

The Fairfax County
FEDERATION
of Citizens Associations *Established 1940*

March 2011

THE BULLETIN

Volume 60, Number 8

Federation Membership Meeting

Thursday, March 24, 2011

7:30 p.m.

Note Our Return to the Renovated Location

The Packard Center

4022 Hummer Road
Annandale, VA 22003
7:30 p.m.

Topic: Fairfax County Budget

Please note the change of the Membership meeting from the usual third Thursday to the fourth Thursday. This change is made to accommodate the County budget schedule.



Next Federation Board Meeting

March 17, 2011 (Third Thursday)

7:30 p.m.

The Packard Center
4022 Hummer Road
Annandale, VA 22003

President's Message

Greetings Friends and Neighbors:

I want to take this opportunity to thank the community for nominating noteworthy community members for the Citizen of the Year (COY) Award. The nomination period is now closed and our COY Committee is busy at work with the selection and planning of our signature program – The Citizen of the Year Award. We would like to invite you to stay tuned for more program details by the end of March and hope you can join us.

The Federation thanks Robert Goudie for the excellent presentation of the Reston Town Center Master Plan Proposal at our last membership meeting. Our membership meeting topics are some of the ways we bring the Federation back into the community. These are great opportunities for the community to connect on common issues; share success stories; and build stepping stones to strengthen our network.

The Federation is looking forward to the presentation of the county's budget by Joe Mondoro of the County's Department of Management and Budget at the March 24 membership meeting. The Federation's Budget Committee has its plate full with the county's FY2012 Proposed Budget. The community is invited to provide feedback by emailing to the Budget Committee at fedbudgetchr2010@fairfaxfederation.org. More information on the county's budget is available on the county's Department of Management and Budget website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb.

On behalf of the Federation, I wanted to thank you for staying connected so that our concerns can be amplified to a bigger platform. With our collective efforts, there is no doubt that Fairfax County will continue to be one of the best places to live, play and work.

Best regards,
Tania Hossain

New on the Federation Web Site

The Education Committee's plan continues to be pertinent (<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/Education1.htm>)

The presentation charts for the Tysons Corner Bicycle Master Plan are available at <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/transportation1.htm>

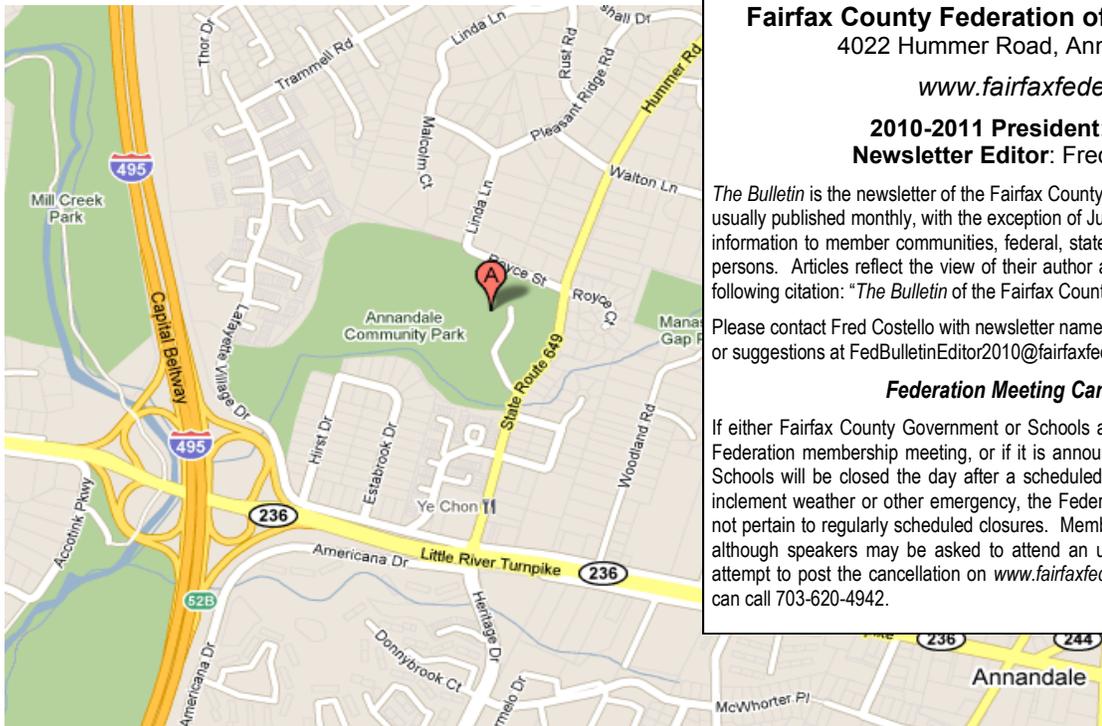
Visit us at
www.FairfaxFederation.org

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Directions to the Packard Center

