

Sully District Council
Minutes of the Council Meeting
June 22, 2005

President Mark McConn called the meeting to order at 7:35 p.m. at the Sully District Government Building. In attendance were Members Mark McConn and Judith Heisinger, Bull Run Civic Association; Jay Johnston, Virginia Run; John Swanson, Franklin Farm; Jeff Parnes, Chantilly Highlands; Jim Neighbors, Sully Station; and Carol Hawn, Old Mill.

Special guests were present to make presentations and answer questions concerning transportation issues within the Sully District:

Fairfax County Board of Supervisors Chairman Gerry Connolly

Chairman's Connolly presentation is available for download:

www.sullydistrict.org/sdc/sdcm_200506.mp3

- Gang Prevention
 - Low crime rate in the US
 - Gangs are on the horizon
 - MS-13 violence
 - 10 homicides last year only gang-related
 - Gang Task Force formed
 - Gang Coordinator hired
 - Middle-school focused
 - Dual-job families with children at home alone after school
 - Teen centers in focused areas
 - Gang hot lines for parents and others
 - Mobile training team for community education
 - Indicators for gangs
 - Balance between enforcement and prevention
- Affordable Housing
 - Focused on new development but very expensive
 - Losing affordable housing units (hundreds of units each time)
 - Task force with 18 recommendations
 - Use existing taxes to have a pool of money for affordable housing
 - Save 1,000 existing units in four years and saved 500 units in the last 18 months
 - 78% of the police live outside the county
 - PA, DE, WV
- Environment
 - 20 year plan
 - Water and air quality
 - Cheapeake Water Shed standards are higher
 - One penny for the existing tax for stormwater management
 - Higher rates of asthma
 - Most air pollution is from transportation
 - Bus fleet is converting to low-emission

- 8 park holdings added to the FC (one holding is NYC Central Park)
 - 15% of the county land mass in Park Authority
 - Lorton Prison property; 300 buildings; golf course in Fall 2005
 - Land stewardship is very important
 - WO&D trail has changed
 - County Trail is 38 miles with multiple connections to existing regional trail system; cross-streets for pick-up/drop-off
 - High Education Standards
 - Key to the quality of life
 - Top ten school system
 - Generates jobs, low crime rates, and good housing
 - Newsweek survey; all high schools made the list
 - Test scores are higher
 - Diversity with 50% white causions
 - Lowest drop-out rate
 - Over 100 languages
 - TJ High School is top US school
 - Transportation
 - Transportation did not keep with up changing patterns
 - Four-year plan
 - Not going to solve traffic congestion
 - People need choices in FC
 - Dulles Rail System
 - Transit in Richmond Highway
 - 18,000 defense workers going to Fort Belvoir
 - Tele-commuting can make a big difference
 - 20% of the FC govt workers by end of year
 - Encourage industry
 - 1.6% employment rate
 - HOT lanes on the Washington Beltway; HOV is free; single drivers pay tolls; ramps for bus movement; emergency lanes
 - \$50 million for transportation funding
 - Tax Diversity
 - State controls most taxes
 - Real estate is only tax available
 - Dealing with economic ups and downs
 - 60% of the operating budgets based on the property tax
 - Largest real estate tax rate cut in the FC history
 - All tax revenues are up
 - The three big consumers are schools, safety, and infrastructure
 - Three new tax revenues (hotel,) with \$35 million per year
 - Driver Education
 - 24% of traffic accidents were teenagers
 - Complex driving conditions in the FC with proper judgment capability in the FC
 - Tri-County Parkway
 - Three alternatives

- One alternative in the FC and in the comprehensive plan
- Boards of Supervisors has not made a decision
- More expensive (hundreds of \$100 million)
- Water quality issues
- Traffic volume studies
- Environmental Impact Studies
- VDOT will probably make a decision by end of year
- Richmond Issues
 - Fair shares of funding
 - FC Chairman is the President of Virginia Counties
 - Some state senators and delegates are hostile to FC
 - Dealing with problematic issues
 - Coalition building
 - Several of the past state governors were hostile to Northern Virginia
 - FC generates about 26% of the state tax revenue
 - 42% of the state tax revenue is from Northern Virginia
 - 25% of the FC population is foreign-born; ESL
 - State school funding is based on income; 48% of Prince William and 20% of FC
- Loudoun County growth is increasing
 - Pro-growth vs anti-growth boards creates instability
 - Fast-growing county in the US
 - Not creating jobs with the population growth
 - All extra funding goes to the school system
- State University and Colleges
 - Will not take away the quota system from Northern Virginia school systems
- I-66
 - Possible HOT lanes
 - Metro rail
 - No special tax district
 - Widening I-66
 - Multi-mode studies for the last ten years
 - Local advisory council with studies
 - VDOT is required to study all options and scare the local citizens; engineering vs. political environments

Approval of Minutes

The May 2005 minutes were approved as reported.

Treasurer's Report

Nominating Committee

The Nominating Committee has identified the following candidates for the '05-'06 FY:
 Mark McConn – President (Bull Run Civic Assn.)

Jeff Parnes – First Vice President (Chantilly Highlands)
Judith Heisinger – Second Vice President (Bull Run Civic Assn.)
Jay Johnston – Treasurer (Virginia Run)
John Swanson – Secretary (Franklin Farm)

Nominations were accepted from the floor. Motion to close nominations was made and carried. The above slate has been adopted by acclimation.

Meeting schedule (also see web site):

July – Board Meeting

August – No Meeting

September – TBA

Supervisor Frey is looking for someone to work on the Tyson's Corner Citizens Planning Committee.

Land use meeting scheduled for July 11 (due to Independence Day conflict). Agenda at table.

June 30, 2005 10am – Centreville Rd. Project Ribbon cutting at Barnsfield & Centreville Rds.

Meeting adjourned at 9:54 pm.

Certification – I hereby certify the foregoing is an accurate account of the Sully District Council meeting, June 22, 2005.

(signed)

Mark McConn, President

(signed)

John G. Swanson, Secretary