



**Meeting at Workhouse Arts Center
Tuesday, December 10, 2019 @ 7:30 PM**

1. President Dale Rumberger called the meeting to order at 7:30 PM. He began by thanking Ava Spece, the President/CEO of the Workhouse Arts Foundation, for her generosity in letting us use the facility for the SCF’s annual meeting/holiday event; and for providing such a vibrant artistic center in our community. For instance, the Lucy Burns Museum will be open to the public beginning on Jan 25, 2020; and a Grand Opening event is scheduled for May 9. August 25 is the 100th anniversary of the women’s suffrage constitutional amendment.

We also look forward to the new Army Museum, which opens in June.

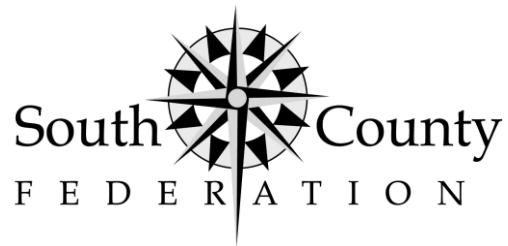
2. Administrative Matters and Officers’ reports

- Minutes –Cathy Bonnefil. Dale Rumberger asked if anyone had corrections for the November minutes as posted on the website. There being none, the minutes were approved as written.
- Treasurer’s Report – Larry Clark provided the following account balances:

Sun Trust Checking: \$1,526.99

TIAA CREF Money Market: \$6,692.31

Total funding: \$8,219.93



- Election of Officers for 2020 –
 - The current President (Dale Rumberger), Vice-President (Nick Firth), Treasurer (Larry Clark), and Corresponding Secretary (Vivian Drake) are standing for re-election. The Recording Secretary (Cathy Bonnefil) is stepping aside and that position is open.
 - The President called for any additional nominations from the floor, and none were put forth. The standing officers were unanimously approved by voice vote for a 2- year term.

NOTE: The Recording Secretary position was filled Dec 11, after Angelina Fuller (the current President of the Beechwood Homeowners Association) inquired about the SCF Secretary’s duties, and then generously offered to fill the position. President Rumberger communicated with the SCF EXCOM, who unanimously approved Ms. Fuller for the position of Recording Secretary.

- South Fairfax Chamber of Commerce Report (SFCC) – Casey Whitmarsh and Martin Rizer highlighted that:
 - “The SFCC has been very active in increasing membership. The Chamber recently met at the Holiday Inn Express and welcomed them to the community”.
 - “The South County High School (SCHS) football team is going to compete in the State final this Saturday; and we would like to support one of the newest members of SFCC, the South County Football Alumni Association. They were brought into existence to help promote the team’s growth and development. Please feel free to ‘like’ them on Facebook. They would appreciate your support.”
 - “The SFCC fully supports the Lorton Visioning Task Force”.
 - “Thanks to all of you for a great year and for working with the Chamber!”



3. Supervisors' Reports.

- **Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity** was not present or represented

- **Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck** had several topics to address:
 - Happy Holidays to all!
 - SCHS athletics – the football team is in the State finals for the first time!
 - Board of Supervisors (BoS) Meeting –
 - Solar Energy- “100 county sites will be going solar. A contract will allow us to put it in schools and other buildings. There is a state restriction on the amount of solar power that can be transmitted across properties, and so the legislature will be looking to change that.”
 - Committee Appointments – “I will be the Environmental and Audit Committee chairman, as well as the Economic Development vice-chairman.”
 - Bus Strike - “Although the strike has ended, we are nervous because there still is not a contract at this point.”
 - 2040 Visioning Task Force – “Nick Firth and Walter Clarke have agreed to co-chair the team in 2020.”
 - Annual Mount Vernon Town Meeting - “Feb 1, 2020 will mark the 33rd annual town meeting”

4. Legislative Updates –

- **Congressman Gerald Connolly**, 11th District, was represented by Marlon Dubuisson, the Prince William County (PWC) Outreach Representative. He highlighted a few of Connolly’s current activities, saying, “We are evaluating where we are regarding health care. We were able to get bills passed on gun control, medication, and teleworking. We look forward to the start of the 117th Congress, and I’d like to mention that I do federal case work with Medicaid, Medicare, and other government programs.”



- **State Delegate Mark Sickles, 43rd District** – “For the first time, we’ll be in the Majority. I will be the Chair of the Committee of Health, Welfare and Institutions, which controls Medicaid and other important state welfare programs. We are hoping to enable many people to access health care for the first time in their lives (as a result of Medicaid expansion). Over 27,000 people in our state are now qualified due to blindness, deafness, etc.; and now the federal government will pay. We can now help folks stay in their own homes. So much has been pushed back for a long time, and things are going to start happening. The 60-day legislative session starts soon. We are trying to link jobs and skills in community colleges.”

