

The Fairfax County FEDERATION

of Citizens Associations *Established 1940*

April 2010

THE BULLETIN

Volume 59, Number 8

Federation Membership Meeting

◆ ◆ ◆
Thursday, April 15, 2010
7:30 p.m.

Packard Center Main Conference Room
4022 Hummer Road, Annandale

*Topic: Reports from Federation Appointees
and Representatives*

2010 Membership Meetings

May 20, 2010 7:30 p.m.
*Report from Richmond
Election of Officers for 2010 - 2011*

June 17, 2010 7:00 p.m.
*(please note the earlier start time)
Annual Federation Picnic and
"The State of Fairfax County"*

2010 Federation Board Meetings

Packard Center Main Conference Room 7:30 p.m.
April 22, 2010 May 27, 2010 June 24, 2010

Federation Seeking Nominations for 2010 - 2011

The Federation is currently seeking individuals to serve as officers for the 2010 - 2011 year. The positions to be filled include: President, First Vice President (membership), Second Vice President (appointments), Corresponding and Recording Secretaries, and Treasurer. These positions make up about one-third of the Board, which carries out the bylaws and implementation of the policies and procedures to best achieve the organization's purpose to promote the interests of citizens associations in Fairfax County, and to further the common good and general welfare of the citizens of Fairfax County. The remaining members of the Board include the Federation's Committee Chairs and District Council Representatives. The Board meets monthly on the fourth Thursday of the month.

If you are interested in running for any of the above Federation Officer positions, or would like more information, including criteria for a position, or the Board in general, contact John Jennison, Nominations Committee Chair, at fedpastpres2009@fairfaxfederation.org. The Federation will hold its election of officers at its May 20, 2010 membership meeting. Officers begin their one-year term on July 1, 2010.

President's Message

Be sure to reserve the evening of Sunday, May 2, 2010 on your calendar (wherever you keep it these days - in Outlook, on your PDA or Blackberry, on line, or on the wall) so you can join us in honoring the 2009 Citizen of the Year, Clark Tyler, as well as our three Citation of Merit honorees.

If you go to the Federation home page, you can read about the extraordinary volunteerism of each of these outstanding individuals: Clark Tyler, Chair of the Tyson's Corner Land Use Task Force; Harry Glasgow, preserving and protecting the county's rich natural resources; Jim Southworth, leading Fairfax Public Access; and Drew Tener, creating and leading the elementary school students' Easy Readers program.

In addition, the guest speaker at our annual awards banquet will be the Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia, Robert McDonnell. We've had other featured speakers in the past, but this is the first time in my memory that a sitting Virginia Governor will be speaking. The banquet will be at the Crowne Plaza in Tysons Corner. You can make your reservations on line at <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/COY/COYrsvp.htm>.

This last week, I made my third and last appearance before the Board of Supervisors to present the Federation's resolution on the Fairfax County Fiscal Year 2011 Advertised Budget and Fiscal Years 2011 - 2015 Capital Improvement Program, which is available on line at <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/testimony/TestimonyFY2011FCBudget100407.pdf>. Thanks to the hard work of many Federation members, specifically Charlie Hall, Kosmo Tatalias, Charlie Dane, Flint Webb, Fred Costello, Carol Hawn, Tania Hossain, and Roger Diedrich, the document presented to the Board is something of which we can be proud. If you wish, you can refer to the document and bring to your supervisor, and the Board Chairman, areas of your particular interest.

If you're interested in serving next year as a Federation officer, contact our Nominations Committee Chair and past president John Jennison (FedPastPres2009@fairfaxfederation.org); the committee is hard at work right now looking for volunteers.

So I'll let you be for now, knowing that if I don't see you at our April 15th membership meeting (I know, it's tax day), I will certainly see you on May 2nd at our awards banquet.

Enjoy,

Jeffrey Parnes, President

FedPres2009@FairfaxFederation.org
703-424-2956

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations
Membership Meeting of March 25, 2010

DRAFT MINUTES

(for approval at the April 15, 2010 membership meeting)

The March 2010 Meeting of the Membership of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order by First Vice President Tania Hossain at 7:35 p.m. in the general meeting room of the Packard Center. The attendance list is attached to file copy.

Program: The Fairfax County Fiscal Year 2011 Advertised Budget - Joe Mondoro, Assistant Director, Department of Management and Budget

Mr. Mondoro gave a detailed overview of the advertised budget and answered questions about the decisions made in reaching the various budget positions. He used the presentation the County Executive used to brief the Board of Supervisors on February 23. (http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/fy2011/advertised/cex_slide_presentation_fy2011_advertised.pdf) Key points that are not necessarily evident in the slides included:

- Fairfax County presently does not know precisely what the Commonwealth's budget means for the county. The Virginia budget is structured by program; each program has to be dissected to determine the effects on various local governments.
- The March 8, 2008, presentation to the Board of Supervisors on the budget describes the growth of the budget from FY 2001 to FY 2008 in such areas as schools, public safety, human health, new programs, and post-9/11 security upgrades. (http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/advertised/fy2009/budget_workshop/fy2001_fy2008.pdf)
- The Land Development staff is handling fewer permits than in prior years, but other factors have tended to increase workload, such as greater complexity of projects, environmental considerations, and support of code enforcement and participation in the county strike team. In response to a request, Mr. Mondoro said he would determine if there are records, such as timesheet codes, that expose how much effort has been devoted to the office's various responsibilities over recent years.
- Juvenile incarcerations are down, saving money and indicating that prevention efforts have been successful and cost-effective. Adult detentions are down slightly. In the past the Commonwealth has provided funding for prisoners incarcerated locally beyond one year. Beginning in 2011 the state funding in support of local incarcerations will not begin until a prisoner has complete two years of incarceration, thus increasing county funding responsibility.

