



Meeting at SCHS Cafeteria Tuesday, May 14, 2019 @ 7:30 PM

1. President Dale Rumberger called the meeting to order at 7:40 PM.
2. Administrative Matters and Officers' reports

- April Minutes – Cathy Bonnefil.

A **Motion** was made to approve the April minutes as posted on the SCF web site. Since there were no comments, the minutes were approved as written.

- Treasurer's Report – Larry Clark not present so report shows no change from last month:

Checking: \$2,202.51

Money Market: \$6,567.93

Total funding: \$8,770.44

- South Fairfax Chamber of Commerce Report (SFCC) – Casey Whitmarsh represented the SFCC
 - Future Panera at corner of Lorton Road and Lorton Market Street – See comments by the Land Use Committee.
 - SFCC's Thirsty Thursday will be on Thursday at Fairwinds Brewing Company from 6 to 8 PM.
 - Disability Inclusion Conference – Scheduled for June 29 at the Fairfax County Government Center, this conference will include booths, networking, a panel discussion and breakout sessions for parents, families, the business community, law enforcement, non-profits and individuals with disabilities who



want to learn more about all the ways Fairfax County welcomes and includes residents with development disabilities in community life. This event is co-hosted by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and the Arc of Northern Virginia.

Casey urges anyone with more questions to contact him.

- Lorton Community Center –The SFCC stand is in support of the Center; and we will be sending a letter to the SCF.

3. Supervisors' Reports.

Springfield District Supervisor Pat Herrity was neither present nor represented.

Mount Vernon District Supervisor Dan Storck was represented by Anna Smith, his Development & Land Use Aide.

4. Legislative Updates –

- **Congressman Gerald Connolly**, 11th District, was represented by Marlon Dubuisson, the Prince William County (PWC) Outreach Representative. He reviewed a few of Connolly's current activities.
 - Meeting with the SCF Executive Committee – During the recent meeting, Congressman Connolly covered a wide range of issues, especially transportation. In discussing the imbalance of transportation funding to NOVA, Mr. Connolly pointed out that the State determines how funds are apportioned, using a formula which severely undercuts our needs in NOVA. Congressman Connolly offered to support a NOVA transportation letter in conjunction with Congressman Beyer and Congresswoman Wexton. The letter will be sent to the VA Assembly in an effort to influence the allocations for highway/infrastructure funding next year. Hopefully, it will convince State officials to rethink the issue. We talked about EMBARK and how that planning dynamic is going. It was a good meeting and extended well past the allotted time.



- 2020 Census - This is certainly an important process but it is unlikely to allow the creation of a new supervisory/congressional district unless the population increases by more than 2 million.
- METRO – On May 25, Metro is closing the Blue and Yellow lines for the Summer. So there will be even more congestion on the roads. An important long-term goal is to extend Metro to Belvoir, Prince William County and Quantico which can significantly reduce the Rt.1 issues. The Congressman has been a supporter of Metro but also their biggest critic.
- Extension of the VRE Trail to the Burke Road bike lanes. The extension of the trail along Pohick Creek is being extended six miles south to Lorton and will allow for more people to benefit from this trail to the VRE. And extending the Gerry Connolly Cross County Trail (GCCCT) to the Burke community, several park facilities and all the Pohick Stream Valley north of the Fairfax County Parkway is creating a major connection and opening new transportation and recreational opportunities.
- Environment – Mr. Connolly is the co-chairman of the Environmental and Climate sustainability caucus; in which capacity he pushes to reduce the carbon footprint. He is an avid supporter of protecting the environment with regulations on major energy companies who harm our air and water quality. His advocacy and legislative support for better water and air quality tie into the key issues of coal ash and landfill closures.
- Community Town Hall on the Opioid Epidemic will take place on Saturday, June 8th at 11:00 AM in the Ferlazzo County Government Building, 15941 Donald Curtis Dr. Woodbridge, VA, 22192
- Covanta Emissions – Dale Rumberger encouraged the Congressman to continue working with the EPA because they are the ones who monitor Covanta’s emissions. .