Transportation – “Regarding the issue of roads, we need to do better for Northern Virginia. We produce 25% of state funding and we need to capture more of that for our area. Another concern is the increased use of electric vehicles. Driving an electric car does not contribute to the county. Right now, the gas tax is the main source of funding for our roads so we need to address this because our funds are decreasing every year.”

- **Kathy Tran, State Delegate 42nd District**, was present, but suffering from a hoarse voice, so Rodrigo Velasquez, her Senior Legislative Aide, spoke for her:
 - VDOT update on Sand Barrels under the Lorton railroad overpass: “VDOT’s engineer section is arranging for removal of the barrels, and hoping to complete a concrete base very soon. We will request updates”.
 - New Caucus Assignments – “Delegate Tran, along with Delegate Karrie Delaney, will serve as Deputy Whips for the House Democratic Caucus.”

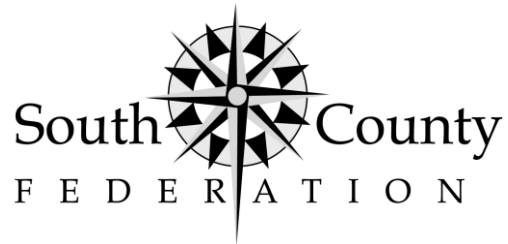


- Legislative Session 2020 - We are collecting ideas for bills for the new session which begins on Jan 8 (e.g. 25-year anniversaries, Blue Ribbon Awards, etc). Please contact us with your concerns/ideas, or sign up on our website if you'd like news on Delegate Tran's bills"
- "We are always here to help you.! We work Medicaid on the state side, and Medicare on the federal side, transportation, and more."

5. Committee Reports

- **Transportation**, Dale Johnson, Chair – is stepping down but would be glad to mentor his replacement. He will continue to work several issues that already are in-process.

- **Land Use**, Nick Firth, Chair –
 - Snow World will not use the ESI site.
 - **Resolution on Dental Office** – This is to be a new building on Route 1 behind Walgreens.
 - Discussion – PCA 3.5 acres and an SEA is to be heard tomorrow at the County Land Use meeting. The SCF land use committee is in favor of approving this application. After a brief discussion, voting members of the SCF **Approved the Resolution** by a vote of 13 yeas and 1 nay.
 - **Resolution on Laurel Hill Central Green Park**
 - Discussion: This Resolution deals with the need to obtain funding for needed public restrooms in the park, and also addressed the loss of some 33 acres of local park land due to a County-level decision to give the land to USAR for search-and-rescue training.



The main objection came from Linwood Gorham, the Mount Vernon District Representative to the Fairfax County Park Authority Board, who strongly recommends that the USAR “whereas” part (paragraphs 2 – 6) should be removed from this Resolution, possibly to become its own Resolution. After some more discussion, the President agreed to remove paragraphs 2 through 6, and the voting members of the SCF **Approved the Resolution** by a vote of 17 yeas and no abstentions or nays.

- **Public Safety, Jonathan Kiell, Chair**, started by recognizing our first responders, especially several who were in attendance from the Franconia and West Springfield Police Stations. He noted that the County Police stations are currently plussing up so there will be enough officers to staff the new South County station when it opens in 2022. Echoing a point from the November meeting, Marty Schumer mentioned concern regarding elderly couples who are being distracted by transient workers while others go into their houses to steal. Dale Rumberger described a scam where one person engages one of the family members on a phony inquiry for work on their house, yard or car. While doing so, another person sneaks into the back door of the house and looks for purse or wallet left out, credit cards are taken and then charges made against them before the people even know they are missing. The police also reminded us that, as is always true, a very large percentage of thefts occur when people leave their car doors unlocked.
- **Education (Seeking Chair) - Karen Corbett Sanders**, the Chair and Mount Vernon District representative on the Fairfax County School Board, was present; and she turned the floor over to Laura Jane Cohen. Ms. Cohen introduced herself as a former preschool teacher, who is now the new Springfield representative on the school board. She has several schools within the SCHS boundary, and wants to get



to know our area. She'll be meeting with the SCHS PTA President next week.

- **Parks**, Howard Bishop, Chair, had no input this evening
- **Environmental**, Wes Speer, Chair, introduced himself as a new Chair. His brief and enthusiastic comments included his goal to “paint this area green,” and he mentioned the power purchase agreement that will enable the use of solar energy on buildings. He also said, “We saw John Faust (member of the Board of Supervisors from the Dranesville District) and it seems that we could work together to improve environmental activism in the weeks and months ahead.”

6. Old Business – none

7. New Business – none

Dale Rumberger adjourned the meeting at 8:45 pm and everyone retired to the buffet and beverage table

NEXT MEETING: January 14, 2020 in the South County High School Media Room

FUTURE MEETING DATES in 2020:

- February 11, March 10, April 14, May 12, June 9, July 14, August (No Meeting), September 8, October 13, and November 10 in the South County High School Media Room
- December 8 at the Workhouse Arts Center

Recorded by Cathy Bonnefil