Old Business

Citizen of the Year Banquet - Jeff Parnes

Governor McDonnell will be the keynote speaker at the

Citizen of the Year Banquet, which will be held May 2 at the Crowne Plaza Tysons Corner Hotel. SAIC has partnered with the Federation as the primary sponsor. Formal invitations will be distributed in mid-April. Anyone who wishes to attend and has not received an invitation by April 20 should contact the Citizen of the Year Committee Chair at fedcoychr2009@fairfaxfederation.org.

The selection committee has named the 2009 Citizen of the Year: Meriwether Lewis Clark Tyler. Citations of Merit Honorees are Harrison A. (Harry) Glasgow, James B. (Jim) Southworth, and Drew Tener. Information about their contributions to the county is available in the Federation's Special Bulletin Number 1, March 2010.

New Business

Resolutions Package, Fairfax County Advertised Fiscal Year 2011 Budget and FY 2011-2015 Capital Improvement Program - Charles Hall

Background: The Budget Committee, under the leadership of Chair Charles Hall and augmented by other committee chairs, presented a draft resolutions package to the Federation Board on March 18. The Board approved the resolutions package with some changes directed and asked the Budget Committee to research several areas before finishing the resolutions. The committee prepared the revised resolutions package and presented it at this meeting.

The Federation thanked the hard working members of the Budget Committee and other Federation committees who assisted in preparing this package: Charles Hall (chair and budget process), Kosmo Tatalias (consolidator and editor, capital improvement plan, revenue, and concluding resolution), Charles Dane (education and Fairfax-Falls

(see **DRAFT MINUTES** - continued on page 3)

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations

4022 Hummer Road, Annandale VA 22003

www.fairfaxfederation.org

2009-2010 President: Jeffrey M. Parnes

Newsletter Editor: Carol A. Hawn

The Bulletin is the newsletter of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations. It is usually published monthly, with the exception of July and August. The purpose is to provide information to member communities, federal, state, and local officials, and other interested persons. Articles reflect the view of their author and may be reprinted with the use of the following citation: "The Bulletin of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations".

Please contact Carol Hawn at 703-266-6872 or cahawn@verizon.net with newsletter name and address changes, comments, or suggestions.

Federation Meeting Cancellation Policy

If either Fairfax County Government or Schools are closed after 12:00 noon the day of a Federation membership meeting, or if it is announced that Fairfax County Government or Schools will be closed the day after a scheduled Federation membership meeting due to inclement weather or other emergency, the Federation will not hold that event. This does not pertain to regularly scheduled closures. Membership meetings will not be rescheduled, although speakers may be asked to attend an upcoming meeting. We will make every attempt to post the cancellation on www.fairfaxfederation.org or you can call 703-266-6872 for more information.

(DRAFT MINUTES - continued from page 2)

Church Community Services Board), Fred Costello (land use and pension funds), Flint Webb (environment, health department, and transportation), Roger Diedrich (transportation), and Tania Hossain (library and human services). Many people have assisted; we apologize to anyone whose name may be omitted.

President Parnes passed the gavel to Charles Hall for this portion of the meeting. Charles led the membership through a review of the 19-page resolution package, assisted by section authors who summarized their sections. The membership asked questions and proposed amendments. Friendly amendments (those acceptable to the author) were accepted without vote because the entire package was to be voted as a unit. Other amendment suggestions, if moved and seconded, were voted. Participants voted based on the size of the association represented.

Key points from the discussion follow:

- Kosmo described the background and overview sections. The package is divided into sections, most by budget area. Most sections have two parts: background material and resolution. The background material is for internal Federation use; only the resolutions will be sent to the elected officials in a smaller document. Both versions will be posted on the Federation web site.
- Charles Dane described the Education and the County Support for Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Programs sections. There was discussion why the Federation's budget committee proposed a restoration of county transfer to be 0.5% less than last year compared to the 1% less in the advertised budget. An amendment to recommend the full 1% restoration, but only if additional funds were available, failed to pass by a vote of 9-13.
- Charles Dane introduced a new section, not previously reviewed by the Board, recommending restoration of \$1.735 million for the Falls Church Community Services Board. This subject does not fit into the current section structure and was added as a new section.
- Tania Hossain described Human Services; the Federation agrees with the advertised budget.
- Flint Webb, who had written the Environment and Health Department sections, was not present. The Stormwater, Parks, and Health Department resolutions were reviewed with minor grammatical changes made to the Parks resolution.
- Flint and Roger Diedrich, who had written the Transportation section, were not present. The membership made a technical correction, to change the amount of requested increase to support Fund 100 (to restore funds previously received from the Dulles

(see DRAFT MINUTES - continued on page 4)

The Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations

and

Science Applications International Corporation

request the pleasure of your company at the

Sixtieth Annual Awards Banquet

honoring the

2009 Fairfax County Citizen of the Year

M. L. Clark Tyler

Citation of Merit Honorees

Harrison A. Glasgow

James B. Southworth

Andrew Tener

Guest Speaker

The Honorable Robert F. McDonnell
Governor of the Commonwealth of Virginia

Sunday, the Second of May

at the

Crowne Plaza Tysons Corner Hotel

1960 Chain Bridge Road, McLean, Virginia

Reception 5:30 p.m.

