**Monthly Board Meeting**

**Seminary Hill Association, Inc.**

**15 September 2016**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Nancy Jennings at Immanuel Church On-The-Hill. President Jennings made the following announcements:

* There is a list of meetings and other “flyer” announcements available
* Verizon FIOS appears to be making its way to Fairlington (maybe SHA area later)
* New red light camera on Duke Street and Taylor Run Parkway

**Police Report**: There were 113 offenses since the June SHA meeting. Among the offenses were 19 hit & run (mostly minor dents where the offender left the scene) and 4 DWI’s’. The rest of the offenses were mostly minor. A request was made for Sgt. Houston to find out the number of speeding offenses on Seminary Road and Quaker Lane from June through September to be provided at the next SHA meeting.

**Minutes**: The June Minutes were approved.

**Treasurer’s Report**: Joanne Lepanto, Treasurer, reported that there was $31,106.84 in the SHA account as of 1 September.

**Area Reports**: Area 1, Lillian Patterson, reported that traffic was running better with the new speed limits. Area 2, Carter Flemming, said we are still waiting for TCW to put their ‘plan’ forward to the Alexandria Planning Commission (Note: Bill Goff said he understands that ACPS wants to form a Committee outside of SHA with an ultimate goal of lights at TCW). Area 6, Tom Fulton, reported that the City’s mowing plan just announced calls for, inter alia, mowing of Fort Ward Park every 4 weeks – this is not good. Area 8, Frank Putzu, discussed the Chesapeake Bay Fund – cost of between $10 and $12 Million dollars, the City’s proposed Storm Water Management Plan – will be funded by taxpayers, and the ‘Spite House’ – a neighborly conflict in Del Ray where a neighbor built a garage legally within one foot of an adjoining house. Past President, Joanne Lepanto, described a new procedure by Alexandria Planning and Zoning Department whereby they will send items two weeks in advance to the Alexandria Federation of Civic Associations for review prior to the next City meeting. This does not give much time for AFCA to review and comment. At Large, Jim Durham, provided an update on the Eisenhower West/Van Dorn implementation committee’s progress. At Large; Bill Goff, discussed the Cora Kelly School Principal who contacted families of lower performing students that they can opt out of SOL tests (note: there was considerable discussion about this). VTS rep. Heather Zdancewicz, said they were almost done with construction of the new family apartments. EHS rep. Christina Holt, said there will be a one-time (this season) football game under the lights on 7 October.

**Old Business**

Transportation Improvements – the King Street Road ‘Diet’ is almost finished and Jim Durham gave an update on the ongoing traffic study which elicited a lot of discussion.

Patrick Henry Elementary School expansion – residents in the area are upset with the decision by the School Board to overturn the recommendations by the Citizen task force with respect to site plan. Once again, this resulted in considerable discussion. Mayor Silberberg, who was in attendance at the SHA meeting, was also surprised by the School Board decision. She said the Citizen task force did all the right things but was over ruled.

**New Business**

Nominating Committee – per the SHA Bylaws, Joanne Lepanto, agreed to be appointed head of the committee to nominate officers for election at the SHA Annual Meeting in November.

Program for the November Annual Meeting – President Jennings proposed a panel of School Board members as well as Karl Moritz of the Alexandria Department of Planning and Zoning to discuss how the City will meet the needs of the growing school population. Since the School Board meets the same night as the SHA Annual Meeting, we may have to shift the date for the SHA Annual Meeting. There will be further discussion at the October SHA meeting.

ACPS is proposing to purchase an office building on Beauregard for a school and possibly school board staff office. A playground would be built on the top level of the adjoining garage. The proposal was dropped from the City’s 17 September meeting docket. Once again this subject led to considerable discussion. There is a need for more school space in the West End but this proposal needs more work.

Construction at King and Beauregard to add turn lanes is slated to begin this fall until 2019.

Mayor Silberberg spoke to the members at the meeting about ongoing issues in City Hall and how she is attempting to resolve them. Her remarks were very well received and appreciated by the audience.

Having mo further business, the meeting adjourned at 9:40 PM.

Richard Hayes, Recorder

**Board Members present**: President Jennings, Vice President Carter Flemming, Joanne Lepanto, Dick Hayes, Lillian Patterson, Dick Hobson, Tom Fulton, Frank Putzu, Mike Barbour, Joe Fischer, Jim Durham, Bill Goff, Heather Zdancewicz, and Christina Holt.

**Others in attendance:** Mayor Silberberg, Sgt. Houston, and St. Stephens & St. Agnes School business manager Beth Chase.