Take I-495 (Capital Beltway) to Route 236 (Little River Turnpike, going east toward Annandale)
 go east 0.4 miles to first traffic signal
 Turn left at traffic signal onto Hummer Road.
 Go 0.25 miles, turning left at the bottom of the hill into the Packard Center driveway
 Bear right up the driveway to the parking lot.
 Walk down the left pathway to the door facing the parking lot .



Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations

4022 Hummer Road, Annandale VA 22003

www.fairfaxfederation.org

2010-2011 President: Tania Hossain
Newsletter Editor: Frederick A. Costello

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 Fred Costello with newsletter name and email address changes, comments, or suggestions at FedBulletinEditor2010@fairfaxfederation.org or 703-620-4942.

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, for more information, you can call 703-620-4942.

FCFCA Program Calendar 2010-2011						
Month	Membership Meetings			Board Meetings		Newsletter Deadline
	Date	Program		Date	Program	
2010						
Sep	16	Back to School Issues by Schools Superintendent Dr. Dale, @ Braddock Hall		23	Legislative Program @ Braddock Hall	1-Oct
Oct	21	Legislative Program @ Braddock Hall		28	@ South County Center, Alexandria	1-Nov
Nov	18	County Bicycle Paths @ Braddock Hall			No meeting	22-Nov
Dec	16	An Urban Conservation Ethic, canceled due to snow		2	@ Marco Polo Restaurant, Vienna, VA	20-Dec
2011						
Jan	20	FC Public School Budget @ FCPS Administrative Offices, 8115 Gatehouse Road		27	Canceled due to snow	24-Jan
Feb	17	Reston Metro Station - An Example of Good Re-Development Planning @ The Packard Center. Robert Goudie of the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force		24	@ The Packard Center	21-Feb
Mar	24	County Budget @ The Packard Center		17	@ The Packard Center	21-Mar
Apr	14 ^c	Report from three Federation Representatives to County Boards, Authorities, and Commissions		28	@ The Packard Center	18-Apr
May	19	Report from Richmond; Election of Federation Officers		26	@ The Packard Center	23-May
Jun	16	Picnic, State of Fairfax by Sharon Bulova, Board of Supervisors Chair; Installation of Officers		23	@ The Packard Center	20-Jun

c. April 14 membership meeting is the second Thursday in April due to FCPS spring break the third week.

Do you want to have an impact?

The Federation is only as strong as its voice, and the Federation's many committees make up its collective voice. If you are interested in serving on any of the ten committees that make up the backbone of the Federation please contact the committee chairs using the following email addresses:

Budget: Carey Campbell and Charles Hall	FedBudgetChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Citizen Association Services: Don Hinman	FedAssociationServicesChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Education: Leonard Bumbaca, Ed Saperstein and Tim Thompson	FedEducationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Environment: Roger Diedrich and Flint Webb	FedEnvironmentChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Human Services: Cherie Lejeune	FedHumanServicesChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Land Use: Fred Costello	FedLandUseChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Legislation: Frank Anderson	FedLegislationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Public Safety: Gail Parker	FedPublicSafetyChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Resolutions: Bill Hanks	FedResolutionsChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Transportation: Carey Campbell, Roger Hoskin and Jeff Parnes ..	FedTransportationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org

The committees conduct the bulk of their business by email, and formulate positions and suggest actions for consideration by the membership at large. They also provide inputs to the Federation's legislation and budget presentations. Here's a chance to make a mark in an area of your interest. Join us in making our County a better place to live!

