

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations
Board Meeting of September 22, 2005
MINUTES

The meeting of the FCFCA Board was held at the Packard Center at 7:30 p.m. Those present included President John Jennison, Patrick Rea, Judy Harbeck, Carol Hawn, Sally Ormsby, Steve DelBianco, Charles Dane, Esther Ferington, Bill Hanks, Jeffrey Parnes, and Art Wells.

Business Meeting

- a. The Board reviewed and approved the minutes for the August 25 Board meeting.
- b. Jeff Parnes reported that the Treasurer's Report was the same as the one presented the previous week at the membership meeting.
- c. President John Jennison reported that the Board meeting on the county budget scheduled for March 9 is too early; the timing will be adjusted. The membership meeting with County Executive Tony Griffin will be held on April 6, not March 23; the "report from Richmond" membership meeting will be held on April 27 instead of April 23.
- d. President John Jennison reported John Fee and Kevin Magnus have agreed to serve on the Audit Committee and he is the process of naming the third member.
- e. Jeffrey Parnes, Carol Hawn, and Pat Rea will work together on the membership address database and a separate working session will be planned for this purpose.
- f. The Washington Post check for last year's Citizen of the Year banquet has not yet been received; President John Jennison will confer with Sally Ormsby and Carol Hawn.
- g. Steve DelBianco, the new Land Use chair, reported on a staff briefing meeting on ZOAs in Dranesville, which included 15 proposals; he encouraged members to attend similar meetings around the county in the next three weeks. Many items were noncontroversial at the meeting he attended. Those that provoked comment included changes to make it easier to put two homes on one lot and to make it easier to build a larger house through adjustments to setbacks. The sense of that meeting was to explore language to prevent ZOAs that would fulfill either of those two purposes.

Jeff Parnes asked if a full Land Use committee is being formed; if not, he suggested Steve may wish to be in touch with District Council land use chairs, such as himself.

- h. Sally Ormsby presented the proposed Federation legislative program for this year's General Assembly. Charles Dane reported that the Education committee had met regarding the education-related portions of the program; the committee's suggested revisions will be sent via e-mail to those present at the Board meeting.

The balance of the legislative program was reviewed with small changes that will be reflected in the program as presented to the membership. The Board reviewed four new positions that were presented separately, and incorporated three of them. A question was raised about legislation regarding the Kelo ruling on eminent domain; Sally Ormsby will check if the Board of Supervisors is taking a position. If so, she will provide it as a proposed amendment at the membership meeting.

The Board thanked Sally Ormsby and voted to recommend the program as amended to the membership, to include the forthcoming e-mail exchange on education issues.

i. Charles Dane reported from the Education Committee that Mary Anne Lecos is serving as the Federation representative to a group advising a consultant on the issue of new school hours (reversing elementary and high-school starting times). The committee will keep the Board informed on that process and the consultant's recommendation.

He also reported that the committee's representative to the school system's Gifted and Talented Advisory Committee has a schedule conflict with those meetings and the Education committee may need to change its representation. It will seek at first to do so within the Education committee's current members.

j. President John Jennison complimented Carol Hawn on the September newsletter and asked for the deadline for the October newsletter. She stated material was due as soon as possible. Contents will include the draft minutes for the September membership meeting, the legislative program, and the President's message.

k. Sally Ormsby reported that the Providence District Council held debates for the two candidates in the 35th district and the four candidates in the 37th district. About 100 people attended. The League of Women Voters moderated the debates.

l. Esther Ferington was asked to contact the Fairfax Families Care program for Katrina evacuees to learn more about it and to see how the Federation might assist in its efforts.

m. Charles Dane presented a resolution from the Education committee on the upcoming school bond. He and Sally Ormsby will refine the wording. The Board recommended that the resolution, as amended, be presented to the membership for approval.

n. President John Jennison asked about Federation representation at the Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (DEQ) community meeting.

o. The Board voted 3 to 2 against making a \$100 contribution to the Virginia Urban Forest Council's tree conference, with \$50 to pay for one Federation representative to attend, and \$50 to serve as a sponsorship donation. Instead, the Board voted in favor of paying a \$50 fee to have a Federation representative attend the conference.

p. Charles Dane sought a clarification that a member of the Education committee does not have to come from a citizens association that belongs to the Federation. The Board agreed there is no such requirement.

Next Membership Meeting:

Thursday, October 20, 2005 (legislative program; no guest speaker)

Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, October 27, 2005

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.