



**P.O. Box 442, Lorton, Virginia 22199  
Meeting at South County Secondary School  
Tuesday, April 8, 2008 @ 7:30 p.m.**

**\*\*\*\* MINUTES \*\*\*\***

**BOARD REPORTS**

Michael Grogan, President, called the meeting to order at 7:35 PM. A quorum was present.

Dale Johnson, Vice-President, announced that an attendance sign-in list was being circulated. The minutes of the March meeting had been sent out electronically. The minutes were approved on a voice vote.

Mr. Johnson reminded everyone that membership dues were now due.

Gloria Bannister, Treasurer, was not present. Copies of her financial report were provided.

**SUPERVISORS/LEGISLATORS TIME and DISCUSSION**

- Supervisor Hyland provided the following updates:
  - Budget hearings have been completed. Over 250 people testified. The largest area of interest was schools/education. To address the \$60 million deficit, the Board of Supervisors authorized a \$.03 tax rate increase. The new budget should be finalized by the end of the month.
  - The county is in the process of selecting a master developer for the Laurel Hill Adaptive Reuse Area. The Alexander Company, Madison, WI, has been recommended. They have done some work in the Washington, DC metro area. The required 30 day comment period ends April 13, 2008.
  - Susan Fremit has been selected as chair of the BRAC Task Force.
  - There is a proposal to fund the South County Middle School (SCMS) by swapping school and park land. A second proposal has been submitted by EnviroSolutions. These proposals have been forwarded to county staff.
  - South County Little League is using ball fields on Noman Cole property. Mr. Hyland expects the property to remain as ball fields.
- Supervisor Pat Herrity provided the following updates:
  - There is a good team working on the SCMS. It is looking good for getting the school built. Supervisor Herrity believes the proposal to build a wing on SCSS has been abandoned. There are 3 very good chances for funding SCMS.
  - He is working with Supervisor Kay to get WHS to the GSA site. This would aid in the revitalization of the Springfield Mall area. Congressmen Davis and Moran are "on board".
  - The Fairfax County Parkway MOU was signed by Army, FHWA, and VDOT. The project was fully funded but now is \$50 - \$60 million short. The project will be built in phases as funding becomes available.
  - Mr. Herrity has a newsletter which any citizen can sign up to receive.
  - He will try to have a staff member attend every meeting.
- Anna M. Johnson from Senator George Barker's staff was introduced.



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- Delegate Dave Albo provided the following updates:
  - A bill was passed regarding animal fighting. If weapons, gambling, or for profit are involved, the potential penalty increases.
  - Mental health laws currently require a person to be “imminent danger” to be held involuntarily. Change is proposed to allow involuntarily committing a person who is a danger to themselves or others. A probable cause hearing would be required within 24 hours.
  - Northern Virginia provides 40% of the revenue, but is not receiving an equivalent portion back from the state. Because the state would not provide funding to support required transportation maintenance and improvements, last year the Northern Virginia representatives came up with their own plan. The plan provided for us to raise and keep the money. Authority was given to the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority to impose fees. The Virginia Supreme Court said a non-elected body can not impose fees. The rest of the plan is fine.
  - \$1.7 million in state funding for BRAC impact must be used by the county for the South County Middle School.
  - Effective July 1<sup>st</sup>, you can freeze your credit by calling the three companies providing credit reports. This credit freeze provides that no one can obtain a credit report without your OK, and helps prevent identify theft.

## **STANDING AND SPECIAL COMMITTEE REPORTS**

- Education (Christine Morin)
  - Dale Rumberger, current Principal of SCSS, is retiring at the end of this school year. Jane Lipp has been named as his successor.
  - Robert Holderbaum, current Principal of Silverbrook Elementary, is also retiring. The selection committee for his replacement will be making a decision by mid-May.
  - Laurel Hill Elementary (LHES) is under construction, and part of the exterior walls are up. Decisions about the color of the roof and the landscaping are still to be made. Anyone interested in working on the committee for LHES should email Ms. Morin at ccmorin@aol.com.