Fairfax County's FY 2012 Budget Hearings

On Tuesday, February 22, 2011, the County Executive presented the FY 2012 Advertised Budget. The budget can be found at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/>. Public hearings will be held at the Fairfax County Governmental Center, Supervisor's Board Room, 12000 Governmental Center Parkway, according to the schedule:

Budget Hearings

Tuesday, March 29, begins at 6:00 pm
 Wednesday, March 30, begins at 3:00 pm
 Thursday, March 31, begins at 3:00 pm

Budget Actions

Tuesday, April 12, 2011, Budget Mark-up
 Tuesday, April 26, 2011, Budget Adoption

Additional information regarding the FY 2012 budget process is available at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/budget/. The Chairman's State of the County address is available at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/chairman/news/state-of-the-county-2010.htm

Mike Thompson, the Springfield District Council's representative to the Federation, calls our attention to his analysis of the County budget, in two volumes, at http://www.thomasjeffersoninst.org/files/3/Fairfax%20County%20Budget%20Analysis_VOL1%20.pdf and http://www.thomasjeffersoninst.org/files/3/FairfaxAnalysis_Vol2.pdf

Infrastructure for High-Density Development

In last month's bulletin, we gave a report on the work of the Greater Tyson's Citizens Coalition on the funding of Tyson's infrastructure. You can find the complete report on Page 9 of this *Bulletin*. An Open Letter sent to the Board of Supervisors on this issue can be found on Page 8.

Park Authority Fees

It is too late to submit your comments to the County Park Authority on its new fee structure. The proposed changes were published on February 2. The comment period ended February 15. The questions and answers on the fee structure can be seen at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/2011FeeProposal.pdf>. The Park Authority's proposed budget is at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/fy2012/advertised/volume1/00151.pdf>

Conservation

The Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District is having its annual seedling sale. All seedlings are native to Northern Virginia. Two packages are available:

- ◇ The Deer Resistant Shrub and Small Tree package is offered for \$15.95 and includes two each of the following species: Red osier dogwood, Silky dogwood, Serviceberry, Spicebush, and Pawpaw.
- ◇ The Wildlife Friendly Tree Package sells for \$10.95 and is ideal for common areas or larger suburban yards. The tree package includes two each of the following: Black oak, Sycamore, and American hornbeam.

For pictures of the mature species offered in the packages please visit the website at: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale.htm>

To download an order form, go to http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/orderform_2011.pdf. If you have any questions, please feel free to contact Nick Kokales by phone at (703) 324-1420 or by e-mail at nicholas.kokales@fairfaxcounty.gov

News Items

Community Leadership Institute

Transportation Planning Board of the Metropolitan Council of Governments is offering a free two-session course on community planning and transportation at MWCOG's offices in D.C. on Thursday, March 31 (6:00pm – 9:15pm) and Saturday, April 2 (8:30 am – 3:00pm). For more information, see <http://www.mwco.org/transportation/activities/cli/> or Contact Deborah Kerson Bilek at 202-962-3317 or dbilek@mwco.org

Healthy Living

Inova Health System offers a number of community programs through its HealthSource Program. Such programs include: fitness and well-being, childbirth education, CPR and first aid; and, healthy lifestyles. See <http://www.inova.org/healthcare-services/healthsource/community-classes.jsp>

Trails and Sidewalks

Mark Tipton, the Federations representative on the County's Trails and Sidewalks Committee calls our attention to FCDOT's various projects, including trails and sidewalks (Funds 124 and 307) and Sidewalks (Fund 307). Click on Monthly Projects Status Report at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/>

Metrorail in Herndon

The latest information on the Town of Herndon's involvement in Metrorail planning can be found at <http://www.vhb.com/herndonmetrorail/>

Redistricting

Redistricting comments and proposals may be submitted to your Supervisor at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/redistricting/submit-plans.htm>. Federation members may also submit them to the Federation's representative, Rob Jackson, at RHJackson@cox.net

Citizen of the Year

Nominations closed on February 28. The Federation and SAIC will be sponsoring the banquet in May at which time the award will be presented.

Membership Meeting Minutes

Thursday, February 17, 2011

[Draft to be submitted for approval, 3/24/2011](#)

The February 2011 Meeting of the Membership of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order by President Tania Hossain at 7:35 p.m. in the Packard Center, Annandale. The attendance list is attached to file copy of the minutes.

