**Seminary Hill Association, Inc.
Monthly Board Meeting
19 April 2012**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Nancy Jennings at Immanuel Church On-The-Hill. President Jennings made several announcements including (1) a flyer on Sexual Assault and the City Response briefing on 24 April at the Police community Room, (2) a flyer concerning Alexandria Earth Day on 21 April at Ben Brenman Park, (3) the City is proposing a new location for the Potomac Yards Metro Station on the wetlands abutting the GW Parkway, (4) the City Council will adopt the budget on 7 May, (5) Fort Williams Park clean up is scheduled for 28 April from 0900 to noon, and (6) the untimely passing of Dick Somers a retired Air Force Officer who was very active in the BRAC Advisory Group and the Beauregard Corridor Study Group.

**Mr. Charles Howe** spoke about climate change and climate warming. He is forming an Association to discuss these topics. He can be contacted at 914 Juniper Place in Alexandria and cmhowe@patriot.net.

**The Board of Directors** approved the minutes of the last meeting held on 8 March 2012. The Board then approved the Treasurer’s Report stating that the SHA account now totaled $28,136.85. Jack Sullivan, Treasurer, discussed the SHA FOIA request to the City concerning the Beauregard Plan; SHA paid $555.70 for about 200 pages of documents. He said there apparently was no “smoking gun”. He also said it appears that the Seminary Garden Apartments will eventually be torn down as part of the plan.

**Area Reports**: There were no significant area reports. There was a discussion on proposed speed changes on Quaker Lane – probably 30 MPH on all sections of the road. The Encore Apartment Management continues to put up signs that exceed allowable size – code enforcement has been notified. Ann Henshaw reported that the City is now requiring a permit for activities at picnics - for example, a City requirement of $500 for a moon bounce. Heather Zdancewicz from VTS reported that the BAR approved the Chapel replacement plans.

**Police Report**. Deputy Chief Hassan Aden reported (1) that several individuals tried to run a scam on some residents on Taney Avenue, (2) Captain Dickinson is looking into the permit process for soccer games on weekends in the SHA area, (3) there will be a meeting on 24 April to formalize the joining of Code Enforcement with the Police Department, (4) speeding on Quaker Lane is being strictly enforced, and (5) police officers will be based at the Hilton at Mark Center during Police Week 12 – 14 May.

**Sheriff’s Office**. LT Brian Grenadier reported no significant problems.

**Old Business:**

President Jennings reported on (1) the status of the High Capacity Transit Corridor Work Group, (2) the Waterfront Plan (as of right now, the Waterfront Plan is on hold because the BZA voted

2

4-2 in favor of the citizen’s appeals. Jack Sullivan and Frank Putzu provided excellent testimony as representatives of SHA). The City is apparently going to appeal the BZA ruling to the Virginia Circuit Court, (3) the status of the HOV ramp to Seminary Road, (4) Don Buch is organizing a West End Citizen Forum for citizens to continue to get information about projects in the West End of Alexandria, (5) the status of the Beauregard Corridor Small Area Plan. There is a new draft out and it will be going to the Planning Commission in early May and to City Council on 12 May. The SHA Board of Directors approved a strategy to deal with this issue including the need to enhance a transportation hub at Seminary Towers. Dick Hobson abstained from voting due to a conflict of interest.

Frank Putzu discussed the “Parade of Horribles” which reflect decisions by City Council that apparently are in direct conflict with citizen inputs. His committee, which includes Joe Fischer, Lillian Patterson, Joanne Lepanto, and Joe Gerard, will reorient their flyer to list the concerns these Horribles indicate, such as arrogance, a broken process, bad analytics, and a need for neighborhood preservation. A plan to monitor City Boards/Commissions may be too hard to do because of the shear number of these entities and their lack of a mandate or purviews.

**New Business:**

(1) Dick Hobson will be in charge of a nominating committee for SHA positions for next year. Bruce McCarthy offered to assist.

(2) City Planning and Zoning Department is proposing some Text Amendments concerning granting variances in site plans and Special Use Permits. Frank Putzu was authorized by the SHA Board to discuss this issue with City staff and report back to SHA.

Having no further regular business, the meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM. The SHA Board then went into a short executive session.

**Richard J. Hayes, Recorder**

**Board Members present**: President Jennings, Bruce McCarthy, Dick Hayes, Jack Sullivan, Lillian Patterson, Carter Flemming, Dick Hobson, Dick Hayes, Pat Lidy, Frank Putzu, Ann Henshaw, Joe Fischer, Joanne Lepanto, and Heather Zdancewicz.

**Others in attendance included**: Deputy Chief Hassan Aden, LT Brian Grenadier, Carolyn Griglione, Mac Olson, Dave Cavanaugh, Joe Gerard, Charles Howe, Dee Walsh, and Sharon Annear.