

General Membership Meeting Minutes
Zoom Video Conference
July 11, 2023 | 7:00 PM

I. CALL TO ORDER:

Mr. Nick Firth, President of the South County Federation (SCF), called the Monthly Membership meeting to order at 7:00 PM.

II. ADMINISTRATIVE MATTERS & OFFICERS REPORT:

A. Secretary- Ms. Angelina Fuller

There were no minutes presented or approved at this meeting.

B. Treasurer Report- Keith Shovlin

Mr. Shovlin provided the financial update as follows:

Truist Checking	\$426.19
Nuveen (TIA CREFF) Money Market Account (MMA)	\$6,131.56
Total	\$6,557,75

C. South Fairfax Chamber of Commerce Report- Casey Whitmarsh

Mr. Whitmarsh not present or represented.

III. SUPERVISORS REPORT:

D. Supervisor Pat Herrity

Springfield Supervisor Pat Herrity not present or represented.

E. Supervisor Dan Storck

Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck greeted the membership and delivered his update as follows:

1. Welcome Michelle Togbe – Summer Intern for Supervisor Stock’s Office. Will be studying international affairs at Brown University this Fall.
2. Lorton [2040] Visioning Community Open House – Saturday 10 am – 1 pm at Lorton Community Center & Library
3. Commercial Truck Parking Flier (per VDOT Rules) now available on Supervisor Storck’s website. Outlines what to do if commercial trucks are posted on Richmond Hwy
4. Lidl Liberty opens July 26 at 7:45 am
5. Back to School Day Event August 19 from 10 am -2pm at Lorton Community Center & Library
6. National Night Out August 1
7. Silverbrook/Lorton Road Forced Main project replacing sewer main - Phase 1 Construction to start September 2023
8. Chief of Police Kevin Davis update on new Lorton District Police Station
 - a. Recruitment & retention is a problem nationally, including in Fairfax County, but working to climb out of that (largest policy academy class in a decade just went in, with next class being even larger than current class)
 - b. Phase 1 anticipated September 2023 for Lorton District Station:
 - i. Assign a Captain as District Commander to the Lorton District Station
 - ii. Joined by Police Lieutenant and Community Outreach Specialist and a combination of sworn police officers and civilian staff
 - iii. Working to establish hours of operation 7 am- 7 pm

iv. Stand up a Community Advisory Council

- c. Pay increases have helped mitigate staffing attrition
- d. Lorton will be the 2nd largest police district in the County
- e. Fully staffed with 7 police officers in the future

C1: Commend the FCPD for the Road Shark Program, which has been really effective

Q1: There has been an uptick in officers called to schools. How many officers will be trained in crisis intervention?

A1: Crisis intervention is woven through every piece training and is not a singular block of instruction. FCPD exceeds the Commonwealth's requirement for CIT officers by over 100%.

Q2: Who can be part of the Community Advisory Council?

A2: Anyone who participates and wants to join – only elected positions are the Chair & Co-Chair. All CAC's have a recurring monthly meeting.

9. Director of Department of Animal Sheltering (DAS) Reasa D. Currier and Chairwoman for the Fairfax County Animal Services Advisory Commission Gina Lynch update on new Lorton Animal Shelter:

- a. The County's only open community shelter – accepts all animals
- b. Will add 27 staff members to support the operations at the new Lorton Campus (23,000 sf) including Customer Care, Foster & Volunteer and Animal Caretaker positions
- c. New campus will include 44 double sided dog kennels, 3 small animal exotic spaces, 2 catios (cat patios), meet & greet space and dog yards
- d. Volunteers and fosters are always needed! Visit <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/animalshelter/> for volunteer & foster information, as well as open positions

Q1: Is that true that you have to raise about \$175,000 a year?

A1: Our budget this year is about \$250,000 and we fundraise for \$500,000-\$600,000

C1: The new sign for the Lorton Animal Shelter was damaged – looks like its been hit by a vehicle.