Program: Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force — Robert Goudie

The Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force is chartered to conduct a multi-phase planning study to identify appropriate changes to the Fairfax County Comprehensive Plan to help guide future development in the planned community of Reston. Phase I pertains to the areas adjoining the Dulles Airport Access and Toll Road (the Dulles Corridor). Each of the three Metro Stations planned for this area was assigned a subcommittee to develop the plans around the station. The subcommittees had four months to develop and deliver their report, without the benefit of either an existing conditions report or a transportation study. Robert Goudie, co-chair of the Reston Town Center station subcommittee, explained the subcommittee's recommendations as they have developed to date. His presentation was followed by a lively discussion on issues such as proposed densities, proposed residential/commercial mix, automobile transportation unknowns, bus requirements and funding unknowns, W&OD trail impacts, and whether air rights pylons should be installed during the initial construction. More information about the Reston Master Plan Special Study is available at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/reston/>

President Hossain expressed the Federation's gratitude for the informative presentation and presented Mr. Goudie with a Federation coffee cup.

Administrative Topics

Human Services Committee: The Board will formalize the addition of Cherie Tripp Lejuene of Oakton as Chair of the Human Service Committee at the January 27 Board Meeting.

The Bulletin: Newsletter articles are due to the editor by February 21. Committee chairs and Federation representatives to other organizations are urged to share information via *The Bulletin*.

Minutes: The membership approved the minutes of the January 20, 2011, membership meeting.

Treasurer's Report: Scott Schlegel presented the treasurer's report, which the membership voted to receive and file. Key points were that both membership and expenses have been lower than planned.

Membership: Don and Tania attended the Providence and Braddock District Council's meetings in January and February and made personal requests to the district chairs regarding the Federation's membership drive. Don will attend the Mason District Council meeting in March.

Old Business

2010 Citizen of the Year (COY) Award: Please spread the word about the next Citizen of the Year Award. More information is available on our website at <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/coy1.htm>.

www.fairfaxfederation.org/coy1.htm. SAIC will be a sponsor again this year; additional sponsors are sought.

New and Miscellaneous Business

2011 Advisory Citizen Reapportionment Committee—Tania Hossain. The Federation is represented on the Board of Supervisor's 2011 Advisory Citizen Reapportionment Committee and their work began on January 18, 2011. All members of the Federation are encouraged to send in their feedback to our representative Rob Jackson via email to rhjackson@cox.net. Carey Campbell reported that he attended a meeting and found it fascinating. All county residents are encouraged to participate by providing feedback directly to the county. More information is available on the county's redistricting website <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/redistricting/submit-plans.htm>

Vacancies on County Boards and Commissions

Second Vice President Don Hinman is recruiting for five Federation representatives to other organizations: Citizens Corps Council, Community Action Advisory Board, Engineering Standards Review Committee, Airports Advisory Committee, and the Information Technology Policy Advisory Committee. The county website at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bacs/> enumerates all of the county's boards, authorities, and advisory committees. Don noted that people representing the Federation do not have to be from associations that are Federation members. Flint Webb expressed interest in serving on the Engineering Standards Review Board (ESRB), and Hinman agreed to forward his nomination to the ESRB.

In addition to the general government-related boards, authorities, and advisory committees, the Federation has representation on three school board advisory committees and a school superintendent advisory committee.

Board & Committee Reports

Budget—Carey Campbell and Charlie Hall

The Board of Supervisors will advertise the county's tax rate at their February 22, 2011 meeting. The county executive will also be presenting the county's budget during this meeting. Per Charlie's email dated February 2, 2011, kindly take the moment to provide some feedback on the budget based on your focused area and other areas that you have noticed needs attention. Budget committee meetings have been set for Saturday, February 26 and Saturday, March 5, 2011. Please email the Budget Committee to RSVP for attendance by email to fed-budgetchr2010@fairfaxfederation.org. Please note that the committee may need additional meeting dates. Participation via email is highly recommended due to the short window of feedback time. The Federation will be testifying at the Board of Supervisor's Budget hearing on March 29 and is scheduled to be the 11th speaker.

Charlie would like to meet individually with committee chairs at his house for about two hours each to gain an appreciation of their budget views and promises this method of exchanging information will spare chairs from having to submit written input.

A suggestion was made that the Federation's budget committee coordinate with the several district budget committees.

Citizen Association Services—Don Hinman

Don seeks to instill awareness of two entities of significance for homeowner associations (HOA) and condominium associations:

(Continued from page 5)

the Common Interest Community Board (CICB) and the Community Associations Institute (CAI).

Proposed CICB rule on filing complaints against Associations

Don repeated an announcement from the last membership meeting about a new rule proposed by Virginia's CICB. The new rule establishes a process for HOA or condo residents to file complaints against their association to the CICB. The Federation's February newsletter covered the topic. Don distributed a flyer on the topic (available at the Federation CASC website) and also passed around a copy of the proposed rule that can be accessed from the Virginia Regulatory Town Hall website: <http://www.townhall.virginia.gov/L/viewstage.cfm?stageid=5362&display=documents>

HOA and Condo Boards should pay attention to this proposed rule and to be ready to adopt certain complaint-handling procedures if the rule takes effect.

