

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations
Membership Meeting of September 15, 2005
MINUTES

The meeting of FCFCA was held at the Packard Center at 7:30 p.m. (Attendance list is attached.) Note: The speakers were delayed and some Federation business was conducted before the program. For simplicity, the program is recorded here first, followed by the business meeting. President John Jennison introduced Officer Thomas Black of the Fairfax County Police, McLean District Station.

Program —

Officer Black is involved with crime prevention efforts for the McLean District, including Neighborhood Watch programs. The number of these programs is growing rapidly, with 85 in McLean. Today's Neighborhood Watch programs are created to suit the needs of particular neighborhoods. The programs often address quality-of-life issues, as well as emergency preparedness. For the police, they add many eyes and ears, and are vital to a force of 1100 to 1200 officers in a county of 1.1 million people.

Officer Black also advises a variety of Fairfax County corporations on their operational emergency plans, including many in Tysons Corner. It is hoped to expand this outreach program throughout the county. Officer Black answered questions on plans for emergency services during a power outage, including the availability of satellite telephones; emergency planning by schools, nursing homes, and hospitals; planning for mass evacuations; and planning for family members who are separated during the day.

President John Jennison next introduced Merrily Pierce, the Federation's Public Safety chair, who is also chair of the county's Citizen Corps. She announced that September has been declared "Fairfax Prepares" month, and presented a "Ready...Pack...Go" poster that could be posted in any neighborhood center. For more information on the Citizen Corps and Ready...Pack...Go, go to www.fairfaxcountycitizen corps.gov.

President John Jennison then presented Debbie van der Beek of the American Red Cross, who provided a demonstration of the contents of a typical emergency kit. These included enough supplies for a family to be self-sufficient for 2 to 3 days, including food, water, toiletries, bedding, a battery-powered radio, fresh batteries, hand tools, duct tape, a flashlight with batteries (or glowsticks), medicines, comfort items such as playing cards, copies of important papers, extra glasses or contact lenses, and eye prescriptions.

She noted that the American Red Cross advises families NOT to use candles and matches in an emergency, because of the fire hazard. Also, stored water normally has an expiration date and should be replaced as needed. Water set aside after September 11, 2001, has probably gone bad now.

The National Capital Region preparedness campaign includes training 25 core trainers who will train others. President John Jennison has received this training and reviewed the presentation. It included the need to assemble contact information for helpers such as out-of-state family members, coworkers, and neighbors; how to purify water without power; and planning for elderly neighbors and for pets.

Business Meeting —

- a. The minutes for the June 23 meeting were approved unanimously as written.
- b. It was noted that some had not received the Bulletin; others had gotten it some days earlier.
- c. Sally Ormsby presented a resolution on value analysis and value management. It was unanimously approved.
- d. President John Jennison reported on Patrick Rea's behalf that membership letters are in progress. He also announced the appointment of a new Land Use chair, Steve DelBianco.

e. Flint Webb reported that the region had had no exceedances of the 1-hour ozone standard this season, but 17 of the 8-hour standard.

f. Jeff Parnes reported that the Bulletin will be posted on the website. Officers will be available through special e-mail addresses. He hopes to assemble a list of member addresses. In serving as webmaster, he will be building on the work of Merrily Pierce. Any suggestions should be sent to him at webmaster@fairfaxfederation.org. President John Jennison thanked Merrily Pierce and Jeff Parnes for their efforts.

g. Jeff Parnes reviewed the proposed budget for this fiscal year. It was unanimously approved as amended. He then presented the Treasurer's Report for September.

h. President John Jennison announced that 75 Federation mugs have been purchased for presentation to guest speakers. Members may also obtain one through a donation of \$5 to the Federation.

i. Art Wells reported that the Braddock District Council is sponsoring a Neighborhood College series of evening classes from October 6 to November 17 on the nuts and bolts of citizen involvement. The contact is Nicole Velardi at 703-533-5701 and the location is Supervisor Bulova's office at the Kings Park Library. Charles Dane suggested that this information be included in the next Bulletin.

j. Judy Harbeck reported the Mount Vernon Council looks forward to the meeting co-sponsored with the Federation on the impact of the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) recommendations.

k. Sally Ormsby reported the Providence District Council held a special meeting in August to review resolutions on stream reclassification, the Wedderburn rezoning, and the Fairlee MetroWest Transportation Demand Management report. They will hold a campaign debate for candidates from the 35th and 37th districts on September 20.

l. Sally Ormsby asked members to let her know of any suggestions or concerns related to state legislation as it affects the county, for possible inclusion in the Federation's legislative program.

m. Under old business, President John Jennison reported that although arrangements had been made for a debate between the lieutenant governor or attorney general candidates, Bill Bolling and Bob McDonnell had not accepted the invitation, so neither debate will be held.

n. Sally Ormsby reported that the dates of March 12 and 19 are on hold at the Fairview Marriott for the Citizen of the Year banquet; the choice of date will depend on the speaker's availability. Please contact John Jennison with ideas for whom to invite as the speaker.

o. Carol Hawn reported that the brochure proof has been received and she will e-mail it for review by a small number of Board members, for proofing changes only. President John Jennison thanked her and Esther Ferington for their work on the brochure.

p. Under new business, Esther Ferington asked for information about deer management. Merrily Pierce explained that each supervisor's office has a staff person tasked with this responsibility.

q. Also under new business, Esther Ferington described the new Fairfax Families Care program, established in cooperation with the county to provide for Hurricane Katrina evacuees in the county.

Next Membership Meeting: October 20, 2005 (review of Federation's legislative program).

Next Board Meeting: September 22, 2005.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.