F. Springfield School District School Board – Laura Jane-Cohen

- 1. New online registration system is up & running- please encourage new residents/neighbors to register to ensure rightsizing for classrooms!
- 2. New Principal for South County Middle School will be announced tomorrow
- 3. School Bus Camera Update | Worked through legal counsel to determine a clear administrative path forward for usage of cameras to enforce road rules and safety for students, parents and drivers
- 4. Onsite or soon-coming electric buses (31) with more on the way. Working to maximize routes and ensuring fuel efficient vehicles are running longer routes.
- 5. Renegotiating MOU with the School Age Childcare Program (first time since 1987). Solutions are being discussed to address long waitlist and frustration of inability for all interested families to utilize the program

Q1: Was the Strategic Plan Approved?

A1: Yes, it was approved in the last Board meeting. We will be adding region 6 to address implementation.

Q2: How will the cost-savings be calculated to “confirm” the success of the electric bus acquisition?

A2: The school system is working on processes to track fuel, maintenance and other comparisons. We are tracking both the savings, as well as what that savings is then be allocated to in the budget.

G. Fairfax County Park Authority- Linwood Gorham

Mr. Gorham presented the following items:

1. PROSA Strategy – Seeking community input <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/park-news/2023/prosa-community-input-2>
 2. Garden Plots turned over to leasing department, with planting to begin soon! Ribbon cutting for the plots next Wednesday at 11 am.
 3. Central Green Bathrooms – walls are going up and hoping to push ahead of schedule.
 4. Equestrian use for Caisson horses – meeting took place to consider the Army’s usage of the Park Authority’s facility. Consideration ongoing and an onsite meeting will be next step to determining path forward.
 5. Central Green issues (trash, profane music, exceeded capacity events) are being addressed by hiring a private security group and staff to oversee the rentals and management for closer monitoring.
- Q1: Will new garden plot users pay the same rent for the year since it’s a prorated term at the Lorton site?
- A1: No, it was reduced from \$140 to \$80 and could be lowered more based on the actual first day.
- Q1: Will the Park Authority do a end-of-season rototilling/maintenance for users?
- A1: Users are responsible for management for next season.

IV. **LEGISLATIVE UPDATES:**

H. Virginia State Senator Scott Surovell

Dalton Bisson greeted the group and presented the following on behalf of Senator Surovell:

1. Senator Surovell is reviewing Living Shorelines Resolution and will return to SCF with thoughts in the coming months
2. CONTACT: District36@senate.virginia.gov; or 571-249-4484

I. State Delegate Kathy Tran- presented by Ben Hermerding

Mr. Hermerding greeted the members and presented the following items:

1. July 1 – marked date new laws went into effect from latest legislation.
2. Budget surplus will be appropriated in coming months
3. Lee Chapel Short-term changes have been implemented (speed bump ahead warning signage, blocked view signage, and object marker warning signage, and a speed trailer/sensor). Medium-term changes are tied into paving of Lee Chapel (2-3 ft gravel shoulder, rumble strips & side reflectors), which VDOT has expedited to Summer 2023, rather than the previously scheduled Fall 2023. Supervisor Herrity is studying the long-term proposed changes to remove the hills.
4. Contact information: (703) 539-2066 and delktran@house.virginia.gov
5. Newsletter sign-up: https://secure.ngpvan.com/OP4ARiDiLOiLxE0_xtDRfg2

Primary election update was provided by Mr. Keith Shovlin for the June Primaries, as reported on <https://www.vpap.org/electionresults/20230620/senate/>

V. **COMMITTEE REPORTS:**

A. Transportation- Peter Weyland, Co-Chair; Dale Rumberger, Co-Chair

Mr. Weyland presented items below:

1. Amtrak solutions to mitigate back-up on Lorton Road seem to be working.
2. Funding concerns remain unresolved for the CSX bridge over South Run. Will report status in the September meeting.

3. Pothole reporting link: <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/heres-how-report-those-pesky-potholes://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/news/heres-how-report-those-pesky-potholes>
4. Virginia Paving Project Implementation (interactive map): <https://vdot.maps.arcgis.com/home/item.html?id=da2af092937e491b9da1601f6f278d16>

Mr. Rumberger presented the **Resolution on Furnace Road Parking** addressing the commercial truck parking that have created oil/diesel spillage and trash/dumping concerns for the community by creating “No Parking Zones.”

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION: Dale Rumberger

SECOND: Keith Shovlin

Q1: Have you contacted the police department about this given the existing program they have to address this issue?

