**Seminary Hill Association, Inc.**

**Monthly Board Meeting**

**12 March 2015**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by the President, Nancy Jennings, at Immanuel Church On-The-Hill. President Jennings noted one announcement: a schedule of forthcoming Alexandria meetings.

**Police Report**: Police Officer Judy Taylor substituted for Sgt. Houston and had nothing significant to report. She addressed several comments concerning helicopter traffic in the area adjacent to I-395 as well as the continued speeding on Quaker Lane. There was a recent incident on Quaker Lane where a speeding car went off the road, struck a traffic sign, and then sped off.

**Minutes:** The Board approved the 12 February Minutes. Richard Hobson, Area 3, abstained.

**Treasurers Report:** No significant changes from last month. We now have $29,469.17 in the SHA Treasury.

**Area Reports:** Area 2, Carter Flemming, discussed the timeline when the Alexandria School Board and Planning Commission would meet. Area 9, Ann Henshaw, discussed speeding problems in the Seminary Ridge area; most common violators appear to be students at St. Stephen and St. Agnes School.

**Program:** Clinton Page, the Chief Accountability Officer of the Alexandria City Public Schools (ACPS), was the guest speaker on the topic of the draft ACPS Strategic Plan being developed by a 25-member Stakeholder Committee of residents. The plan is available at the following ACPS web site: [www.acps.k12.va.us/board/strategic-plan/draft.pdf](http://www.acps.k12.va.us/board/strategic-plan/draft.pdf).

Clinton discussed the overall plan including the process, goals, and metrics or measurement process. There was considerable discussion between Clinton and the SHA Board as well as members in the audience. Clinton stressed that he was looking for comments to bring back to the Stakeholders so that a better plan could evolve. There were many questions concerning the use of rather technical terms in the draft plan, which appears to be written for a mid-level college reader as opposed to the more common high-school level. Additionally, many questions were raised about the priorities of the main goals and, given budget constraints, how implementation would happen. Several other comments centered on the methodology of determining the ‘average’ cost per student in the ACPS. The number $17,000 is widely used by ACPS but no one knows what that figure includes or how it was calculated. Clinton said he would find out the formula and get back to SHA. In response to a question about the makeup of the study group, John Lennon, a co-chair of the Stakeholder Committee, briefed on the members that represent a broad section of the community.

Overall, the presentation by Clinton Page was well received and he promised to get back to SHA with answers to many of the issues raised.

**Old Business:**

**TC Williams Stadium:** Nothing to report. A serious comment from a member of the audience was that signs were appearing in the halls of TCW saying that lights for the athletic field would be approved and that sports teams should query the Alexandria City Parks & Recreation department concerning scheduling of the field. The City Council has not approved the lights yet but ACPS apparently thinks it’s a “done deal.”

**Tennis Courts at TC Williams:** Construction is just starting.

**Eisenhower West SAP:** The plan went to the Planning Commission on 11 March and will go to the City Council work session on 25 March.

**Rezoning for Woodbine’s Memory Care Center:** The City Council approved the re-zoning request. Basically, this action could very well lead to spot zoning throughout the SHA area.

**Letter to City Council:** President Jennings sent a letter to the Mayor and City Council requesting citizen friendly budget information. Several Councilor’s and the Mayor have responded with a “thank you for the input.” Councilor Justin Wilson took some exception to some of the issues raised in the letter and is willing to discuss them with SHA at a future date.

**New Business:** Lauren Murray an Area 2 member is planning to set up a websites to share information of about ongoing City of Alexandria issues called “Alexandria Cares.” The web site would give residents the “who/what/when/where” of the issues. It will also have a space in Facebook. More to follow.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:27 PM.

**Richard J. Hayes, Recorder**

**Board Members present**: President Jennings, Carter Flemming, Lillian Patterson, Jack Sullivan, Richard Hobson, Richard Hunt, Dick Hayes, Ann Henshaw, Joanne Lepanto, Jim Durham, and Christina Holt.

**Others in attendance included**: ACPD Judy Taylor, Wendy Donohue, James Greenall, Tricia Rodgers, Wayne Bowman, Spencer Annear, Steve Harkness, and Lauren Murray.