

SCA President's Column March-April 2010

Dear Neighbors and Friends,

Our March meeting is one that you don't want to miss! The new command of the Franconia Police Sub-station, Captain Shawn Bennett and Lt. Paul Thompson, will be joining us on Tuesday, March 16, at Crestwood Elementary School. The official program begins at 7:30 p.m. as usual and the social meet-and-greet kicks off at 7 p.m. This is our opportunity to meet the Captain and Lieutenant and get our pressing public safety questions answered!

What a great way to meet your neighbors. Reach out to them today and invite them to the March meeting with our new Franconia Captain. Offer your neighbors a ride to the meeting! Give them a copy of your newsletter and/or save the event date note for reference.

Would you like to support your community more, but don't always have the time to attend meetings? Here is your chance to make a difference. We are seeking a *membership information coordinator*. We need someone to assist us with a data base or spreadsheet that would allow us to keep our records current as people join, change contact information, or move out of the area. You can do this on your own time from home! Please consider assisting the SCA with this important opportunity: Please e-mail me at springfieldcivic@yahoo.com if you are willing to do this very important function.

SCA Secretary, Alice Merrill, has stepped up to the plate and volunteered to chair the Beautiful Home Contest this year. Thank you Alice! Please stay tuned for more details to come. This fun contest that recognizes home improvements and well maintained homes runs from May through July with the winners announced at the September meeting.

On Tuesday, May 18, the Fairfax County Lee District Supervisor, Jeff McKay, will be our guest speaker at the civic association meeting at Crestwood Elementary. Join your neighbors for a very special evening with *our* Board of Supervisor representative. The county budget will be officially adopted on April 27th and Mr. McKay will also brief us on progress related to some of our community challenges.

The following is the time line for the county budget:

FY2011 Budget Approval Timeline

- Fairfax County Executive ***Anthony H. Griffin presented his proposed fiscal plan*** for FY 2011 to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) on **Tuesday, February 23, 2010**, during the scheduled board meeting.
- BOS ***Budget Committee*** meetings are scheduled for **Tuesday, March 16, at 1 p.m.; Friday, March 26, at 2 p.m.; and Friday, April 16, at 2 p.m.** in the Government Center, Conference Rooms 9 and 10.

- **Public Hearings** on the FY 2011 fiscal plan have been set for **Tuesday, April 6, at 6 p.m.; Wednesday, April 7, at 3 p.m.; and Thursday, April 8, at 3 p.m.** Members of public wishing to speak at any of the three hearings should contact the Office of the Clerk to the Board at 703-324-3151, TTY 703-324-3903, to place their names on the speakers' list or sign up online.
- The Board of Supervisors has scheduled the ***budget markup session*** for Tuesday, April 20, at 10 a.m. **The formal adoption of the FY 2011 budget is scheduled to take place on Tuesday, April 27, at 10 a.m.** during the regularly scheduled board meeting.

Many of you have inquired about Lake Accotink Park and the status of the budget as it affects this jewel in our community. I can provide you with the link that lists the specific reductions for the Park Authority as well as other agencies:

http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/fy2011/advertised/agency_reductions.pdf.

This is a reminder that we will be electing the officers for the Springfield Civic Association Board at the May meeting. Interested in serving? Contact us at springfieldcivic@yahoo.com.

Committee positions are also available to be filled!

See you soon!

Tawny Hammond
SCA President



p.s.

The following information is added for those who are interested in the activities of the Springfield Swim and Racquet Club, an important organization in Springfield. Please read the following; many things are happening with the organization.

The Springfield Swim and Racquet Club is in the process of approval for a cell phone tower (mono-pole) to be erected on their property. Rental income from this structure would aid the organization financially. Several of you have contacted me asking for more information. This specific issue will be part of the Board of Zoning and Appeals hearing on March 24. A representative of the club may be at our March 16 meeting where you can get more of your questions answered. The tower will be constructed to resemble a tree.

The following information is from the FCC on the health concerns regarding cell phone towers:

<p align="center">Human Exposure To Radio Frequency Fields: Guidelines For Cellular & PCS Sites</p>	<p align="center">FCC Consumer Facts</p>
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Background

Primary antennas for transmitting wireless telephone service, including cellular and Personal Communications Service (PCS), are usually located outdoors on towers, water tanks, and other elevated structures like rooftops and sides of buildings. The combination of antenna towers and associated electronic equipment is referred to as a "cellular or PCS cell site" or "base station." Cellular or PCS cell site towers are typically 50-200 feet high. Antennas are usually arranged in groups of three, with one antenna in each group used to transmit signals to mobile units, and the other two antennas used to receive signals from mobile units.

At a cell site, the total radio frequency (RF) power that can be transmitted from each transmitting antenna depends on the number of radio channels (transmitters) that have been authorized by the Federal Communications Commission (FCC) and the power of each transmitter. Although the FCC permits an effective radiated power (ERP) of up to 500 watts per channel (depending on the tower height), the majority of cellular or PCS cell sites in urban and suburban areas operate at an ERP of 100 watts per channel or less.