Dinner 6:15 p.m.

\$65 per person

Cash Bar

RSVP by April 25, 2010

Tickets will be held at the door.

For more information, please call John Jennison, Citizen of the Year Banquet Chair, at 703-591-5586.

Make checks payable to "FCFCA" and send to:

The Federation

4022 Hummer Road, Annandale VA 22003

Please include: Name(s), Company/Association,
Address, Telephone, and Email

Also include choice of Sirloin, Salmon, or Vegetarian Dinner

(DRAFT MINUTES - continued from page 3)

Corridor Grant for bus service) from \$4.5 million to \$3.9 million. The members also asked the budget committee to identify the bus lines involved.

- Fred Costello described the Land Use section. The savings proposed from reduction of the Land Development Services was changed from “approximately” \$10 million to “up to” \$10 million.
- Charles Hall had written the Public Safety section, which was accepted as written with one addition. Kahan Dhillion proposed to restore \$250,000 for juvenile probation officers for the BETA program, a recommendation also made by the Mount Vernon District Council.
- Tania described the Library resolution. The text will be amended to show that the Federation proposes the restoration of 65 positions out of 81 proposed for elimination.
- Fred described the Pension section.
- Kosmo described the Capital Improvement Program section. In the affordable housing paragraph, it was not yet determined what the Executive would propose regarding the \$10 million proposed in the Housing Blueprint. It was agreed that the County Executive’s budget proposal for this item must be determined and that if funding was proposed by the County Executive, the Federation would not recommend finding money for it. An amendment was proposed that if funds for this item are not in the budget, the Federation would recommend adding the \$10 million. This amendment failed by a vote of 5 for and 9 against. A second amendment was proposed that if the funds are not in the budget, the Federation would recommend adding the \$10 million should funds be available. This amendment passed by a vote of 10 for and 8 against.
- In the Concluding resolution, the membership voted to recommend a residential property tax rate of \$1.10 per \$100 of assessed value, by a vote of 12 for and 9 against.
- The budget process resolution received friendly amendments that standardized its structure and clarified its meaning.

At the end of the resolution package review and revision process, the membership voted to adopt the resolution package by a vote of 17 for and 6 against.

The next steps for the Federation’s resolution package are:

1. Section editors will provide revised copy to Kosmo
2. Kosmo will send the final package to Jeff Parnes
3. Jeff will post on the Federation’s website
4. Carol Hawn will format the package
5. Jeff will send it to the Board of Supervisors and other elected officials
6. Jeff will testify before the Board of Supervisors.

Board and Committee Reports

The 2011 advertised budget presentation and the review of the Federation’s budget resolution package consumed the entire meeting; therefore there were no verbal board or committee reports. The two reports below were submitted in writing for publication in the minutes.

Association Services - Don Hinman

Don thanked Charlie Dane, Ed Wyse, and Flint Webb for supplying or arranging to get him examples of civic association governing documents. This has been helpful and is appreciated. Documents from additional Federation members will be even more helpful. Don is now assisting an additional civic association in its formation.

Braddock District Council (BDC) - Art Wells

On March 9, the BDC monthly meeting featured presentations by members of the county’s Department of Management and Budget who discussed the highlights of the FY 2011 county and school advertised budgets. This meeting was the first of four town hall meetings on the budget scheduled in Braddock District. Chairman Bulova, Supervisor Cook, and Park Authority Director John Dargle, Jr. participated.

The first session of the Braddock District Community Engagement Initiative’s second “Neighborhood College” was held on March 24 with additional sessions scheduled March 31 and April 7, 14, 17, 21, and 28 at Supervisor Cook’s office at Kings Park Library.

The Braddock District Council meeting on April 13 will be a legislative forum featuring Northern Virginia members of the General Assembly.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 11:25 p.m.

Next Meetings

The next membership meeting is scheduled April 15, 2010, at 7:30 p.m.

The next board meeting is scheduled April 22, 2010 at 7:30 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary

Did you Return your Census Form?

Beginning May 1st, census enumerators will begin knocking on doors of households that have not yet mailed in their 2010 Census questionnaire. Please let your neighbors know that, if they have not yet returned their form, they will be visited. Census enumerators will only ask the 10 questions that were included on the form, and will not be asking for any other information, including personal information. They will also be carrying an identification badge from the U.S. Bureau of the Census. We still have about 30% of households in Fairfax County that need to respond to the census to obtain a complete count. For more information, visit: <http://2010census.gov>.

**Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations
Resolutions Executive Summary
Fairfax County Advertised Fiscal Year 2011 Budget
and
Fiscal Year 2011-2015 Capital Improvement Program**

This document contains a summary of the Federation's resolution on the Fairfax County Advertised FY 2011 Budget and FY 2011-2015 Capital Improvement Program. The full version can be found at: <http://www.fcfa.org/resolutions/ResolutionCountyBudgetFY11Approved20100325.pdf>.

EDUCATION

Whereas, recent General Assembly actions will result in the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) receiving a significantly higher amount of money from the Commonwealth than was anticipated in the FY 2011 FCPS Advertised Budget but incurring large and undeterminable shortfalls of at least \$100M in FY 2012 through 2014; and

Whereas, FCPS has recently proposed setting aside \$61.3M in FY 2011 as a reserve for future funding changes which will include (1) significantly increased Virginia Retirement System (VRS) contributions, with repayments including 7.5 percent to 7.8 percent interest, (2) expiration of federal stimulus monies, (3) payment of deferred FY 2011 fourth quarter VRS payment, (4) additional enrollment, (5) unknown inflation and health benefit costs, (6) a minimal 2.0 percent salary increase of about \$40M, after 2 years without any increase, (7) significant program reductions or revenue increases in FY 2012; and

Whereas, if the \$16.3M reduction proposed by the County Executive is restored to the FCPS transfer, resulting in the same transfer amount as FY 2010, class size increases will not be required, but there will still be reductions and cost avoidances including (1) fee increases of \$4.3M, (2) elimination of 204 positions of which 99 are in the central office, (3) elimination of summer school except for those students needing one or two classes to graduate and the self supporting program, (4) the reduction of equipment replacement by 50 percent and the elimination of new bus and textbook purchases, (5) the closure of Pimmit Hills Alternative High School, and a further reduction of 66 custodian positions, and (6) no salary increases; and

Whereas, without the \$16.3M restoration, FCPS will have to either (1) remove additional funds from the proposed reserve, or (2) make additional reductions comparable to 297 additional positions or an increase in the average class size by one student per class, and

Whereas, the average class size has been increased by one student per class over each of the last 2 years; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations (Federation) supports restoring \$8.15M to FCPS's transfer amount, and supports restoring the balance of \$8.15M requested by FCPS if additional funds can be found.

COUNTY SUPPORT FOR FCPS PROGRAMS

Whereas, the required debt service for FCPS facilities has decreased; and

Whereas, the County Executive proposed a reduction in maintenance of athletic fields; and

Whereas, there was no proposed reduction for school crossing guards; and

Whereas, the proposed changes in the School Age Child Care program (SACC) include (1) two additional classrooms at Mount Eagle Elementary School with position offsets from within the department, (2) an increase in SACC fees by 3.5 percent for all students, which for those paying full price amounts to \$10 per month per student, and (3) snacks were decreased; and

Whereas there is added support for Comprehensive Services Act (CSA) and Head Start program; and

Whereas, there is a proposed increase of one nurse for two new elementary schools – Laurel Hill and Luttie Lewis Coates, and the addition of two full-time nurses to serve as backup for school-aged children, both with positions offset from within the Health Department; and

Whereas, the Advertised County Budget places a moratorium on bond referenda which does not apply to FCPS renovation and construction projects, but does allow referenda for FCPS projects in the amount of \$240M in both FY 2011 and FY 2013, giving FCPS flexibility in issuing bonds; and

Whereas, the County Executive proposes elimination of funding for School Resource Officers at middle schools; positions that the Federation believes provide an essential information resource on illegal activities both within and outside of school, and positions which especially aid in gang prevention; and

Whereas, the County's Advertised Budget includes \$155M in bond issuance authority for FCPS, even though the need for renovation and construction of schools exceeds what can be accomplished with this annual funding for an extended time period; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Federation supports most school related items in the advertised budget, but requests that the SACC fee continues to be on a sliding scale with lower charge for lower income families, and also requests full funding of \$2.1M for the police School Resource Officers at FCPS middle schools, as is also requested in the Public Safety section of this package; and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation encourages the Board of Supervisors to support an increase in bond issuance authority for FCPS greater than \$155M to the extent prudent to maintain the County's bond rating.

HUMAN SERVICES

Whereas, the Federation understands and recognizes that the current economic downturn in consecutive years has been challenging for the prioritization of programming by the various Human Services agencies in service delivery to its neediest and most vulnerable population, and

Whereas, the Federation recognizes the County's efforts to build safety net partnerships with community organizations that need to be maintained and supported, especially during these difficult times. Further, the Federation is appreciative of the diligent and caring work of the County Human Service staff for providing quality service in an efficient manner; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Federation concurs with the following as advertised in the County's FY 2011 budget:

The one time Federal Stimulus Funding in the amount of \$5.5M should not be used to fund new initiatives and should be used to bridge gaps in service for FY 2011.

(RESOLUTIONS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - continued from page 5)

As directed by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors, a funding increase of \$877,424 will replace federal grant funding for public health preparedness and shall be used to add 9 additional staff to the Department of Public Health.