- **George Barker – State Senator 39th District** – We had an outstanding session this year, despite the political turmoil.
 - Budget Amendment – We have a 2-year budget cycle. We are now in the 2nd year. With the improved financial situation of the Commonwealth, we were able to pass amendments which will cover some costs with the extra dollars for increased teacher pay, affordable housing, school counselors, water quality funding, and more. Some of the additional funding we have realized from raising fees on trucks passing through our area.
 - Tax Relief – Because of the new federal tax laws, Virginians are paying more this tax year. To offset this, we have taken several measures, which includes giving a flat amount tax refund check to everyone in the amount of \$110 for individuals and \$220 for couples. There will be a 50% increase in the state’s standard deduction rate to \$4,500 for an individual and \$9,000 for a couple. To further offset the federal cap on tax deductions (e.g. property tax), we have eliminated that tax cap at the State level. To prevent a double tax hike on homeowners, we voted to maintain current state law on State and Local taxes. With all of these measures it should be a net wash for taxpayers.
 - Proffer Bill - We passed a proffer bill to “fix” the previous one in order to increase developer confidence. The 2016 law made both elected officials and local government staff extremely reluctant to negotiate proffers, resulting in a significant drop in proposed new housing. The 2019 “fix” to the 2016 law means that an impediment to increasing the local housing stock has been removed.
 - Gun Safety - As a final comment, we didn’t pass a comprehensive gun safety bill and will continue to work on it next year. However, we were able to pass a Firearm Removal bill which stipulates that, if credible evidence is presented by a law enforcement official in court to show that a person is at risk of harming self or others, the gun may be removed for a period of time, and the court may extend the order for a period not longer than 180 days.



- **Scott Surovell – State Senator 36th District**
 - Coal Ash - We submitted 25 bills (maximum allowed) this year and passed 16. One of our biggest accomplishments was passing a coal ash bill. We've spent 4 years on this, and more than 27 million cubic yards of coal ash will be removed from unlined ponds in areas near waterways, including 4 million cubic yards of coal ash at Possum Point. People want clean water. Coal ash can be used to make bricks, concrete, and more and so the bill requires Dominion to recycle 25% of the ash. This marks the first time that Virginia is exceeding EPA standards.
 - Underground Utility Lines - We do need to bury utility lines, although this is not paid by the state. My legislation has given Fairfax County the ability to pass a \$1/mo. utility tax to raise \$30 million over 20 years to pay for electrical line undergrounding on U.S. 1 between Woodlawn and Hybla Valley. I also secured Verizon's commitment to place their wires underground at no cost if a duct bank is constructed large enough to handle their wires, saving millions. Coupled with a \$15 million contribution from VDOT and legislation I passed last session making two additional funding streams available, there is now no excuse for Fairfax County to hold back on placing utilities underground on U.S. 1 and I am urging them to act immediately.
 - Special Immigrant Juvenile Status – Passed a bill to restore Virginia courts' authority to protect immigrant children fleeing abuse, neglect, and abandonment; and to confer SIJS protection, so that these immigrant kids can stay here.
 - I-95 Bottleneck - Gov Northam negotiated with Transurban to waive their reimbursement for the next 2 years while we widen the I-95 bottleneck southbound between VA-123 and the Prince William County Parkway over three years using no taxpayer funds.



