

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations  
Board Meeting of June 30, 2005

The meeting of the FCFCA board was held at the Packard Center at 7:30 p.m. (Attendance list is attached.)

Business Meeting

a. Merrily Pierce, the Federation's representative to and chair of the Citizen Corps, presented a proposal to work with District Council chairs to distribute information packets in connection with the National Night Out program, with a packet to be supplied to each neighborhood or community group observing National Night Out (August 2). The content will include local emergency preparedness materials and a letter from the Federation, with a Federation brochure if possible. There are about 100 packets needed, and the Federation Board can assemble them at the Board's next meeting on July 28. She also suggested that the Federation establish an emergency preparedness committee.

b. President-elect John Jennison noted that the issue of local emergency preparedness is an opportunity for the Federation to connect with local neighborhoods and associations. He and Merrily are on a regional organization to develop a consistent local emergency preparedness message. He sees the National Night Out packets as an example of other opportunities for the Federation to be involved in this issue.

c. Patrick Rea discussed the membership renewal letter that will go out soon, which he will write, and requested a copy of the one from last year. Bill Hanks suggested that there should be two letters, one for current and former member associations and another for associations that have never belonged to the Federation.

d. President Carol Hawn reported that of two designers contacted for the brochure, one seemed more appropriate and is interested in working on it. She would charge \$80 an hour for 8 to 10 hours of work, for a total charge of \$640 to \$800. The Board decided to offer up to \$600 given that this is a simple brochure with no photography. The Board also agreed on the following specifications: 2 colors, 8 1/2 by 11 paper (folded by the printer).

e. President Carol Hawn distributed a list of confirmed meeting dates she has reserved at the Packard Center. After the end of her term on July 1, she will continue to handle the Federation newsletter and the postcard mailings. She plans to mail both items a week earlier than in the past and has included newsletter deadlines in the list of meeting dates.

f. Esther Ferington distributed the membership minutes for May 19, which the June membership meeting had given the Board the authority to approve. The Board approved the minutes as amended. The minutes for the Board meetings of April 28 and May 26, previously distributed by e-mail, were also approved as amended.

g. President Carol Hawn reported that she had spoken with Chairman Gerry Connolly about including a Federation representative on the Tysons Corner Transportation and Urban Design Study Coordinating Committee, but that this had not been resolved as yet.

h. President-Elect John Jennison reviewed four proposed initiatives he had circulated via e-mail, including: a debate between candidates for governor, lieutenant governor, or attorney general; a forum on growth, traffic, and school impacts on the Fort Belvoir area

in light of the BRAC recommendations; awarding a citation of merit to one or more county reservist families as part of the Citizen of the Year program; and a forum on Tysons-Vienna development planning.

It was noted that the Chamber of Commerce has scheduled a debate for the candidates for governor, so it's better for the Federation to focus on the attorney general or lieutenant governor candidates. Carey Campbell noted that if the debate were for the governor level, all three candidates should be invited; Carol Hawn confirmed that all certified candidates must appear in any debate co-sponsored by the League of Women Voters. The Board agreed to pursue co-sponsoring a debate for the lieutenant governor or attorney general candidates with the District Councils and the League of Women Voters. Sally Ormsby will follow up with the League. Tentative dates are September 27 or October 25.

The forum regarding the impact of growth in and around Fort Belvoir is meant to focus on steps to cope with these changes, and would be held regardless of any change to the BRAC recommendations. Growth and traffic pressures, greatly increased by the post-9/11 closure of all roads through Fort Belvoir, require attention in any case. Patrick Rea will work with John Jennison to put together the forum and a timeline. Participants in the forum may include representatives of the schools, VDOT, Metro, and county, state, and federal officials. A mid-November date is likely. One possible location is the South County Government Center; others mentioned were the Mount Vernon High School theater and the county substation near Mount Vernon Hospital. The event would be co-sponsored by the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Associations.

The Board liked the idea of recognizing a reservist family from the county as a way of honoring all such families, but was not sure how to select the honorees. Charles Dane will draft a set of criteria for the Board's review.

The Board discussed the idea for a Tysons-Vienna forum for the spring of 2006, but decided not to make a definite decision at this time.

i. Sally Ormsby noted that the March date for the Citizen of the Year banquet worked well in 2005 and she recommends the same timeframe for 2006. The deadline for nominations (including for the reservist family for a citation of merit) would therefore be January 15. Carol Hawn, as immediate past president, will head the Selection Committee. President Carol Hawn reported that the Washington Post payment for the 2005 banquet has not been received. Sally Ormsby suggested requesting their contribution earlier next time, because they have changed to a different payment system.

j. Patrick Rea noted that Jeff Parnes will be the new webmaster. He mentioned that the Mount Vernon Council link is not working at present, and that he would like his (Patrick Rea's) direct contact information listed on the website, including his name and telephone number, to promote easier contact with the Federation.

k. Esther Ferington requested an up-to-date list of names and contact information for the new Federation officers, committee chairs, and District Council representatives, as well as a list of the Federation representatives on boards, authorities, and commissions, for her records as Recording Secretary.

l. Bill Hanks noted that the Federation's AHOME dues have now been paid and that the location of the July 11 meeting has changed. The Affordable Housing Advisory Committee has now met.

m. Sally Ormsby reported on the availability of mugs for the Federation, but as the hour was late, the Board agreed to discuss and decide on mugs at the next Board meeting.

n. President Carol Hawn mentioned that Scott Fridy has asked whether the Federation still needs storage space downstairs at the Packard Center.

Next Membership Meeting:

Thursday, September 15, 2005 (no membership meeting in August)

Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, July 28, 2005

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.