A second reserve of \$1.0M for emergency support to community organizations in order to sustain the organizational operations and provision of short term adequate services. It is important to note that the same amount budgeted in FY 2010 is currently being used by the County to leverage \$4.0M in federal TANF Emergency Funds available through the American Recovery and Reinvestment Act of 2009 through a local match program to the Virginia Department of Social Services.

The \$8.97M budgeted for the Consolidated Community Funding Pool and Proposed Changes to the Consolidated Community Funding Pool Advisory Committee in cooperation with the County's nonprofit partners.

A reduction of \$4,157,446 for the Department of Family Services (DFS) in accordance with the agency's restructuring of business processes and identifying opportunities for efficiencies. In particular, the SACC program has adjusted staff schedule to align with the school year calendar; successfully increased the use of technology; and increased programming fee by \$10. These initiatives will increase the income of DFS by approximately \$1.0M and will be used to offset part of the budgeted reduction.

FAIRFAX – FALLS CHURCH COMMUNITY SERVICES BOARD

Whereas, the Fairfax County-Falls Church Community Services Board serves an important role in ensuring the mental and physical health of Fairfax County citizens; and

Whereas, some of the proposed budget reductions will seriously impair critical services, and create real hardships to individuals served; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Federation supports the restoration of \$1.974M for the following positions and services provided by Community Services Board:

Physical Health: the Adult Partial Hospital Program Service for individuals in North County Services (\$497,244); the contracted services for Infant and Toddler Therapeutic Service, without which would result in delays in needed interventions (\$49,256); clinical service at the Woodburn facilities from midnight to 8:00 a.m. (\$66,904); home care relief service, as there is no other County or nonprofit organization providing these services (\$275,008); and

Mental Health: the Emergency Services at Northwest Center for Community Mental Health (\$88,388); Emergency Services at Mount Vernon Center for Community Mental Health (\$172,619); the 2.5 positions for Alcohol and Drug Services (\$194,796) and the two substance abuse counselors (\$146,150), without whom would result in an unacceptable extension of wait times; the one mental health forensic staff position at the Adult Detention Center, elimination of which may lead to increase risk of suicides or self injury (\$80,497); the one supervisory substance abuse counselor in preventative services, elimination of which would result in a critical loss to the Preventive Strategies Realignment Plan (\$84,235); the decreased operational expenses for Alcohol and Drug Service (Cornerstone Program) (\$80,000); and the Juvenile Forensics BETA program, reduction of which would impact the ability to treat some of the County's most at-risk youth and significantly increase the likelihood of criminal recidivism

(\$238,795).

STORMWATER PROGRAM

Whereas, the Advertised Budget proposes to increase the stormwater service fee to \$0.015 per \$100 assessed evaluation; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Federation endorses this increase as necessary to maintain the stormwater infrastructure.

PARK AUTHORITY

Whereas, the Advertised Budget proposes reductions in cost-effective positions which (1) organize and oversee the Park Authority's volunteer workforce, and (2) perform strategic engineering analyses of the energy efficiency and long term operating costs of recreational facilities; and

Whereas, failure to maintain park facilities and provide nighttime lighting could lead to unsafe conditions, injuries, increased vandalism, and the use of parks for illegal activities; and

Whereas, summer programs such as summer camps and the Martin Luther King, Jr. Swimming Pool help to control the growth of gang activities and provide exercise for our youth; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Federation opposes the elimination or reduction of positions that support strategic initiatives, best utilizes volunteers, and decreases long term operating costs (Restore \$105,000 for Reduction 34; \$49,000, half of Reduction 35; and \$17,057 for Reduction 56); and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation encourages that the Administrative Assistant II position that supports communication functions be changed to a summer hire instead of being eliminated (Restore \$16,459, half of Reduction 55); and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation would encourage the Park Authority actively pursue increasing usage fees for monopolies in order to restore the Telecommunication/Monopole capital improvement fund (regarding Reduction 42); and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation requests that the Park Authority consider instituting a usage fee system to recoup the costs of night time lighting (regarding Reduction 45); and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation requests that the Park Authority consider leveraging summer park activities with local Scouting and Church organizations in order to expand the utilization of our parks by our youth rather than cutting this program further (regarding Reduction 47); and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation requests that the Park Authority investigate the possibility of getting grant funding and/or the institution of fees to support the Martin Luther King Jr. Swimming program and if unsuccessful, restore \$51,393 for Reduction 48); and be it finally

Resolved, that the Federation is concerned that reducing the maintenance of County Park fields could increase the chance of accidents and could lead to increased liabilities to the County over time. The Federation requests the restoration of \$79,741 for Reduction 39 and \$80,000 to Reduction 165 and the full restoration of the funding for Athletic Field Maintenance Programs in future years. The Federation feels that the maintenance of other fields could be accomplished by either increasing fees for the use of the fields and/or increasing the utilization of volunteers.

(see **RESOLUTIONS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - continued on page 7**)

(RESOLUTIONS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - continued from page 6)

Summary: The Federation is requesting restoration of \$398,650 to the Park Authority and the Office of Capital Facilities.

