**Monthly Board Meeting**

**Seminary Hill Association, Inc.**

**14 April 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by Vice President Carter Flemming in the absence of President, Nancy Jennings, at Immanuel Church On-The-Hill. Vice President Flemming made the following announcements:

1. There is a list of meetings and other “flyer” announcements available
2. Please sign in so we can have a good record of attendees

**Police Report**: There were 53 offenses in the past month. The offenses included 15 for larceny from vehicles, and the rest were mostly minor cases. The APD is now enforcing the new 25 MPH speed limit on Seminary Road and Quaker Lane after 2 weeks of letting drivers get used to the new speed limit.

**Minutes**: The March Minutes were approved.

**Treasurer’s Report**: Treasurer Joanne Lepanto reported that there was $31,466.84 in the SHA account. The board approved an annual payment of $200 every April to Immanuel Church on the Hill as a token gift for allowing SHA to use their facility for our meetings.

**Area Reports**: Carter Flemming, Area 2, said they are waiting on the School Board to award a contract for the design for the TCW stadium; Dick Hobson, Area 3, reported that speeding on Quaker Lane has been reduced; Frank Putzu, Area 8, reported that City Council accepted the Ethics Committee Report to establish an ethics pledge and code of conduct for all members of City Council and appointees to commissions; and Heather Zdancewicz, Seminary, said there has been an increased “cut thru” of traffic from Quaker Lane to Seminary Road apparently as a result of the new reduced speed limit.

**Old Business:**

***Traffic Management.*** There was a meeting with Clover-College Park residents about traffic management. They would like to see more money in the budget for enforcement and traffic calming measures as well as a comprehensive traffic survey of the SHA, CCP, and Taylor Run civic areas. There was a proposal that the three civic groups write one letter to the Mayor and City Council requesting establishment of a citizen task force to implement a comprehensive traffic survey.

***Patrick Henry Expansion.*** Mary Biegel gave a comprehensive update. Apparently, there is a new option on the table called Option A-1. The neighbors prefer the original Option A. As a matter of fact, the Alexandria School Board knew nothing about the Option A-1 proposal before it was presented. There was a general discussion by the SHA Board about the planned expansion.

***City Strategic Plan FY 2017 – 2022.*** An earlier 2004 process involved significant citizen input. In 2010, the Mayor and City Council adopted seven goals (copies were provided at our meeting) and they need to be changed and updated. We need citizen input because staff uses that information (i.e., goals) to set its own goals. We will try to invite Radhika Mohan to speak at our next meeting. There was a general discussion by the Board concerning this whole issue of City Goals and Jack Sullivan reiterated that “protection of the neighborhood” should be the paramount goal.

**New Business:**

***Administrative SUPs.*** There is a new proposal by the City to ‘expand’ the Administrative SUP process to make it easier for small businesses to navigate the process. Right now people trying to start a small business have to go through a complicated and long process to get City approval. There was general consensus that we need more information about this change before we can take a position. An attempt will be made to get someone from City Planning and Zoning Staff to come to one of our near future SHA meetings.

***King Street Road Diet:*** The City has been working with the neighbors concerning possibly narrowing King Street basically from just past TCW to Janney’s Lane. Instead of 4 lanes, there would be 2 lanes, a median strip that would accommodate turning lanes, with bicycle lanes on both sides of the street. There was considerable discussion about this effort. Whenever the City does a major street paving job, they always brief the neighbors and discuss what changes the neighbors would like to see. One Board member liked the new proposal of 4 lanes to 2 lanes. Some members of the Board were not in favor of the 4 to 2 lane reduction as it apparently would just move the ‘choke point’ at Janney’s Lane back along King Street. A motion was made to not support the King Street Road Diet. During discussion, another motion was made by Jack Sullivan to table the earlier motion of not supporting the King Street Road Diet at least until the next SHA meeting. A vote on the tabling motion was held and there were 5 in favor of the table motion, 4 nonsupport, and 3 abstentions. The tabling motion having passed, the resolution was duly tabled, subject to further action by the Board.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:10 PM.

Richard Hayes, Recorder

**Board Members present**: Vice President Carter Flemming, Joanne Lepanto, Dick Hayes, Lillian Patterson, Dick Hobson, Jack Sullivan, Tom Fulton, Gladys Pettiford, Mike Barbour, Joe Fischer, Jim Durham, Bill Goff, and Heather Zdancewicz.

**Others in attendance:** Sgt. Houston, Mary Biegel, and 4 others who did not sign the attendance sheet.