

November 11, 2015

To: Stony Creek Association Executive Board

Subject: Agreement to meet FOIA requirements by the Charter Review sub-committee

Two meetings ago, I had asked that the Charter Review Committee meet all FOIA requirements including Meeting notices and Meeting minutes. I thought there was a general agreement to that. However, at the October meeting a FOIA Advisory was partial read at the SCA Meeting and seemingly supported that the Charter committee was not obligated to adhere to the STATE and Federal FOIA rules. At the time, hearing just what was read, I thought perhaps there was an exception for this type of committee. I had hoped that the Advisory would have been part of the meeting minutes, however it was not.

I believe that this charter revision is most likely to be the most important item on the agenda for this committee. It is reasonable to believe if accepted by State Legislators, the people of Stony Creek would be taxed and governed by it for many years to come. I therefore believe that a robust committee should be formed and its processes and progress be fully open to the people of Stony Creek. I feel that one of the ways that this be done is to adhere to all FOIA requirements. I also believe that the committee membership should be more open to others who may want to participate. I for one don't believe that a committee of 5 or 6 is too unruly to manage. Although discussed at the September meeting, it seemed that members were already selected and not open to any other SCA member. Two are from the Executive committee and one a member of the public.

It was mentioned that the results would be discussed at the Executive board meetings... but NO comment was made on a general SCA vote to Change the CHARTER. And from past experience, I am concerned that once 3 people have their say, The NEW CHARTER will be discussed by the Executive Board. And, with LIMITED public discussion, approved.

We should remember, this is the essence of what the ENTIRE SCA will be. It will contain its responsibilities, how people are taxed, represented and scope of power. It will affect every household in Stony Creek.

I say, if no one in the entire SCA wants to be on the committee or participate in public meetings where this is discussed, that is fine... However I believe that it should be an OPEN process, and the chance given to all to be heard and participate in some manner.

I formally request, that the Executive Committee ensures that the Charter subcommittee adheres to all FOIA requirements.

Sincerely



Ed Gagliardi