- Blue Line to Quantico – For the 3rd time, we failed to get a budget amendment for the Metro Blue Line to extend to Quantico. Next year, we have a better shot at getting a study authorized.
- Cell phones and driving – We strengthened the current law, which prohibits only reading email or text messages or manually entering letters. In the recent session, we passed a bill prohibiting motorists from touching their cellphones while driving, including making phone calls, checking social media etc.
- **Kathy Tran, State Delegate 42nd District** addressed several issues:
 - VDOT Repaving / Restriping Roads. Timing for repaving has improved and therefore decreased the likelihood of experiencing this problem
 - Power outages - Contact us if you have not gotten a satisfactory response from the utility at DelKTran@house.virginia.gov or by phone at (703) 828-7173. We can communicate directly with Dominion. One improvement already is that “Interruptors” have been installed, so if a tree falls, it only affects the power in a small area.
 - Autism insurance coverage – Until this year, Virginians with Autism Spectrum Disorder (ASD) faced an age cap of 15, after which insurers no longer covered their treatments We have now passed legislation to lift the age cap on autism health coverage, which will expand access to healthcare for approximately 10,000 Virginians with ASD.
 - Environment – Del. Tran passed one of the few bills to expand renewable energy by making it easier for local governments to generate green energy and save taxpayer dollars. My bill will allow counties and cities to participate in energy saving efforts and allows them to apply the savings to other priorities.
 - Census – Del. Tran participates in a census group. Census data is used to allocate nearly \$18 billion in federal funds to



Virginia. For every Virginian that is undercounted, it is estimated we lose \$2,000 in federal funds per person per year. An undercount would cut our share of federal investments across Virginia and shift that burden to our state and local governments. The House of Delegates passed an amendment to provide crucial funding for 2020 Census outreach in Virginia, but the Senate defeated this amendment.

5. Committee Reports

- **Public Safety** – Jonathan Kiell, Chair,
 - Lorton Community Center (LCC) - At the next Planning Commission meeting, the LCC will be on the agenda. The meeting is May 22 at the Government Center at 7:30 pm.
 - Community Resiliency Groups (CRGs) - Jonathan focused mostly on the importance of building CRGs to provide critical assistance to people in need in the event of a disaster. It's important for communities to become part of a larger network, which is the role of these CRGs – organizations networked to share information and help each other during disasters. The Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management will be hosting a series of workshops and information seminars to provide additional information and answer questions from interested organizations. The first one will be on June 3rd at the Sherwood Hall Library at 7pm. Three other June sessions will follow at various locations listed in "Attachment 1" to these minutes. Please consider attending or finding someone from your own HOA to be there!



- **Environmental & Parks**, Howard Bishop, Chair, had no comments
 - **Education** (Seeking Chair) - Karen Corbett Sanders, the Chair and Mount Vernon District representative on the Fairfax County School Board was not able to be here; but Dale Rumberger contributed that interviews will be held very soon for the position of Region 4 Assistant Superintendent.
 - **Transportation**, Dale Johnson, Chair, attended the Northern Virginia Spring Transportation Meeting meeting last night, and commented that several speakers addressed the Rte 1 Corridor issues.
 - **Land Use**, Nick Firth, Chair,
 - Parking at the Liberty Chapel - commented that the Architectural Review Board did meet regarding Liberty parking. They voted to allow the parking. The SCF encourages Walter Clarke to support amending this decision because the parking alters the intended use of the area.
6. Old Business: ParaFest 2019 (Lorton's 4th of July Celebration) will be sponsored this year by the Lorton Volunteer Fire Department (LVFD). Donita Hines, the Volunteer Chief of LVFD, introduced Kholood Alymeni who will be the project leader in the planning and execution of the day-long celebration. It will include a parade and festival with a variety of booths, food, drinks, games, entertainment, and fun for the whole family. Fireworks will cap the day (entrance fee of \$10)
7. New Business – Public Hearing on closure of the Waste Management landfill Thursday at 6pm, then QQ&A at 7pm

Dale Rumberger adjourned the meeting at 9:40 PM



Attachment 1: Fairfax County Disaster Support Network Community Resiliency Group



2019-05-02 CRG Cover Memo MV.pdf

Attachment 2: Community Resiliency Groups Flyer



2019-05 CRG Flyer (2 sided).pdf

NEXT MEETING: June 11th, 2019 in the multi-media room

FUTURE MEETING DATES:

July 9th, September 10th, October 8th, November 12th, December 10th
(Workhouse Arts Center).