An ERP of 100 watts corresponds to an actual radiated power of 5-10 watts, depending on the type of antenna used. In urban areas, cell sites commonly emit an ERP of 10 watts per channel or less. For PCS cell sites, even lower ERPs are typical. As with all forms of electromagnetic energy, the power density from a cellular or PCS transmitter rapidly decreases as distance from the antenna increases.

Consequently, normal ground-level exposure is much less than the exposure that might be encountered if one were very close to the antenna and in its main transmitted beam. Measurements made near typical cellular and PCS cell sites have shown that ground-level power densities are well below the exposure limits recommended by RF/microwave safety standards used by the FCC.

Guidelines

In 1996, the FCC adopted updated guidelines for evaluating human exposure to RF fields from fixed transmitting antennas such as those used for cellular and PCS cell sites. The FCC's guidelines are identical to those recommended by the National Council on Radiation Protection and Measurements (NCRP), a non-profit corporation chartered by Congress to develop information and recommendations concerning radiation protection. The FCC's guidelines also resemble the 1992 guidelines recommended by the Institute of Electrical and Electronics Engineers (IEEE), a non-profit technical and professional engineering society, and endorsed by the American National Standards Institute (ANSI), a non-profit, privately-

funded, membership organization that coordinates development of voluntary national standards in the United States.

In the case of cellular and PCS cell site transmitters, the FCC's RF exposure guidelines recommend a maximum permissible exposure level to the general public of approximately 580 microwatts per square centimeter. This limit is many times greater than RF levels typically found near the base of cellular or PCS cell site towers or in the vicinity of other, lower-powered cell site transmitters.

Calculations corresponding to a "worst-case" situation (all transmitters operating simultaneously and continuously at the maximum licensed power) show that, in order to be exposed to RF levels near the FCC's guidelines, an individual would essentially have to remain in the main transmitting beam and within a few feet of the antenna for several minutes or longer. Thus, the possibility that a member of the general public could be exposed to RF levels in excess of the FCC guidelines is extremely remote.

When cellular and PCS antennas are mounted on rooftops, RF emissions could exceed higher than desirable guideline levels on the rooftop itself, even though rooftop antennas usually operate at lower power levels than free-standing power antennas. Such levels might become an issue for maintenance or other personnel working on the rooftop. Exposures exceeding the guidelines levels, however, are only likely to be encountered very close to, and directly in front of, the antennas. In such cases, precautions such as time limits can avoid exposure in excess of the guidelines. Individuals living or working within the building are not at risk.

For More Information

For more information on this issue, visit the FCC's RF Safety Web site at www.fcc.gov/oet/rfsafety. For further information about any other telecommunications-related issues, visit the FCC's Consumer & Governmental Affairs Bureau Web site at www.fcc.gov/cgb, or contact the FCC's Consumer Center by e-mailing fccinfo@fcc.gov; calling 1-888-CALL-FCC (1-888-225-5322) voice or 1-888-TELL-FCC (1-888-835-5322) TTY; faxing 1-866-418-0232; or writing to:

Federal Communications Commission
Consumer and Governmental Affairs Bureau
Consumer Information and Complaints Division
445 12 St. SW
Washington, DC 20554.

For this or any other consumer publication in an accessible format (electronic ASCII text, Braille, large print, or audio) please write or call us at the address or phone number below, or send an e-mail to FCC504@fcc.gov.

To receive information on this and other FCC consumer topics through the Commission's electronic subscriber service, click on <http://www.fcc.gov/cgb/contacts/>.

This document is for consumer education purposes only and is not intended to affect any proceeding or cases involving this subject matter or related issues.

11/08/07

NOTICE IS HEREBY GIVEN pursuant to Sect. 18-110 of the Zoning Ordinance that, at a meeting to be held in the Board Room, Government Center Building, 12000 Government Center Parkway, March 10, 2010, the Board of Zoning Appeals will hold a public hearing on the following applications at the time indicated. At the said public hearing any and all interested persons will be given an opportunity to express their views regarding the application. If you desire to be placed on the speakers' list, or to check on whether the status of the public hearing has changed, call the Zoning Evaluation Division at 324-1280. The following information is a descriptive summary only of the application. Interested parties may review the application or pick up a copy of the staff report at the Zoning Evaluation Division of the Department of Planning and Zoning, 12055 Government Center Parkway, Suite 801. In addition, copies of the staff report are available at the office of the member of the Board of Supervisors in whose district the application property is located. ADA: Reasonable accommodation is available upon 7 days advance notice. For additional information on ADA call (703) 324-1334 (TTY 711 Virginia Relay Center). MATTERS PRESENTED BY BOARD MEMBERS 9:00 A.M. T-MOBILE NORTHEAST LLC & SPRINGFIELD SWIMMING AND RACQUET CLUB, INCORPORATED, SPA 81-S-017 Appl. under Sect(s). 3-303 of the Zoning Ordinance to BC amend SP 81-S-017 previously approved for community swimming pool and tennis courts Admin. to permit addition of telecommunications facility. Located at 7400 Highland St. on approx. Moved to 3.75 ac. of land zoned R-3. Lee District. Tax Map 80-1 ((5)) (52) 1. (in association with 3/24/10 at SE 2009-LE-016) appl. req.9:00

Attachment to SCA President's Column (March/April Issue)