The county executive brought forth a proposal to construct a wing on SCSS which would increase the capacity from 2500 to 3000. The wing would cost \$10 million and provide about 500 seats, which would take care of the current capacity. This may not include changes to the core facilities. This would keep SCSS as a secondary school, and was not perceived to be the best long term solution for the students or the community. The School Board was asked to put the money toward the middle school instead. \$2 million in BRAC planning money has been allocated to plan and design the middle school. There are currently two creative funding options which amount to approximately \$10 million each. The School Board deferred action to allow the community to find options for funding the middle school. The construction is estimated to cost \$76 million in 2017. If the project is moved up to 2011 or 2012, \$40 million is required. With the money in the CIP and the funding options the community has identified, there should be adequate funding to bridge to \$40 million required to build the middle school in 2011 or 2012. Supervisor Hyland is supporting moving the project forward from 2017. Congressman Davis has continually said that he knows South County needs a middle school. The Clark proposal is



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similar to a previous proposal, and amounts to exchanging school and park land. This requires changing the use of land mandated by a Federal law. Congressman Davis would have to help change the Federal statute. This public private partnership would potentially provide some of the funding for the middle school. The EnviroSolutions proposal would also potentially provide SCMS funding.

- Ms. Morin presented a motion, **Resolution 08-12**, calling on the Government of Fairfax County to allocation \$10 million (\$5 million in each of the next two fiscal years) from the County’s CIP for the dedicated purpose of constructing South County Middle School. The motion passed by a vote of 41 Yes, 0 No, 0 Abstentions.

- Tim Sargent presented Steve French, Commissioner of the South County Athletic Association, with the Carl Davy award for his significant contributions to the South County athletic programs.

- Land Use (Linwood Gorham)

- Mr. Gorham was briefed by the county on the bus shelter advertising proposals. He didn’t see any way to prioritize bus shelters. The county was proposing 20% of the bus shelters would have no advertising. Mr. Gorham recommends leaving the SCF position as is.

- The EnviroSolutions proposal is worthy of further consideration.

- The committee is expecting proposals regarding the Sunrise next to the Giant on 123 and the triangle at Gunston Plaza.

- Transportation and Public Safety (Shean Robinson)

- At the VDOT briefing last month, a plan was mentioned to close the pedestrian underpass under 95. Mr. Robinson presented a motion, **Resolution 08-13**, supporting continued operation and extension of the tunnel. The motion was seconded. The motion was amended. The amended motion passed by a vote of 23 Yes, 9 No, 5 Abstentions.

- Environmental

- Linwood Gorham distributed flyers for the Eagle Festival on Saturday, April 19, from 10 a.m. to 5 p.m. at Mason Neck State Park.

**OLD BUSINESS**

- Lorton Community Action Center (Tim Rizer)

- The Annual LCAC Golf Event is May 9<sup>th</sup>.

- LCAC is currently competing under the Feinstein Challenge for matching donations through April 30<sup>th</sup>.

- LCAC is trying to support families struggling due to the economic downturn. Donations are needed. SCF members are requested to bring donations to the meeting this month and next month.



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**NEW BUSINESS**

- Parade Committee
  - A motion, **Resolution 08-14**, was made to establish a Special Committee to plan and execute the 2008 Lorton Independence Day Parade and Celebration with a budget of \$500. The motion passed 35 Yes, 0 No, 3 Abstentions.
- Harold Nelson, Shirley Acres, spoke about the continuing need for additional police presence in our area. Mr. Nelson believes the police presence has improved, but more police are still needed. Mr. Nelson also expressed concerns about three police districts having jurisdiction over the South County area. Mr. Nelson will work with the Transportation and Public Safety Committee on these issues.
- Next Meetings
  - May 13<sup>th</sup> meeting is at 7:30 p.m. at South County Secondary School.
  - June 10<sup>th</sup> meeting is at 7:30 p.m. at South County Secondary School.
- Meeting was adjourned 9:40 p.m.

