

FRIENDS OF LANCASTER COUNTY
Meeting –March 14, 2007

President Charlie Costello reported that George Henderson and Barb Dietz have sent out more than 600 newsletters and thanked them for their work. He then introduced Wallace and Ann Carter who have placed more than 300 acres in a conservation easement through the Northern Neck land Conservancy. Some of the land is on Good Luck Road and some is on the Corrotoman River at John's Creek. The land will be preserved in an undeveloped state because of their generosity. Rich Kantor, a local artist, presented the Carters with a painting he had done of Scaffold Point, part of the area on the Corrotoman that has been put into the easement.

Costello then introduced Pete Geilich, District 3 Supervisor, the speaker for the evening. Mr. Geilich, who has lived on the Northern Neck full time since 2000, came to Virginia from eastern North Carolina. He stated that he likes the area very much and would like to see it kept pretty much as it is today. He noted that the county budget will be one subject for the March Board of Supervisors meeting and pointed out that 60 to 65% of the budget goes to county schools, with the next largest amount supporting the Sheriff's office. The last item cost is largely because we have a local jail. Mr. Geilich reported that a new Courthouse is definitely on the horizon because the judges have determined it to be a necessity. Among other things, security at the old Courthouse is insufficient. The new Courthouse will be paid for by a bond issue. He is interested in the issue of public access to water, managing growth in the county, and thinks the county dumps should be cleaned up, noting that the dumps in Middlesex County are a stark contrast to those here. In response to questions asked by members, Geilich noted the following: he plans to push for more public access even if it means a tax increase; there is nothing the county can do about derelict vehicles on private property; Windmill Point appears to want out of its proffer of public access; with respect to litter on our roads, he noted that the county now has one person who can supervise people doing community service road pick ups; and, regarding boundary line adjustments by the towns, he would probably favor it if the people affected want the extension.

During the regular meeting members were urged to attend the March 15 Planning Commission meeting. Issues of interest on the agenda included:

The highway corridor overlay setback proposal to be forward on to the Board of Supervisors.

Extension of wastewater treatment lines from Kilmarnock to RWC and the PGA.
Chapter 8 draft of the Comprehensive Plan.

Extension of sewer and water to RWC. The membership agreed that, at present, there is not enough information upon which to base a decision on the impact of such an extension.

The meeting ended at 9:10 p.m.

Jackie Ferriter, Secretary