

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations
Board Meeting of October 27, 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, Steve DelBianco, Walt Sisson, Mike Thompson, Merrily Pierce, Sally Ormsby, Earl Flanagan, Bill Hanks, Carol Hawn, Esther Ferington, Charles Dane, Art Wells, Becky Cate, Flint Webb, and Judy Harbeck.

Business Meeting

a. The Board reviewed and approved the minutes for the September 22 Board meeting as amended.

b. A motion was made, seconded, and passed unanimously to approve the following appointments: Walt Sisson and Flint Webb as Environmental co-chairs, Earl Flanagan and Roger Hoskin as Transportation co-chairs, and Becky Cate to continue as Federation representative on the Fairfax County Non-Motorized Transportation Trails Committee.

c. The Treasurer's Report for September was reviewed. There have been many new membership checks coming in due to Patrick Rea's recent mailing. The Washington Post check for last year's Citizen of the Year banquet has not been received and Carol Hawn will check on this with the Post.

d. The Board discussed the need to capture membership information for the database for use in sending out the newsletter; recording member associations; and contacting them for renewals. Carol Hawn, Patrick Rea, John Jennison, and Jeff Parnes will meet to discuss this, but will defer any meeting until after Election Day.

e. President John Jennison reported that Patrick Rea had sent out 87 membership letters. He also reported that the January membership meeting speaker has been confirmed, but that the December 15 speaker (Dana Kauffman) has not been confirmed. In Patrick Rea's absence, he reported that Congressman Jim Moran and a representative from Fort Belvoir were invited for the November 17 membership meeting in the Mount Vernon District. The Board asked that Congressman Tom Davis be invited as well.

President Jennison announced that in the future, Carey Campbell, as second vice president, will get reports from each committee chair and report to the Board on their behalf. As Carey was not present, the chairs reported for themselves as in the past.

f. Steve delBianco of Land Use reported that the Department of Planning's listening sessions have continued, producing lists of comments that are posted online but are unfocused. He suggested that the Federation should submit a list of recommendations as well, rather than a resolution. He provided a draft list for the Board's review. The Board asked him to share the links he referred to on the county's website, for review by Board members and discussion by member associations.

g. Walt Sisson and Flint Webb of the Environmental Committee reported that the committee and Sally Ormsby met with Supervisor Lynda Smyth, James Patterson, Jimmie Jenkins, and Ken Lawrence on stream reclassification. Notice will go to every upstream property from a stream being reclassified and to properties within 150 feet

downstream; there will be no other public notice, as currently planned, except to one citizens or homeowners association. The Board expressed concern about the lack of notification to all associations. The 26 criteria used to classify all streams in the county will no longer be used. The county is now moving to a policy of observing streams instead. The committee is looking for some way to protect intermittent streams.

h. Sally Ormsby of the Legislative Committee said she will sign up President John Jennison to testify on November 21 on the Federation's legislative agenda. In last month's Board minutes, it was stated that Carol Hawn would prepare the packets. Sally Ormsby, Carol Hawn, and John Jennison will talk offline about this.

i. Earl Flanagan of the Transportation Committee explained he and Roger Hoskin will be co-chairing the committee. Earl will come to the Board meetings and Roger will come to the membership meetings. They want to address the opportunity for citizen input in the transportation policy review and Area Plan Review (APR) process. Also, changes in the transportation policy plans are no longer clearly presented side-by-side with the old plans, making them more difficult to locate and review. He was asked to provide a synopsis of Transportation Committee plans for the year for the newsletter.

j. Carol Hawn reported for the Human Services Committee on efforts to meet the HUD requirement for a 10-year plan to end homelessness in Fairfax County. The Planning Committee to End Homelessness is tackling this project. President John Jennison noted that there are two additional seats available for representatives to this group.

k. Charles Dane reported for the Education Committee that he had attended the last meeting of the advisory council on a change in school schedules to allow a later start for high schools. A significant increase in buses would be required to keep uniform bell schedules across the county; the council supported a new review based on modest bell schedule differences, and this recommendation will go to the School Board. He reported that the Federation resolution on the School Board was distributed to the "Yes" group working to pass the bond and to the district council representatives.

l. Merrily Pierce of the Public Safety Committee was present but had no public safety report. Instead, she urged emergency consideration of the fast-track amendment being proposed for the approval process for private use of public facilities. The issue has arisen because of the McLean playing field dispute but the amendment would have a countywide effect. She made a motion that the Federation oppose not only this amendment, but also the substantive change regarding the playing fields. A substitute amendment was moved, asking that the Planning Commission decision be deferred for 90 days to allow for public consideration, and not taking a position on the playing fields matter. The substitute amendment passed by 9 to 2. The Board then voted on the new motion (that is, the former substitute amendment) and it passed unanimously. As the meeting was being held that night, and because her prepared testimony for another group was generally in line with the Federation's new position in favor of deferral, Becky Cate agreed to include the Federation's statement in her testimony.

m. Carol Hawn reminded the group that the next newsletter deadline (for November) was the next day. This will be a small newsletter, but the Board had decided to do it to emphasize the different location for the next membership meeting.

n. Carol Hawn reported on the two printer's bids for the brochure from Classic Printing and Century Printing for three different print run quantities. The figures were extremely close, so the decision was in favor of the printer whom the designer had worked with before. The Board decided on a print run of 5000 copies by Classic Printing, for which an estimate of \$722 had been received. Carol Hawn also reported that she had sent the designer's invoice to Jeff Parnes for the agreed price of \$600, plus a sales tax of \$30.

o. Carol Hawn also reported on the Files and Furniture agenda item. We still can't physically access our files as other groups have placed materials on top of them. The building management is addressing this. At some point we will need to straighten up the files (when accessible) as a group project.

p. Judy Harbeck reported from the Mount Vernon Council that the group is looking forward to the BRAC meeting it is co-sponsoring with the Federation next month.

q. Sally Ormsby asked if the Values Analysis/Management resolution had been submitted to the Board of Supervisors and was asked to re-transmit it to President John Jennison.

r. The Board agreed to defer consideration of both resolutions on the agenda until the next Board meeting. Sally Ormsby asked to defer any eminent domain resolution on possible action by the state legislature until after the county takes a position in late November.

s. Flint Webb gave a head's up on a legislative matter not yet before the state. The COG MWAQ group, to which he is the Federation representative, is to have a state implementation plan for air quality in place by the end of the year, for state legislative action next year.

t. Art Wells asked for clarification on the purpose of the BRAC meeting next month. President John Jennison said it is to learn what's happening in the county and what changes the county will have to make, perhaps lead to some resolution of the challenge at hand, to gather and disseminate information, and to pay attention to how much in costs will be deferred to the county and state.

u. Esther Ferington gave an abbreviated report to the Board, as requested in last month's minutes, on the division of roles between the Fairfax Families Care organization, which is focused on fund-raising, and the coordinated services group headed by the county which is addressing the needs of Katrina evacuees in Fairfax County.

Next Membership Meeting:

Thursday, November 17, 2005, in Mount Vernon District, on impact of BRAC in county

Next Board Meeting:

Thursday, December 1, 2005

Meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.