**Note:** South County Federation website is at <http://www.southcountyfederation.com/>.

Members	Member Through	Present	Non Aligned Caucus Members	Member Through	Present
Afton Glen	2007	Yes	Gomolinski-Lally, Eleanor	2007	Yes
Barrington	2009	No	Fedorshick, John	2007	No
Crosspointe	2009	No	Clifton, Irma	2007	Yes
Gunston Corner THOA	2007	Yes	Meeker, Rose	2007	No
Gunston Manor	2009	No	Johnson, Dale	2007	Yes
Gunston Square	2007	No	Dreude, Thomas	2007	No
Hallowing Point Civic Assoc	2009	Yes			
Harbor View		No	<b>Other Attendees</b>		
Hollymeade	2007	No	Dave Albo		Yes
Laurel Hill Community Association	2007	Yes	Gerry Hyland (Mt. Vernon Supervisor)		Yes
Laurel Highlands		No	Tom Howard (Supv. Hyland's Office)		Yes
Lorton Station	2009	Yes	Pat Herrity (Springfield Supervisor)		Yes
Lorton Valley		Yes	Anna Johnson (Senator Barker's Office)		Yes
Mason Neck Civic Association	2007	Yes	Earl Flanagan (Mt. Vernon Planning Comm)		Yes
Newington Woods		Yes	Tim Sargent (At-Large Planning Comm)		Yes
Non-Aligned Caucus (see upper right)	2007	Yes	Amber Healy (Connection Newspapers)		Yes
Occoquan Overlook	2007	No	Conrad Meehan (Enviro-Solutions)		Yes
Overlook Point	2007	No			
Saratoga Community Association	2007	Yes			
Shepherd Hills	2007	No			
Springfield Oaks	2007	No			
Shirley Acres	2007	Yes			
Silverbrook Hunt	2009	No			
Southpointe	2009	Yes			
Spring Hill	2007	Yes			
Stone Mannor	2009	No			
Wildwood	2007	No			
Williamsburg Square	2009	No			



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**Resolution 08-12**

**Resolution calling on the Government of Fairfax County to allocate \$10 million (\$5 in each of the next two fiscal years) from the County's CIP for the dedicated purpose of constructing South County Middle School**

**Whereas** South County Secondary School (SCSS) was designed and built to serve as a high school, but opened in 2005 to serve temporarily as a secondary school until a new middle school was built;

**Whereas** population growth in the South County area outpaced projections made prior to South County Secondary School's opening in September 2005, was over capacity in its second year of operation; and at 2,931 students today, is at least 400 students over its core capacity;

**Whereas** there is continuing residential growth occurring in Southern Fairfax County resulting from the development of new neighborhoods and there is substantial growth expected from the Base Closure and Realignment Commission (BRAC) process on Fort Belvoir;

**Whereas** the overcrowding at SCSS is currently being managed through the use of 24 trailers, 1 auxiliary gym, and a 9-period split bell schedule, all of which place additional stress on students, teachers, school administrators and other staff;

**Whereas** Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) has adopted a policy stating that high schools should optimally have a maximum capacity of 2,000 students (FCPS policy #8120.1);

**Whereas** the School Board in recent years has consistently adopted motions supporting the goal of building South County Middle School, to include a provision in the SCSS boundary study of 2007 to allow the community time to find creative methods to finance construction of SCMS, and in January 2008, when the Board voted to allocate \$2 million in BRAC planning money to immediately begin the planning for the South County Middle School and agreed that upon provision by the Board of Supervisors and/or the federal government of at least \$10 million in funding or its equivalent, South County Middle School would be built;

**Whereas** South County Middle School Solutions Group has worked for three years to find creative solutions that would accelerate construction of SCMS, which is the best long term solution to address both capacity and educational needs of South County students;



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**Whereas** the South County Middle Solutions Group has now identified multiple potential sources of creative financing for constructing South County Middle School, including public-private partnerships, designated state aid for BRAC-related school construction, county land use resource reallocations, and the County’s bonding authority, County CIP and debt service options;

**Whereas** the County Executive has made a proposal to provide \$10 million to build a wing onto SCSS to address capacity issues, thereby recognizing the need and indicating that the County can provide such funding without harming other important County priorities;

**Whereas** if the \$10 million proposed by the County Executive could serve as a cornerstone for a creative financing solution to allow construction of South County Middle School without moving back any other school projects currently on the CIP;

