

**Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations  
Minutes for Membership Meeting on  
October 18, 2001**

President Art Wells convened the meeting at 7:30. The attached roster recorded attendance by 21 persons including directors and delegates representing 15 associations.

Program on School Bond Referendum

Charles Dane, chair of the Education Committee, explained that the announced speaker, Asst. Supt. Tom Brady, could not attend because he was accepting an award for management of facilities. Kaye Kory, School Board member from Mason District made a few remarks before introducing the speaker--Gary Chevalier, Director of Facilities Planning. Paul Regnier, Coordinator of Community Relations and liaison to the Federation also fielded questions.

Before leaving for a School Board meeting, Kaye Kory noted that the proposed bonds would not jeopardize the County's bond rating or increase the tax rate. Gary Chevalier's overview of the referendum program highlighted changes in enrollment projections, use of modular units to accommodate growth, the need for bringing older facilities up to standard, infrastructure for technology, and major maintenance projects.

Gary Chevalier and Paul Regnier answered questions about enrollment projections, selection of schools for renovation, comparative costs of new construction vs. modular units, adequacy of play areas, reductions in capacity as a result of special programs, the needs that would be unmet by the referendum proposal, and the feasibility of saving money and/or time through lease back of schools built by the private sector. They promised to provide specific information requested on projected cost of debt service for the proposed bond sales. Fact books published by the Community School Bond Committee were distributed.

Mason Neck Land Swap

Dolores Moseke of the Mason Neck Association announced that the land swap between BLM and Lynch had been completed that day.

Resolution on School Bond Referendum

Charles Dane distributed copies of the attached resolution on the school bond referendum, which was developed by the Education Committee and amended by the Board of Directors. The resolution was posted on the Chantilly Highlands web site but was not distributed in advance of the meeting because a newsletter was not published in October and the Federation's new web site had not been activated. He called for a suspension of the rules in order to vote on the resolution before the November election. *Both suspension of the rules and the resolution on the school bond referendum were approved unanimously (with correction of a date from 2011 to 2008).*

George Waters of the Lake Barcroft Association, who is Mason District representative to the Fairfax County Citizens for 2001 School Bond, called attention to the fact sheets and

posters available from that group. ([www.fairfaxschoolbond.org](http://www.fairfaxschoolbond.org)) He offered to help publicize the Federation's support of the referendum, which also will be sent to the Alliance for Fair School Funding.

Jack Knowles distributed a supportive resolution on the school bond referendum, which was approved by the Education Committee and the Board of Directors of the Mount Vernon Council, subject to approval by the Council on October 24.

#### Proposed Changes to the Bylaws

Art Wells reviewed the history of proposed changes to the Bylaws, including the intensive effort by the Board of Directors over the summer with assistance from a professional registered parliamentarian. He noted that the proposed changes printed on white paper had been circulated in the September Bulletin, and that the three additional changes printed on yellow paper had been approved by the Board of Directors in October but not distributed, thereby requiring a suspension of the rules.

*After approval of a motion to suspend the rules, a motion was made and seconded to adopt the proposed revision of the Bylaws, including the three amendments proposed by the Board of Directors.*

Bill Hanks, delegate from Fairfax Villa/Cavalier Woods, distributed the attached paper with references to the revised bylaws as proposed in the February newsletter, and an amendment to replace Article V, Section 6, of the proposed bylaws published in the September Federation newsletter with:

“Section 6. Only delegates and alternate delegates present and certified under Bylaw Article III, Section 3, shall have the right to move, second and vote. Delegations representing less than 100 housing units shall cast one vote; delegations representing 100 through 1000 housing units shall cast two votes; delegations representing more than 1000 housing units shall cast three votes. The right to speak or raise a point of order shall extend to a) Directors identified under Bylaw Article VI, Section 1 and b) former Association Presidents (deemed Federation Members-for-Life). Recognition of other present who may provide expertise on a specific subject matter shall be at the discretion of the presiding officer.”

After presentation of Bill Hanks' rationale, the president and directors who advocated allowing all directors to vote as members presented their beliefs that such a change would increase participation of experts as Federation committee chairs and would reward the hard work of directors. Those who supported the amendment expressed their beliefs that enlarging the class of members to include all directors would not be in the best interests of the Federation, might decrease membership, and could create a conflict between the Bylaws and the Articles of Incorporation. After discussion of the pros and cons, including an offer by Bill Bailey to seek amendments to the Articles of Incorporation if needed, the membership suspended the rules and adopted the amendment by a vote of 28 to 8.

John Jennison, delegate from the Mantua Citizens Association, moved that Article VI, Section 6 be amended to increase the quorum for meetings of the Board of Directors from 8 to 10. *After seconding and discussion, the amendment failed on a vote of 3 to 25.*

*The vote on the main motion to approve the revised Bylaws as amended was approved unanimously: 33 for, and 0 opposed.* Art Wells complimented members on the quality and civility of their exchanges during the discussion of the Bylaw revisions.

George Waters, delegate from the Lake Barcroft Association, stated his hope that the directors would not interpret either of the amendments presented as lack of appreciation for the expertise and efforts of the Directors.

Art Wells indicated that a policies and procedures manual will be developed by the directors this year, and invited input from the member associations. He also initiated the members' expression of appreciation for the extraordinary work of Sally Ormsby on the Transportation study and resolution presented at the September meeting, the revision of the Bylaws, and the development of the 2002 Legislative Program.

#### Approval of the Minutes of the Membership Meeting on September 20, 2001

Recording Secretary Mary Anne Lecos presented the attached minutes, *which were approved unanimously.*

#### Audit Committee Report/Treasurer's Report

Treasurer Charles Dane read the report of the Audit Committee, the first since 1997, with the committee's recommendations for improving financial management and stewardship of Federation resources. He noted how these recommendations are being implemented, including a change in the bylaws and adoption of a new format for monthly treasurer's reports. The balance on October 18, including dues and bills received at this meeting is \$1255.94. *Members received the Audit Committee report and approved the Treasurer's report by a vote of 28 to 0.*

#### New Federation Web Site

Web Site Coordinator Merrily Price announced that the new and improved web site is operating at [www.fairfaxfederation.org](http://www.fairfaxfederation.org). From now on, summaries of meetings, notices, proposed resolutions, and other Federation business will be posted at this site. An e-mail address ( [president@fairfaxfederation.org](mailto:president@fairfaxfederation.org) ) has not yet been connected. A council web page is being tested with assistance from Mike Tobias of the Hunter Mill Council.

Costs for site maintenance will be approximately \$325 per year if Federation volunteers will assist with updating. Further development of the Federation's capabilities for electronic communication will depend on cooperation of all member associations as well as the Board of Directors.

Merrily asked about members' willingness to use the Federation site to encourage donations to non-profit charitable organizations through a link to United Way Fairfax/Falls Church. Some objected to an exclusive link to United Way but approved of

posting a message encouraging associations and their members to support non-profit organizations at a time of greatly increased demand for their services.

All present, especially those who have used the new site, expressed appreciation for Merrily's efforts.

Next Meetings

Board meeting at 7:30 p.m. on October 25. Agenda items: additions to the Legislative Program, planning for the Awards Banquet, budget and financial management.

Membership meeting at 7:30 p.m. on November 15. Speaker: Supervisor Gerald Connolly. Agenda items: Approval of the 2002 Legislative Program (posted at the Federation web site).