Virginia Legislative Action Committee of the Community Associations Institute (VALAC – CAI)

Don wants to inform residents of HOAs and condos aware of the VALAC – CAI. He distributed at the meeting a flyer (available at the committee's page on the Federation's website) which briefly explains the VALAC. The website address is www.cai-valac.org. Information about legislation important to associations can be found at the VALAC website, including a tracking chart used to track progress on Virginia General Assembly bills that the VALAC views as important to the well being of HOAs and condos. A recent example of the tracking chart was circulated to those present at the meeting to give attendees an idea of the specific laws that VALAC supports and opposes.

National Lobbying by CAI Saves Transfer Fees for Community Associations

Don distributed to attendees at the meeting a Washington Post article from February 11, 2011 that explained that the Federal Housing Finance Agency (FHFA) reversed a provision of a proposed rule that would have prohibited HOAs and Condos from collecting transfer fees when homes are sold in their communities. Many associations have authority for "deed-based transfer fees" in their governing documents. This FHFA rule would have stripped away that authority, thus eliminating an important source of revenue for HOAs and Condo Associations. The lost revenue would likely have to be made up by raising the regular association assessments. The rule would also have cut off access to most mortgage financing to people wanting to buy homes in communities with deed-based transfer fees, making sales of those homes very difficult. The reversal of this rule was due to national lobbying by the CAI. The full text of the article can be found at the Citizen Association Service page of the Federation's website.

Education—Leonard Bumbaca, Ed Saperstein, & Tim Thompson

The committee's next meeting will be March 8th, 7:30 p.m. (Subsequent to this meeting the location was announced: Room 5050, Gatehouse's 5th Floor conference room, where the Federation met for its January membership meeting and where Superintendent Dale convenes the monthly Business and Community Advisory Council (BCAC) meetings).

Environment—Flint Webb

The Environmental Committee proposed a resolution in support of the county's purchase of the Energy Resource Recovery Facility (also known as Waste-to-Energy Plant) in Lorton. Be-

cause the Board of Supervisors' deadline for public comment on purchase is February 22 (and the purchase decision by contract must be made by the county by March 3), this resolution was not first cleared by the Federation board before being presented to the membership. To bring a policy position motion to the floor for consideration without prior board clearance, Federation bylaws (Article V, Section 7) require a two-thirds vote at the membership meeting. The motion for consideration failed to muster two-thirds and the resolution was not considered. Consequently the Federation takes no position on this issue.

The county staff's frequently-asked-questions and answers regarding the purchase recommendation are found at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/navbar/faqs/waste-to-energy-facility.htm>. Staff responses to questions raised by the community during recent informal public information meetings are available at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpwes/trash/w-to-e-1-31-report.htm. The Federation has been an active participant during the public meetings.

Human Services—Cherie Tripp Lejeune (designate)—no report

Land Use—Fred Costello

In support of the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force, Fred has been part of a large group developing an overview report called "The Vision." The work has been hotly contested, although only over minor points. Traffic impact has not been analyzed, although road improvements have been proposed.

Legislation—Frank Anderson

Please complete the survey about your top priorities for legislation and send your feedback to Frank via email to fedlegislationchr2010@fairfaxfederation.org. The survey is also available in our February newsletter to help with circulation.

Policies and Procedures—Bill Hanks

The policies and procedure, last updated in 2003, support the bylaws by specifying how things are to be done. A two-year rewrite is near completion and will be presented to the board in March for consideration by the board in April.

Public Safety—G. Gail Parker

New member Gabe Goldberg introduced himself: a graduate of the Citizens Police Academy and a member of the Mason Police District Citizens Advisory Council. He has requested a Federation seat on the (county police) Chief's Council.

The public safety committee is monitoring the county's development of a plan for disaster recovery. This topic was presented in February's *The Bulletin*.

Resolutions—Bill Hanks—no report

Transportation—Carey Campbell, Roger Hoskins, and Jeff Parnes—no report

Website—Jeff Parnes

Please continue to give the webmasters Kosmo Tatalias and Jeff your feedback for website updates on committee pages by emailing them at fedwebmaster2010@fairfaxfederation.org. They plan to streamline the website by shift some content from the currently large first page to committee pages.