HEALTH DEPARTMENT

Whereas, it may be necessary for the County to maintain some of the air quality monitors that were previously turned over to the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality; and

Whereas, it is necessary that the County continue to support the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee Technical Advisory Committee; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Federation recommends that the County continue the Air Quality Program until EPA agrees that the Fairfax County monitors can be discontinued. The County should seek funding from the State to help fund the functions mandated by the Clean Air Act; in the interim the Federation recommends that \$100,000 be set aside for partial restoration of Reduction 79.

TRANSPORTATION

Whereas, Metro is facing a \$189M deficit for Fiscal Year 2011 and is required to balance the budget. Its four main options are: 1) Raise fares; 2) Reduce service; 3) Obtain additional subsidies from the local jurisdictions that fund Metro; and 4) Divert funds from capital budget; and

Whereas, a Metro fare increase of \$89M and service cuts of \$33.7M have been proposed, leaving an unfilled \$40M gap; and

Whereas, the essential nature of Metro and the commuter infrastructure to the region's economy, security and environmental health suggests that the service cuts would be harmful and short sighted; and

Whereas, the final WMATA budget request will not be resolved until June; and

Whereas, cuts in late evening and weekend Connector bus service is not consistent with the primary mission of bus mass transit to support workforce transportation; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Federation commends the funding for Metro in the Advertised Capital Budget and urges the County to maintain the flexibility to provide subsidies sufficient to avoid Metro rail or bus service cuts; and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation requests an increase of \$3.9M in the General Fund transfer to Fund 100, to restore all of the "Reductions Resulting from the Loss of the Dulles Corridor Grant" especially evening and weekend Connector services coordinated with workers' hours at shopping malls and major businesses.

LAND USE

Whereas, the Performance Measurement Results for the Land Development Services (LDS) agency show that the workload of that unit has decreased consistently and substantially since FY 2000; and

Whereas, the Performance Measurement Results show that turnaround times for reviews have increased since FY 2000; and

Whereas, the LDS unit has increased the number of employees and funding since FY 2000; and

Whereas, the workload of LDS is and can more so be supported by outsourcing; and

Whereas, some if not much of the work of the Economic Development Authority duplicates the work of the Virginia Economic Development Partnership; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Federation agrees with the proposed decrease in the LDS personnel by a count of 10 under Community Development and another 8 under Public Safety (Budget Reduction Item #20), for a total reduction of \$3,661,904; however, Performance Measurement Results data suggests that additional reductions can be made without injury to the performance of the agency such that the total budget reductions for this agency could amount to as much as \$10M. This represents a possible additional savings of up to \$6.3M; and be it further

Resolved, that to the extent that there exist in the County Executive's Advertised FY 2011 Budget funds that could be considered to support tourism over and above monies required by State law to be spent on tourism and the Economic Development Authority (EDA), the Federation requests that funds be backed out of the EDA account and used to offset some or all of the budget line item increases that the Federation has recommended.

PUBLIC SAFETY

Whereas, Public Safety accounts for \$406M, or 12.3 percent of the proposed FY 2011 operating budget; and

Whereas, Public Safety programs must be subjected to heightened fiscal scrutiny and bear their share of overall County budget cuts; and

Whereas, promotion of public safety is essential to Fairfax County's quality of life, the No. 1 County priority, and therefore must be balanced carefully against fiscal concerns; and

Whereas, physical well-being of the public and Fairfax's safety personnel must remain essential concerns of the County government, even in a troubled budget climate; and

Whereas, a diverse work force enhances the ability of police and firefighters to oppose youth crime and protect the broader community; and

Whereas, any restorations of Public Safety programs must be weighed against the costs and benefits of competing programs in other budget areas; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Federation supports the recommended cuts in Public Safety, except as specified below, as a responsible way of balancing of safety concerns and fiscal reality; and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation recommends the restoration of \$2,104,480 to pay for 26 middle school resource officers, who play a central, and not easily replaced, role in the fight against youth gangs, as also requested in the Education section of this package; and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation recommends the restoration of \$162,190 to pay for two positions in the police traffic safety program, noting that County budget documents say, "The potential negative impact is an increase in traffic safety related injuries and deaths"; and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation recommends the restoration of \$452,825 for dedicated HazMat staffing, noting that budget documents say that failure to do so could compromise the Fire Department's ability to respond effectively to simultaneous major incidents with potentially grave public health consequences. Be it further

Resolved, that the Federation urges County officials to consider, if sufficient revenue becomes available, limited restoration of

(see RESOLUTIONS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - continued on page 8)

(RESOLUTIONS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - continued from page 7)
 police pre-hiring program (current proposed cuts total \$623,084), with a focus of continuing to promote a culturally diverse police force; and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation urges County officials to *consider*, if sufficient revenue becomes available, restoration of \$692,705 to staff a fire/rescue battalion, noting that budget documents says that failure to do so risks "compromising operational efficiency and firefighter safety on-scene"; and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation urges County officials to *consider*, if sufficient revenue becomes available, restoration of \$953,735 in proposed cuts for Basic Life Support ambulance service, noting that budget documents say failure to do so "will lead to response time delays and will accelerate the already declining ability to meet response targets." Be it further

Resolved, that the Federation urges County officials to review a recommendation to cut \$175,724 for medic trainee compensation, to ensure that this proposal is not a "false economy" that will trigger other offsetting costs; finally be it

Resolved, that the Federation urges County officials to conduct a public audit of operating increases of \$1,091,086 associated with the opening of the McConnell Public Safety and Transportation Operations Center facility, and \$4,629,000 associated with ongoing Information Technology projects to assess whether any savings or deferrals can be realized, without compromising officer or public safety.