A1: Yes, we have. At the end of the day, the issue remains that VDOT and FCDOT make allowances for parking like this state-wide, despite existing programs that we have locally to address concerns.

C1: Parking is not appropriate in this area and Mr. Gorham, with knowledge of State & County ordinances, would like to help aid these efforts and fully supports this resolution.

Q2: Are you talking about parking near the dirt bike trails ?

A1: No, there are already No Parking signs installed near the bike trails, this is further down Furnace Rd.

C2: Please ensure that this does not include pickup trucks (which are there regularly loading bikes), and only truly commercial vehicles

Q3: Have the landowners been approached nearby?

Q4: They are parking on right-of-way rather than private property, and the owners of that private property have been contact for a property that is currently listed for sale by CBRE.

C3: It should be noted that Waste Management also opposes truck parking in this location and would support these efforts.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY.

Mr. Rumberger presented the **Resolution in support of Pohick Road Sidewalk Construction** to jumpstart and expedite the analysis of the sidewalk & crosswalk study initiated in 2020 to address a pedestrian safety issue currently that has seen no action/approved projects or construction since, despite available funding resources.

MOTION TO APPROVE RESOLUTION: Dale Rumberger

SECOND: Wendy Henley

C1: Mr. Gorham fully supports these efforts and suggests paving should occur immediately in response.

Q1: Is this on both sides of the road, or just one side?

A1: Yes, it's on both sides.

C2: This is a very dangerous area and it's very muddy. This sidewalk does not have to be 10', even a 6' sidewalk would be a major improvement.

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY.

J. Public Safety- Jonathan Kiell, Chair

Mr. Kiell was not in attendance.

K. Land Use- Nick Firth and Keith Shovlin, Co-Chairs

Mr. Firth encourages everyone to attend the Lorton Visioning event this weekend! (see Supervisor notes)

Mr. Shovlin reported that the former CM Chicken location at Gunston Plaza will be replaced by a Sushi restaurant. At Gunston Corner Shops, Veronica's bakery and taqueria carryout will be opening in the former nail salon space.

L. Environmental & Parks- Larry Clark and Dale Rumberger, Co-Chairs

Mr. Weyland presented **Resolution requesting that our Delegation to the Virginia Legislature amend the 2020 Living Shorelines Legislation.**

MOTION TO APPROVE THE RESOLUTION with amendment of “Moreover, the removal of the soil adjacent to the seawall”: Peter Weyland

SECOND: Dale Rumberger

MOTION CARRIES UNANIMOUSLY.

Member Nancy Wilochka and Mr. Peter Weyland provided an update on the BLM Meadowood – US Army Caisson.

1. BLM Meadowood – U.S. Army Caissons Update: Successful in pressing pause on the taking of land at Meadowood to house the U.S. Army Caissons. Request has been made by the Department of the Army to conduct a study and report recommendations in March on how, where and when to move the Caissons. Mason Neck Citizens Associates is working closely with the Department on these efforts, including identifying nearby locations that may be suitable.

M. Education- Wendy Henley, Chair

Ms. Henley presented the following updates:

1. Students will continue to have unlimited access to online tutoring services this summer through Tutor.com
2. The FCPS Office of Intervention and Prevention Services will offer free 45-minute virtual mental wellness consultations with a school psychologist or school social worker by phone or online through Friday, August 4.
3. Teletherapy services continue to be available through Hazel Health this summer for all FCPS high school students at no cost. Sessions can be scheduled M-F 7 am- 7 pm
4. FCPS will be hosting the Summer Meal Service at school throughout the country. No-cost breakfast and lunch will be offered to all children 18 years of age and younger.
5. Participate in the Summer Reading Adventure in Fairfax County Public Libraries this summer by visiting fairfaxcounty.beanstack.org to register for the appropriate Summer Reading Adventure for you or your children.

Q1: Is ST Math online services available for students?

A1: Yes, it’s available at no cost for students. Chrome books are also preloaded for unlimited summer usage.

VI. ACTIONS & PENDING ISSUES: No reports.

VII. NEW BUSINESS:

No August Meeting! Special Candidate Forum event to be announced between meetings. Meeting adjourned at 9:20 pm.

NEXT MEETING: September 12, October 10, November 14, and December 12.