District Council Reports

Seven supervisor districts have councils of citizens associations; Dranesville & Hunter Mill districts do not.

(Continued from page 6)

Braddock—Art Wells

The February meeting featured presentations on five projects carried out by participants in the recent Neighborhood College. The March 9 meeting will address the budget. The Wakefield Chapel Parking Committee meets February 22. The next Leadership Institute will be held February 26. The Mason Bypass (a new road to enter George Mason University bypassing Ox & Braddock Roads intersection) committee meets March 29th.

Lee—Don Hinman

Lee District has created a Penn Daw Special Study Task Force. Several large commercial properties along North Kings Highway are being proposed for redevelopment after several major stores closed. The task force involves both the property owners and the residents of nearby communities; they seek mutually agreeable county plan revisions for the Penn Daw properties.

The next monthly meeting of the Lee District Association of Civic Associations (LDACO) will be on February 23 at 7:30 pm. The presentation will be on county zoning enforcement and code compliance.

Mason—Keith Taggart—no report

Mount Vernon—Karen Pohorylo—no report

Providence—Charlie Hall

The February 15 meeting featured election of officers and a presentation by school board member Patty Reed. The meeting prior to that focused on the budget with the Federation's Kosmo Tatalias speaking. Delegate Bulova is sponsoring a bill in the General Assembly to upgrade the gasoline tank farm.

Springfield—Mike Thompson—no report

Sully—Jeff Parnes—no report

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

Next Meetings

In March the board meeting will occur before the membership meeting to facilitate development of budget recommendations.

- ◇ Board meeting is March 17, 2011, 7:30 p.m. at the Packard Center, Annandale.
- ◇ Membership meeting is March 24, 2011, 7:30 p.m. at the Packard Center, Annandale.

Minutes written by Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary

Become a Federation Representative on Fairfax County Boards and Commissions

The Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Association has representatives on many of the County boards, commissions, committees, task forces, and councils. Currently, the Federation needs representatives for the following:

Citizens Corps Council, which promotes and oversees Citizen Corps programs, focuses on public education, training and volunteer opportunities for community and family safety; uses education, training and volunteer service to make communities safer, stronger and better prepared to respond to the threats of terrorism, crime, public health issues and disasters of all kinds. It develops action plans to involve the whole community, including special needs groups and identifies best practices and reports accomplishments. See <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/citizencorps/> and <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/oem/citizencorps/council.htm>

Community Action Advisory Board, which advises the County Board and the Director of Family Services on the needs, concerns and aspirations of low-income persons, recommends policies that promote meaningful change, provides oversight for state and federal Community Service Block Grant funds which support community-based initiatives identified through the county's Consolidated Community Funding Pool competitive grant process. See <http://fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/caab/> or http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bacs/fairfax_board.asp?lookup=23341

Engineering Standards Review Committee, which provides technical and engineering advisory services to the Board, reviews input data for the annual update of the Public Facilities Manual. See http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bacs/fairfax_board.asp?lookup=23312

Airports Advisory Committee, which advises the Board on all airport and aircraft operations affecting Fairfax County, examines the feasibility of establishing a countywide aircraft noise complaint center. See http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bacs/fairfax_board.asp?lookup=23354

Questions? Contact Don Hinman, Federation 2nd Vice President at fed2ndvp2010@fairfaxfederation.org

The complete list of the **County's Boards, Authorities, Committees, and Commissions** (BACs) is found at the following website: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/bacs/>. The Federation has seats on eight of these, four of which have vacancies (listed above). The four others which currently have a Federation representative are: (1) Criminal Justice Advisory Board, (2) Community Revitalization and Reinvestment Advisory Group, (3) Information Technology Policy Advisory Committee and (4) Trails and Sidewalks Committee.