LIBRARIES

Whereas, a recent national study funded by the Bill & Melinda Gates Foundation found that in 2009 libraries were a vital resource for an estimated 77 million Americans (a third of the teenage and adult US population), many of whom were low income, who used library computers to do research for homework and to seek jobs; and

Whereas, the proposed reduction in service hours at the regional and community libraries will adversely impact youth and adult library programs, such as the Summer Reading Program and preschool story times, and reduce the availability of meeting sites; and

Whereas, disabled and senior library users will no longer be able to order library materials for home delivery by the United States Postal Service or obtain them at 35 senior living facilities, nursing homes and adult care centers; and

Whereas, the FY 2011 Advertised Budget includes a reduction of \$2.5M in library funding and the elimination of 65 Full Time Equivalent staff positions; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Federation strongly opposes these reductions and requests that they be restored, even if an increase in the real estate tax is required for the funding; and be it further

Resolved, the Federation suggests that the library consider increasing fines and fees and consider instituting a fee of \$5 per hour for the use of meeting rooms and that these fees and fines be returned to the library operating budget.

COUNTY AND SCHOOL EMPLOYEES PENSION FUNDS

Whereas, the actuarial values of the assets and liabilities depend on the assumed values of inflation and return on investment,

Whereas, the currently assumed values of the rates of inflation and return on investment differ significantly from what has been experienced over the past ten years and from the longer-term

S&P 500 rate, and

Whereas, under the current assumptions used by the County, a detailed study shows that the actuarial assets are less than the actuarial liabilities, indicating that the Fairfax County's defined-benefit pensions are currently under-funded; and

Whereas, the County's pension costs are already a major component of the County's expenses; and

Whereas, many private companies, as well as the Federal government, have reduced their pension expenses by changing from defined-benefit plans to defined-contribution plans; and

Whereas, clarity is needed in the County's financial reports; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Federation recommends that the actuarial values be re-computed under alternative assumptions, including (1) the last decade's average values for the rate of return of the pension and the inflation rate and (2) the high inflation rates anticipated by many economists; and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation requests that the County evaluate adjusting the benefits of the defined-benefit plans and transitioning from the current defined-benefit plans to a new defined-contribution plan. The latter could apply to new employees only; however, a switch should also be evaluated if the new plan is applied to all employees for all of their future years, as was done in the Federal government; and finally be it

Resolved, that the Federation requests that the Other Post-Employment Benefits (OPEB, Funds 603 and 692) reports be made to conform to those of the other funds in which the unrealized capital gains are separated from the sum of realized capital gains, interest income, and dividend income and that the titles to these items be made the same as in the other funds.

CAPITAL IMPROVEMENT PROGRAM

Whereas, the proposed total debt service for the County and FCPS is within the parameters set by the County's financial principles, which help us keep the AAA rating from all three ratings firms; and

Whereas, the paydown for capital projects supports only essential projects; and

Whereas, funding for the Blueprint for Affordable Housing is incomplete at this time; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Federation supports the County Executive's conservative approach to incurring debt while sustaining the County's ability to execute its programs and services over the long term; and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation hopes that the Board of Supervisors and the County Executive can find County and private partnership funding of \$10M to meet the requirements identified in the Blueprint for Affordable Housing; and finally, be it

Resolved, that we reiterate our positions with respect to bonds for schools, athletic fields maintenance, the fee for stormwater management, and other CIP issues as stated in other sections of this resolution.

REVENUES

Whereas, the Federation has requested approximately \$20M in restorations of reductions proposed in the Fairfax County Advertised Budget for FY 2011 (comprised of \$8.15M in Education on page 3, \$1.974M for the Fairfax County-Falls
(see RESOLUTIONS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY - continued on page 9)

(**RESOLUTIONS EXECUTIVE SUMMARY** - continued from page 8) Church Community Services Board on page 6, \$0.399M for the Park Authority on page 8, \$0.1M in the Health Department on page 9, \$3.9M in Transportation on page 10, \$2.7M in Public Safety on pages 12-13, and \$2.5M for Libraries on page 14); and

Whereas, the Federation has identified possible savings in the Land Development Services of \$6.3M on page 11; and

Whereas, the Board of Supervisors has set the Advertised Real Estate Property Tax Rate at \$1.12 per \$100 assessed valuation; and

Whereas, the reinstatement of the vehicle registration fee and the increase in SACC fees, among others, will help balance the FY 2011 Budget; therefore be it

Resolved, the Federation endorses the increases in the vehicle registration fee and a sliding scale of SACC fees as necessary and reasonable; and

Resolved, that the Federation recommends that the real estate property tax rate be set at \$1.10 per \$100 of assessed valuation, amounting to an increase of \$18.7M above that proposed in the Advertised Budget, and which will, with the restorations and fee increase above, balance the County's FY 2011 budget to within \$1.3M; and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation requests additional restorations of \$8.15M in Education (page 3), \$2.8M in Public Safety (page 13), and \$10M for the Housing Blueprint (page 17) if funding can be found by the Board of Supervisors, which may include part of the \$21.7M advertised to be held in reserve in anticipation of possible State revenue reductions and part of funds backed out of the EDA account (page 11).

