

Amended and Approved, November 8, 2004

## **Seminary Hill Association, Inc.**

### **Minutes of the Annual Meeting**

November 18, 2003

The annual meeting of the Seminary Hill Association, Inc. was held on November 18, 2003 at the Virginia Theological Seminary, Addison Auditorium, Alexandria, Virginia. An information package was provided to each member in attendance.

Frank Putzu, President, opened the annual meeting at 7:50 PM and extended thanks to Ms. Mary Lewis Hix of the Virginia Theological Seminary for making their fine facilities available for the meeting. He also welcomed guests from the Alexandria City Council: Vice Mayor Del Pepper, Ludwig Gaines and Elizabeth Jones representing Councilman Krupicka, also Mayor Bill Euille who arrived shortly after the meeting opened.

Minutes of the November 14, 2002 Annual Meeting were approved by those present and the meeting agenda was adopted.

#### **Treasurer's Report**

Jack Sullivan provided the Treasurer's Report, which was approved unanimously. Total available resources increased from \$15,103.21 in November 2002 to \$19,872.62 in November 2003. He noted that all \$1,548.65 in the "Alliance on Bluestone" Fund had been merged by vote of the SHA Board into the "No Connector Fund" which totals \$4,943.48 and is included in the total available resources.

#### **SHA Elections**

The SHA Nominations Committee, consisting of Bill Dickinson, Dick Hobson and Jack Sullivan, proposed a new slate of officers and directors for 2003-2004. President Putzu asked for any additional nominations from the floor. Receiving none, Joe Gerard moved that the nominations be closed and the following slate was approved unanimously:

##### Officers and Directors:

President	Frank Putzu
Vice President	Joe Gerard
Secretary	Laura Vetter
Treasurer	Jack Sullivan
Communications Officer	Cindy Gurne

Directors:

Area 1	Lillian S. Patterson
Area 2	Tom Kerester
Area 3	Richard Hobson
Area 4	vacant
Area 5	Richard Hayes
Area 6	Carol Maxwell
Area 7	Pat Lidy
Area 8	Don Fullerton
Area 9	Bob Coulter

The Committee noted that the following board positions are to be filled later:  
At Large (four) (to be elected by the Board)  
Episcopal High School (to be named by EHS)  
Virginia Theological Seminary – (to be named by VTS)

**Year in Review**

President Putzu reviewed highlights of the past year's activities, which included action on the proposed Quaker Hills development at the NE corner of Duke Street/Quaker Lane and the Quaker Ridge development on Duke St. across from Sunrise. He also discussed a new committee structure for the board to allow more focus on key topics, in addition to our special area concerns, and improvements in the association's web site. The new committee structure will allow more in depth work on:

- Roads and Transportation
- Planning and Development (Eisenhower)
- Open Space and Environment
- Schools (TC Williams High School Renovation)

**Police Report**

Sgt. Bartlett, ACPD, provided the monthly crime report, noting that serious crime in the SHA area was down 7%. Sgt. Bartlett said that the police department is particularly concerned with recent street robberies and is installing more lighting and motion sensors in certain areas. Citizen vigilance is key to prevention.

**Traffic Calming**

Joe Gerard reported that his committee is closely following action by the city on the \$150,000 budgeted for traffic calming in the SHA area: \$75,000 for Janney's Lane, Seminary Road and Quaker Lane, and \$75,000 for Seminary Hills. A number of different options for traffic calming are under consideration. He requested that if any SHA members have traffic concerns, they should call their area representative.

## **Mark Center**

Jack Sullivan reported on a pending application for changes in the original agreement for Mark Center property adjacent to I-395, involving (1) a possible but unlikely fly-over from 395 directly into the property, (2) three buildings instead of two but keeping to the same density, and (3) a change to three left-turn lanes on Seminary at Beauregard.

## **Guest Speaker**

Frank Putzu introduced the guest speaker, Alexandria City Director of Planning and Zoning, Ms. Eileen Fogarty. Mr. Putzu observed that we are lucky to have someone with her extensive professional background serving us in Alexandria. Ms. Fogarty opened her remarks saying that great communities don't just happen, but require community involvement and commitment. She then reviewed planning issues since 1992 when the City's Master Plan was adopted. Community involvement is particularly needed today when pressures for property development are putting strains on services needed, infrastructure needs, quality of life, affordable housing, and protection of open space. She described how, in dealing with these issues, the city tries for community involvement early in the process. Her department conducts in-depth analysis and gets input from stakeholders before any proposal goes to the Planning Council and eventually to the City Council. She then discussed some of the critical corridors currently under review, including (1) Eisenhower East and traffic projections there, (2) the King Street corridor where tourism is a critical issue east of Washington Street and local resident issues dominate west of Washington Street and (3) the Del Ray/Mt. Vernon Avenue corridor. Her discussion also included Eisenhower West, in-fill development along Duke Street, Cameron Station, Episcopal Theological Seminary, and the Second Presbyterian property.

## **Open Space**

Bill Dickinson observed that the trees and green open space in our area are one of our great assets and urged that the SHA stay active in monitoring how the city uses the approximately \$2 million per year that will go into the new Alexandria open space fund. The money can be used to buy land or purchase easements and will be a great addition to the work already under way by the Northern Virginia Conservation Trust, which recently acquired a conservation easement on the west side of the former Goodman Property, now Battery Heights. He asked for volunteers to help pull up invasive species (i.e., English ivy) on the Goodman property on December 6. He also complimented the Virginia Theological Seminary and Episcopal High School for being great neighbors with their extensive open space.

## **Other Business**

President Putzu extended thanks to Ms. Fogarty for her excellent presentation and thanks to Cindy Gurne for her work on the SHA internet website and the SHA membership list to serve and attract new members.

President Putzu asked if there were any other business to be raised from the floor. There being none, he thanked the board members for their work throughout the past year, and the Annual Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm.

Respectfully Submitted,

Gordon O. F. Johnson, Secretary