The complete list of **School Board advisory committees** is found at the following website: <http://www.fcps.edu/schlibd/advisory.htm>. The Federation has representation on three of these (Advanced Academic Programs, Human Relations, and Students with Disabilities), as well as the Superintendent's Business and Community Advisory Committee: <http://www.fcps.edu/supt/bcac/index.htm>

Federation State Legislative Update

By Frank Anderson, Legislative Chair, Fairfax County Federation of Citizens' Associations (202) 270-9657, needs your response to his survey:

Please copy the following and email him your priorities at FedLegislationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org

Legislative Agenda Survey

Please place a check mark next to the three priorities that are most important to you (choose up to three):

- ◇ Conservation – Open space land conservation
- ◇ Education – Funding of state and federal mandates for K-12 education
- ◇ Energy – Energy conservation, including renewable and distributive energy
- ◇ Governance – Reversal of the Dillon Rule; consistency & conformity in regional planning
- ◇ Infrastructure – Funding of critical local education and transportation infrastructure needs
- ◇ Land Use – Protection of local land use authority
- ◇ Tax Structure – Modernization of state and local tax structures
- ◇ Taxation Authority – Equal taxing authority for counties, cities and towns
- ◇ Other:

Legislative Matters for Citizen Associations

Citizen associations do have more than one legislative advocate. The Federation is not the only one. The Virginia Legislative Action Committee (VALAC) is a committee of the Community Associations Institute (CAI), a national non-profit educational and resource organization dedicated to fostering vibrant, competent, harmonious community associations.

VALAC represents the interests of those affiliated with common interest communities, including homeowners, community volunteers, board members, community managers, and business partners with respect to legislation.

The legislation that VALAC monitors, supports, or opposes has a direct impact on community associations. During its recent history, VALAC has influenced legislation affecting board and committee operations, covenant enforcement, recovery of attorney's fees, reserves, non-judicial foreclosure; electronic voting and resale disclosure.

VALAC primarily reviews all House Bills and Senate Bills which affect the Virginia Condominium Act, the Virginia Non-Stock Corporation Act and the Virginia Property Owners' Association Act, and when necessary, immediately sends a Legislative Alert encouraging all CAI members to contact House Members and Senate Members.

Citizen associations may contact VALAC's legislative representatives on any issues relating to or affecting condominium associations or property owners' associations. Contact information may be found at <http://www.cai-valac.org/>

Open Letter from Greater Tysons Citizens Coalition on Funding the Infrastructure for Tysons Corner

Dear Fairfax County Supervisors,

As acknowledged in your June 22, 2010, decision on Tysons Corner, the redevelopment of Tysons Corner into a vibrant urban center requires the concurrent establishment of an extensive infrastructure, including public facilities (parks, playing fields, library), services (schools, police and fire services, water and sewer), and transportation improvements (roads, buses).

As you consider how to ensure that infrastructure and development grow in tandem and what the public-private split for the cost of the required infrastructure should be, we urge you to:

1. Establish a cost-sharing formula between the private sector and the public for building Tysons infrastructure as soon as possible, and definitely before any redevelopment projects are approved.
2. Require that developers pay their full and fair share of the entire infrastructure costs, counting in-kind and financial contributions. Consider applying the Route 28 transportation infrastructure cost-sharing formula (75% developer-25% public) to total Tysons infrastructure requirements.
3. Establish a percentage-based cost sharing formula for both developer and public payments toward Tysons infrastructure. Do not leave taxpayers potentially holding a \$1-2B bag by establishing a fixed dollar amount cap on developer payments (as occurred with the Metrorail tax district) that leaves taxpayers holding a limitless obligation once developers hit their ceiling.

Funding Tysons Infrastructure: A Taxpayer's Guide

1. The Basic Facts

On June 22, 2010, Fairfax County's Board of Supervisors approved a Comprehensive Plan Amendment for the Tysons area that:

- ◇ Permits unlimited density within ¼ mile of the four new Metro stations in Tysons Corner and increases density elsewhere in Tysons;
- ◇ Anticipates a 71% increase in jobs in Tysons (from 113,000 to 193,000) by 2050, with most of the increase by 2030;
- ◇ Anticipates more than a 500% increase in residents (from 18,500 to 103,000) by 2050, with most of the residential (and housing) increase after 2030; and
- ◇ Requires the needed infrastructure, including public facilities (parks, playing fields, library), services (schools, police and fire services, water and sewer), and transportation improvements to support this new urbanization.

The Plan requires that the development in Tysons not grow faster than the infrastructure to support the area.

2. What Is Tysons Infrastructure Going to Cost?

In 2010, County staff estimated that the required transportation improvements will cost \$1.6 Billion through 2030. Earlier, in January 2008, County staff estimated the capital costs – not including land acquisition or rental – for a 1700 square foot library at \$11.8 million and between \$11-12 million for a rescue and fire station. No other cost data has been provided for parks, schools, sewage and water, or for public safety and other public facilities.

