever be an Overlook Park.

6. That the County Legal Department provide an explanation of the courses of action available should ESI dba Furnace Associates default on their closure performance. This discussion shall address the legal avenues open in case of default as well as the adequacies of the posted bond instruments. This will require coordination with and ideally a presentation from the Bonds and Agreements Center from the County Staff to provide a



clear explanation of the amount, adequacy and functioning of the bond should default occur.

The **Resolution was approved** by a vote of 34 to 0

6. Old Business – None

7. New Business – None

A **Motion** was made, seconded, and approved to adjourn. Dale Rumberger adjourned the meeting at 10:05 PM.

NEXT MEETING: February 13th 2018 at South County High School Media Room

Future Meeting Dates: March 13th, April 10th, May 8th, June 12th, July 10th, August (No Meeting), September 11th, October 9th, November 13th, December 11th (Workhouse Arts Center)