Seminary Hill Association, Inc.

**2016 Annual Membership Meeting**

*Thursday, 10 November 2016*

**Welcome and Introductions:** President Jennings opened the meeting at 7:30 PM, introduced members of the Board of Directors, and recognized Vice Mayor Justin Wilson and City Councilman Paul Smedberg. The proposed agenda for the meeting was adopted by all attendees.

**Minutes:** The minutes from the 2015 Annual Meeting were approved by the membership.

**Treasurer’s Report:** The current value of the SHA accounts is $30,986.64, compared to the value on 12 November 2015 of $31,267.73.

**Police Report:** Sgt. Lemuel Houston provided the Police Report. There were mostly minor offenses, between the October and November meetings. Enforcement from June to September on N. Quaker Lane and Seminary Road resulted in 515 traffic stops (565 charges) and 174 stops (191 charges) on those two streets, respectively and one stop (1 charge) on Fort Williams Pkwy.

**Announcements:** President Jennings invited everyone to the monthly SHA Board meetings and to pick up a list of meetings and announcements about activities on Seminary Hill.

**Annual Report:** President Jennings then provided a review of the past year highlighting events that impact Seminary Hill. She said that progress had been made on four items of interest: implementing the Fort Ward Park plan, the City’s Council’s adoption of a code of conduct, the 25-mph speed limits on Seminary Road and N. Quaker Lane, and the stand-up of a Central Alexandria Traffic Study Task Force, with representatives of four civic associations (SHA, Clover College Park, Taylor Run and Seminary Ridge). President Jennings spoke about the frustration of dealing with the ACPS and School board over the expansion of Patrick Henry Elementary School, lights on the TC Williams High School stadium, a new expanded TCW Community Advisory committee, efforts to redistrict the City’s crowded schools, and the Superintendent’s request for $515 million to build new schools.

**Election of Officers and Area Representatives:** Joanne Lepanto, Past President and Chair of the nominating committee announced the slate of nominees to serve as officers and directors of SHA for the 2016-2017 term:

President Nancy Jennings Area 3 Rep Richard Hobson

Vice President Carter Flemming Area 4 Rep Richard Hunt

Treasurer: Joanne Lepanto Area 5 Rep Jack Sullivan

Secretary: Richard Hayes Area 6 Rep Tom Fulton

Area 1 Rep Carol Johnson Area 8 Rep Frank Putzu

Area 2 Rep Bill Goff Area 9 Rep Michael Barbour.

The proposed slate of nominees to serve as officers and directors was unanimously approved by the membership present. Joanne then thanked Lillian Carter for his many years as Area 1 representative, and Heather Zdancewicz, for having served at the Virginia Theological Seminary representative. Following the election of new officers Mr. Jim Rowley volunteered to be considered for the Area 7 representative position.

**Old Business:** None.

**New Business:** President Jennings explained the most recent redistricting options that would impact Seminary Hill residents and indicated that SHA Board members would be asked to consider a second SHA letter, which would endorse options consistent with ACPS redistricting goals and objectives that keep Seminary Hill children at MacArthur Elementary School.

**Program:**  Some plans to fund clean the City’s water were explained by Mr. **Jesse Maines**, Division Chief of Transportation and Environmental Services, Stormwater Management. He gave a detailed presentation on a way to fund the improvements needed to meet Chesapeake Bay Cleanup mandates. He presented staff’s proposal to raise funds by implementing a Stormwater Utility (SWU) fee instead of a new “rain” tax. The SWU would be a dedicated funding source based on a property’s impervious area. The SWU fee for a typical single family home would be $120-145 per year and also levied on properties that are tax exempt, such as churches and schools. City Council will consider the SWU fee as part of the FY18 budget process with a decision expected in May 2017. If approved, the first billing of an SWU fee would occur in May 2018. Mr. Maines’ presentation was well received and he answered questions from the audience.

Former SHA President **Bill Dickenson**, who is now on the Board of AlexRenew, described the history and function this public non-profit corporation, established in 1953. It is a one of the most advanced water resource recovery public utilities in the country. Bill invited residents to tour this state-of-the-art facility at 1500 Eisenhower Avenue.

SHA Board Member **Jack Sullivan** spoke on Alexandria’s need to accelerate actions to reduce polluted discharges into the Potomac River. He noted that the City Council decided on 8 November to move up the feasibility study for the Oronoco Bay outfall by 14 years and lauded plans to add funding for green infrastructure and sewer separation. He also endorsed staff’s proposal of an SWU fee.

Having no further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:30 PM.

Jim Durham, Recorder

**Board Members:** Nan Jennings, Carter Flemming, Joanne Lepanto, Lillian Patterson, Dick Hobson, Jack Sullivan, Tom Fulton, Gladys Pettiford, Frank Putzu, Joe Fischer, Jim Durham, and Heather Zdancewicz

**Others in Attendance**: Council Member Justin Wilson, Council Member Paul Smedberg, T&ES Jesse Maines, T&ES woman?, Sgt. Lee Houston, Linda App, Gavin Carter, Beth Chase, Buck Coates, Marianne Coates, Bill Dickinson, Gerry Frank, Carolyn Griglione, Steve Harkness, Kathy Harkness, Jeanne Jacob, Carol Johnson, Yong Kim, Rodney Lewis, Bob Long, Bill Pugh, Fran Redmon, Gant Redmon, Charles Riggs, Catie Rowley, Jim Rowley, Fran Terrell, Calvin Terrell, Dorie Woddick, and Armita Wood.