3. How Are We Doing on Linking Infrastructure with Development?

The short answer is that it's too early to know.

We have not been informed of the extent to which infrastructure requirements are being considered in the County staff's evaluation of development proposals.

According to handouts distributed at an early December 2010 Tysons Open House meeting, six developers already have proposed redeveloping roughly 112 acres of the 1700 buildable acres within Tysons by constructing roughly 16 million square feet of mixed use development. More developer proposals are likely in the future.

If the County's Board of Supervisors does not establish a cost allocation formula that fixes a percentage of the total infrastructure costs to the developers and a percentage 2 of the cost to the taxpayers before it begins approving development plans, we taxpayers very well may find ourselves saddled with ever-growing costs. Keep in mind

what happened with the Metro-to-Dulles funding: taxes for businesses along the route were capped at a fixed dollar amount while the public is faced with ever increasing tolls on the Dulles Toll Road to pay for the difference.

4. What is the Strategy for Infrastructure Funding?

County staff has recommended an approach that seems to leave County taxpayers paying the bulk of the bills.

Instead of this "public-pays-the-most" approach, we support using the same Route 28 transportation infrastructure cost sharing formula of 75% developer-25% public contribution to pay for the entire required infrastructure – public facilities, services, and transportation improvements. This would be wholly consistent with the County framework for making Tysons a success. And, it would encourage developers to make in-kind contributions, e.g., of land for a playing field or school, as well as financial contributions since they would be credited with the former as well as the latter.

5. What Is the Proposed Funding Formula For Transportation Costs?

The County staff proposal is that the developers pay just 42% of the \$1.6 Billion tab for transportation improvements and the taxpayers throughout the County pay 58%.

The staff approach is not fair to the public. It ignores completely the fact that the enormous increases in the work force and the residential population in Tysons are driving the magnitude of required road and transit improvements. If there is to be a funding formula only for transportation improvements, a more equitable arrangement would be for the landowners to pick up the tab for all transportation improvements that are required because of their development.

6. What Is the County Approach to Funding Other Infrastructure Requirements?

Prior to adoption of the Plan, County staff had identified a number of possible approaches to acquiring the other necessary capital improvements to the Tysons infrastructure – including outright purchase, rental, and proffers from developers. County staff also had identified a number of possible funding sources – including taxes, bonds, and proffers from developers. A plan for funding for these other infrastructure requirements – parks and playing fields, schools, fire, police, emergency services, and water and sewer – remains to be determined. But, the public portion of the costs would be borne by all the taxpayers in the county, not just those in the Tysons area. 3

7. What About the Proposition That Taxes from Tysons Commercial Development Will Result in Reduced Residential Taxes Over Time?

The County staff approach assumes that increased commercial development ultimately will result in reduced residential taxes. However, this does not appear always to

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be the case in Fairfax County.

A recent in-depth analysis of Fairfax County data since 2000 by Dr. Fred Costello, Land Use Committee Chairman of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations, showed that residential real estate taxes increased at a far faster rate than non-residential gross floor area over the past decade. Furthermore, this trend, which Dr. Costello projects will continue over the coming decade, implies that increased commercial development – at least in Fairfax County – does not necessarily reduce the residential tax burden. Look at your own real estate taxes.

8. How is the County Planning to Fund the Public Portion of Tysons Infrastructure Costs and What Will This Mean for the Residential Tax Rate?

The County Staff has presented a cafeteria-style list of possible taxes and funding sources. On the tax side, these include increases to the property tax rate and/or user fees, such as a meals tax. Also under consideration is borrowing funds through the bond market. Any bonds issued would be backed by the County's general revenues, which in turn are derived from our taxes, and/or by revenues from services provided. State and federal funding would also be sought. However, the extent of funding from these sources remains very uncertain.

CONCLUSION

Any increased costs or tax rates to create the needed infrastructure to support an urbanized Tysons Corner will apply to everyone in Fairfax County. It, therefore, is essential that the Board of Supervisors establish a fair cost-sharing formula between the private sector and the public for all infrastructure support at Tysons as soon as possible, and definitely before any zoning changes are approved for the area. 4

ABOUT THIS GUIDE

This guide was prepared by members of the Greater Tysons Citizens Coalition (with representatives from the McLean Citizens Association, Town of Vienna, Providence District Council, Greater Tysons Green Civic Association and Hunter Mill Defense League). It has been endorsed by the following individuals and organizations in Fairfax County:

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