COUNTY BUDGET PROCESS

Whereas, broad public information and community input always are essential to ensure support for County fiscal priorities, and are especially crucial during this year's severe budget shortfall, which affects large segments of Fairfax County's citizenry through program cuts and an increase in the property tax rate; and

Whereas, community input must not only be broad, but also be informed by a depth of knowledge that effectively employs the diverse expertise of those who live and work in Fairfax County; and

Whereas, the ongoing crisis creates extreme competition among vital programs, making carefully tailored cuts especially important, based on a close examination of community needs; and

Whereas, the average real dollar amount of Fairfax property taxes nearly doubled during 2000 - 2007, and citizens are being asked to continue paying that level of taxation at a time of growing personal duress; and

Whereas, Fairfax County has an obligation to ensure the most efficient use of tax dollars at a time of continuing shortfalls, to minimize damage to essential County programs, and to limit the strain on County taxpayers; and

Whereas, the Board of Supervisors and Fairfax County School Board have established a Smart Services Committee comprised of three persons from each Board to consider/explore County and School functions that can be combined or better coordinated so as to realize additional efficiencies and monetary savings; therefore be it

Resolved, that the Federation praises the County's extensive series of public meetings to solicit community input on spending priorities, and urges that such meetings be continued in future years; and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation praises the County's improved online "drill-down" budget presentation, which makes it relatively easy, and more transparent, to explore proposed changes in specific departments. However, the Federation requests that all Performance Measurement results be reported in terms of accomplishments rather than activities such as attending meetings; and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation continues to offer its praise and voluntary support for the Smart Services Committee, which brings together members of the Board of Supervisors and the School Board, and requests a brief public accounting of any economies achieved in the committee's first year-plus of activity; and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation requests that the County augment its broad community outreach by reestablishing a citizens budget advisory committee, which can offer a community perspective that is informed by in-depth examination of County budget data, and that individual supervisors establish such committees to advise them on fiscal decisions; and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation requests that the County consider expanding its financial auditing, possibly in the form of an independent Government Accountability Office, to increase the County's capacity to conduct internal performance audits and better identify opportunities for savings and more efficient use of County resources; be it finally

Resolved, that the Federation suggests that the County explain more fully the history and mission of individual programs and departments, as well as spending increases over the previous 5-10 years, to help the public assess whether spending increases are justified or sustainable in changing budget environments.

IN CLOSING

Whereas, the County Executive's FY 2011 Advertised Budget addresses the \$257M shortfall in part by proposing organizational efficiencies and numerous expenditure reductions, including staff reductions and cuts to County programs; and

Whereas, the Federation has proposed a few modifications to the Advertised Budget; therefore, be it

Resolved, that the Federation appreciates that the County Executive submitted to the Board of Supervisors a fiscally responsible proposed budget recognizing a significant reduction of anticipated revenues; and be it further

Resolved, that the Federation appreciates the challenges that the Board of Supervisors faces and the hard choices that it will have to make because of reduced revenues and increasing needs throughout the schools and services sectors of the County.

**Approved at the Federation Membership Meeting on
March 25, 2010**

Celebrate Earth Day / Arbor Day

On April 24th, between 11:00 a.m. and 4:00 p.m. at the Northern Virginia Community College campus, 8333 Little River Turnpike, Annandale, there will be a family-friendly fair celebrating Earth Day/Arbor Day, with entertainment, food, and exhibitors. Document shredding is available between 9:00 a.m. and 2:00 p.m.

Fairfax County
FEDERATION
of Citizens Associations

4022 Hummer Road
Annandale, VA 22003

Membership Meeting

Thursday,
April 15, 2010

7:30 p.m.

The Packard Center
4022 Hummer Road, Annandale
(see directions, below)

Topic:

**Reports from Federation Appointees
and Representatives**

Contents of this Issue	
<i>President's Message / Announcement of April 15, 2010 Membership Meeting</i>	1
<i>Draft Minutes of the March 25, 2010 Membership Meeting</i>	2 - 4
<i>Announcement of the Annual Citizen of the Year Banquet - May, 2, 2010</i>	3
<i>Approved Federation FY 2011 County Budget Resolutions Executive Summary</i>	5 - 9

Directions to the

Packard Center

Take I-495 (Capital Beltway) to Little River Turnpike
(Route 236 - Exit 52B);
go east toward Annandale.

Turn left at the first stop light onto Hummer Road.

Go 200 yards to the entrance of Annandale Community Park on the left.

Keep right to the large parking lot.

Please use the left entrance into the Packard Center Building; ring the doorbell for entrance.

www.fairfaxfederation.org

United States[®]
Census
2010