**Whereas** the Fairfax County Park Authority has expressed a willingness to work with the County and School Board to address the mutual needs of the organizations and the community;

**Whereas** Congressman Davis has committed to securing changes in the Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) that may be required throughout this process;

**Whereas** the Board of Supervisors and School Board have hired a consultant and the Middle School Group are advocating for our needs with the Army, Federal public officials, and other elected officials to address the education (and transportation) BRAC-related impacts to the community and to secure resources to mitigate the impact;

Now, therefore, be it **Resolved** that the South County Federation:

- 1) Calls upon the Fairfax County School Board, Fairfax County Public Schools, Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, and Fairfax County Executive to reach an agreement resulting in the County allocating \$5 million in each of the next two fiscal years for the dedicated purpose of relieving overcrowding at SCSS through the construction of a middle school to best meet the needs of the students and families in Southern Fairfax County;
- 2) Calls upon all local public officials at the county, state and federal levels to continue working with the South County Middle School Solutions Group to pursue traditional funding options, creative financing solutions, and public-private partnerships that could result in the construction of the middle school so that it can open by the year 2011.



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Be it further **Resolved** that the South County Federation:

- 3) Expresses its sincere thanks to our Federal, State, and local officials for continuing to work with the South County Middle School Solutions Group and the community to find the best permanent solution to meet the educational needs of all South County school children.

Passed April 8, 2008



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## Resolution 08-13

### Resolution to Support the I-95 Pedestrian Tunnel in Lorton, VA

**Therefore** be it resolved the South County Federation (SCF) support the I-95 Pedestrian Tunnel near Lorton Road not be closed by V-DOT;

**Whereas** the tunnel is an optional pedestrian walkway used by local residents in the Shirley Acres and surrounding communities;

**Whereas** the current I-95 (Fourth Lane) Widening project includes funding to extend the existing tunnel the new width of I-95,

**Whereas** the Virginia Department of Transportation (VDOT) indicated on March 11, 2008, it would cost more to close and fill the existing pedestrian passage;

**Whereas** once a passage such as this is closed such as was the rail tunnel (without public notice), it will unlikely be reopened.

**Whereas** this pedestrian trail should be kept as an option for the county trail system, much less for local pedestrian access.

**Whereas** the abutting business (Torres Truck Repair) has turned this public right-of-way into a storage and dumping ground.

**Therefore**, be it resolved that South County Federation supports the extension of the tunnel per the existing VDOT I-95 (Fourth Lane) Widening Project plans and the continued operation of the tunnel and that VDOT properly protect and maintain (make proper improvements such as post for protection and add lighting) such said right-of-way.

Passed April 8, 2008



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**Resolution 08-14**

**Resolution to Establish a Special Committee to Plan and Execute the 2007 Lorton Independence Day Parade and Celebration**

**Whereas** the South County Federation has assumed responsibility to plan and execute a Lorton Independence Day Parade and Celebration on July 4<sup>th</sup>, 2008;

**Whereas** the President has recommended the establishment of a 2008 Independence Day Celebration Special Committee and nominated Mr. John Fedorshik as the chair;

**Therefore**, the membership of the South County Federation:

Ratifies the establishment of the aforementioned special committees through August 2008 and the appointment of the chairperson as recommended by the President;

Authorizes the chairperson to appoint such members and sub committees from volunteers within the Federation as needed to plan and execute the parade and celebration;

Authorizes the chairperson to solicit donations in funds and in kind solely to execute the parade and celebration consistent with the not for profit status of the Federation;

Authorizes the committee to effect the necessary coordination and agreements with third parties to execute the parade and celebration;

Directs the chairperson to identify and to present for the approval of the membership a "Grand Marshall" of suitable stature within the community and invite said individual to participate as the "Grand Marshall;"

Directs the chairperson to develop a plan and budget to execute the parade and celebration and directs him to present such plan and budget to the Executive Committee for approval;

Allocates to the chairperson of the special committee a budget not to exceed \$500, to be drawn from the assets of the Federation, and to be repaid to the maximum extent possible from donations solicited;

And, calls upon each member to appoint a liaison to the committee to promote the Parade and Celebration within their respective communities.

Passed April 8, 2008