



July 18th Meeting
3201 Chellowe Road
Richmond, Virginia 23225

DRAFT

Southampton Citizens Association
Meeting Minutes

Board of Directors Present: Jonathan Young, President; John Cardwell, Vice-President; Kathy Whittington, Treasurer

Board of Directors Absent: Paul Brooks, Brian Hampton, Katie Hellebush, Bob Scott, and Ralph White

President Jonathan Young convened the meeting at 7:15 p.m. and requested that attendees introduce themselves.

Young introduced Sean Hicks from Hirschler Fleischer who spoke to the proposed new signage for the Stony Point Shopping Center. Hicks advised attendees that two signs are planned for Huguenot Road necessitating an amendment to the Community Unit Plan. Hicks informed the group that the signs would be set back from the road and would not impede lines of sight for vehicles. Hicks provided attendees copies of what the signs would look like and he informed the group that the lights on the signs would be dimmed. Hicks addressed a series of questions from the group including for example what composites the sign would be made of and why the signs were necessary. Regarding the former, Hicks was unable to address. Regarding the latter, Hicks advised that it was to increase visibility for tenants. Hicks was unable to provide any substantive update to the group after Young asked about the status of the former Martin's building.

Young next introduced Charles Pool who resides in Oregon Hill and has done a bit of investigative reporting pertinent to the proposed Larus Park water tank proposal. Pool provided an update to the group and encouraged attendees to oppose the project. He advised that the net revenue to the City is significantly less than how first advertised. Additionally, he conveyed thanks to Kristen Larson for slowing down the process and pulling the item from past committee meetings. Kristen Larson (City Council Member) spoke to the process and advised the group that she had solicited consent from her City Council colleagues to release the legal opinion on if construction of the tank would violate City ordinance and/or deeds. Additionally, Larson advised that she had hosted meetings to discuss with neighbors and was requesting additional information from the City before convening yet another meeting with neighbors.

Larson continued her discussion with an update on the City and addressed additional questions pertinent to Larus but also spoke to an initiative to address panhandling. Larson advised that Council is looking at opportunities to restrict panhandling but that the review has a lot of work to be done. Larson answered questions of attendees.

Young initiated a conversation regarding SCA protocols and processes. Attendees conveyed concerns pertinent to who is eligible to vote, voting procedures, representation, etc. Conversation included recommendations for how to provide for more representation. Concerns included a recent vote to oppose townhouses and the letter to the City conveying the neighborhood's position. Additional conversation regarded the SCA board and that there were several board members not in an attendance. Young advised the group that he would create a special committee to review SCA protocols and processes and in particular voting procedures.

The group adjourned at 8:45 p.m.