

## **Huguenot Neighborhood Team**

Bon Air Library  
9103 Rattlesnake Road  
Richmond, Virginia 23235

Minutes: April 7, 2009

Jonathan Young, Vice-Chair, convened the meeting at 6:00 p.m. with an introduction of Lee Ann Baker, Chief Administrative Officer at the Richmond Ambulance Authority. Baker informed the group that the Authority was created in 1991 and that since then the Authority has been recognized internationally for achieving high marks. Baker advised that 25% of Authority's funding is derived from the City of Richmond though Medicaid is the principal revenue stream. The Richmond Ambulance Authority is obligated to respond to calls within 9 minutes or less at least 90% of the time. The Authority has achieved this goal by strategically positioning ambulances around the city. The Authority also dispatches the city's two volunteer rescue squads including the Forest View and West End teams.

Jerry Miller, Chair, introduced B. Hunt Gunter (VP of Commercial Properties for Wilton). Gunter informed the group that the last renovation of the Stratford Hills Shopping Center was in 1980. Gunter instructed the group of plans to rehabilitate the center to include a new façade. However, said plans are contingent on securing properties from the other land owners at the shopping center. Gunter advised that Stratford Hills Shopping Center is unlike most conventional shopping centers in that multiple land owners (3) own pieces of the center. Jerry Miller spoke to the unique tenant mix within the center and encouraged Wilton Properties to retain the current mix that includes so many "mom and pop" shops. Young inquired of Gunter about opportunities to redevelop the parking lot to remove some asphalt in place of trees and vegetation though Gunter claimed the need to maximize parking.

Mr. Shawn Knight, Director of Student Activities at Huguenot High School, delivered a report on Huguenot including that last year's graduating class was awarded \$1.3 million in college scholarships. Knight informed attendees that efforts will be made to work more with community groups and further solicited support from the community in assisting in school efforts. Knight specifically requested that persons consider tutoring.

Councilwoman Kathy Graziano delivered a preliminary report on the budget and advised that the real estate tax rate would likely stay at \$1.20. Graziano further informed the group of the status of the stormwater management plan to cost the average household about \$45 a year. Graziano advised attendees of the imminent return of the Forest Hill Farmers Market and informed the group of the upcoming district meeting to be held on May 13 at 7 p.m. at St. Luke Lutheran Church.

Mrs. Adria Graham-Scott (School Board) communicated news of a new middle school option available at Franklin Military School. Graham-Scott also spoke to the plan to require a line-item budget for RPS to increase transparency and accountability. Graham-Scott also discussed the importance for students of extracurricular activities including sports and the arts.

Civic Association reports included status of the Staffordshire drainage project, an upcoming picnic and yard sale in Wayland, a Forest Hill-Bliley Road clean-up, and Oxford's annual meeting.

The group adjourned at 7:30 p.m.

Attendance:

Jerry Miller, Chair, Oxford  
Jonathan Young, Vice-Chair, Southampton  
Laura Lemmon, Forest Hill-Bliley  
Shawn Knight, Huguenot High  
Walter Brown, Hobby Hills  
Adria Graham-Scott, School Board-elect  
Mildred Peele, Wayland  
John Cardwell, Southampton  
David Hathcock, City Council Staff  
Charles Frith, Hobby Hills  
Pat Angevine, Staffordshire  
B. Hunt Gunter, Wilton  
Lee Ann Baker, Richmond Ambulance Authority