

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations  
Membership Meeting of October 20, 2005  
MINUTES

The meeting of FCFCA was held at the Packard Center at 7:30 p.m. (Attendance list is attached.) First Vice-President Patrick Rea presided. There was no guest speaker this month to allow time for review of the proposed legislative program.

Business Meeting —

a. The minutes for the September 15 meeting were approved unanimously as written.

b. Bill Hanks gave a report on AHOME (Affordable Housing Opportunity Means Everyone). AHOME was founded in 1985 by the Federation, the Northern Virginia Association of Realtors, the Northern Virginia Business and Industry Association, and the Chamber of Commerce. Bill Hanks has represented the Federation on the AHOME Board since 1993 and has served as part-time AHOME Executive Director since 1999. AHOME has successfully advocated for an affordable dwelling unit ordinance both locally and statewide, among other policy positions. It just held its first annual awards breakfast, marking a new level of fundraising. Fairfax Board of Supervisors Chairman Gerald Connolly received the individual award and McGuire Woods received the institutional award.

c. Charles Dane presented a resolution in support of the upcoming school bond referendum. The resolution was approved unanimously as written.

d. Sally Ormsby reviewed the proposed 2006 Federation legislative program, previously distributed through the Federation Bulletin. A proposal to amend transportation-related sections in the Infrastructure section was circulated, but there was no proponent present to put it forward. Following a request at the last Board meeting, Sally Ormsby also presented a draft amendment addressing eminent domain. It was decided not to add this to the legislative program, and the topic was deferred to the Board for possible consideration. The legislative program with a couple of technical corrections was unanimously approved. Patrick Rea thanked Sally Ormsby for her efforts.

Sally Ormsby noted that there will be a Board of Supervisors meeting on November 21, at which President John Jennison or Patrick Rea can testify regarding the Federation program. Carol Hawn will prepare the legislative program packets.

e. Charles Dane noted there are two new members of the Education Committee, Laura Mead and Bettina Lawton. This year, the committee has asked Jeff Parnes to update its part of the website, which has been done. It will try to have a report for each newsletter from one of its representatives on other bodies. The committee will meet with Pam Tobey in November regarding school support for grants. The Federation membership meeting in January will be with Deputy Superintendent Brad Draeger, who will discuss the budget and the impact of No Child Left Behind.

f. Mary Anne Lecos of the Education Committee is in a group advising a consultant assessing whether the school schedule can be revised so that high schools start later than 7:10 or 7:20 a.m. She reported that this issue has been reviewed in the past, but due to technical advances, this consultant has been able to make more use of modeling software. The consultant's work is proceeding quickly.

g. Sally Ormsby reported that Merrily Pierce, who could not be present, will stay on as chair of the Citizens Corps through the calendar year. She recommends the County Executive's presentation on emergency preparedness. Jeff Parnes noted there is a link to this report on the Federation website as well as a link to the emergency information from the county.

h. Patrick Rea reported that the membership letters are ready and will be mailed.

i. Flint Webb reported that the Environmental Committee met October 11 to discuss stream reclassification before the recent Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC) meeting. Citizens are invited to participate in an October 26 workshop at the Council of Governments board room organized by the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee, which is seeking input on new and innovative ways to restrict air pollution. The next Green Breakfast will be on the county's Tree Action Plan and will be on November 12. The Environmental Committee will prepare an article on ambient air standards for the next newsletter.

Walt Sisson, the new Environmental co-chair, said he appreciates the opportunity to serve. He reported that the committee's next meeting on October 25 will be with Supervisor Lynda Smith and Jimmie Jenkins, Director of the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services (DPWES), to discuss stream reclassification in a smaller group setting.

j. Jeff Parnes reviewed the Treasurer's Report, which was approved unanimously.

k. Jeff Parnes reported on recent changes to the website. There are now e-mail aliases for all officers, district council representatives, and committee chairs on the Contact Us page. He encouraged committee chairs to contact him to create e-mail lists for use within their individual committees; the committees can then be addressed using a single e-mail alias. He has also asked committee chairs and district council representatives to let him know of desired changes to their web pages within the site.

The membership meeting agenda is being posted online prior to the meeting. There will be a repository of PDFs of the Federation Bulletin and the Board is discussing the possibility of scanning archival copies of past Bulletins. In addition, there will be a way for associations to join the Federation online. He also plans to develop an opt-in mailing list for Federation members to receive Federation-related e-mails.

l. It was announced that Earl Flanagan has agreed to serve as the Federation's Transportation chair.

m. Judy Harbeck reported from the Mount Vernon District Council on the upcoming Federation membership meeting co-sponsored with the Council. The topic is the impact of the BRAC changes at Fort Belvoir. The meeting will be November 17 at 7:30 at Walt Whitman Middle School (near the Sherwood Hall library and INOVA Mount Vernon Hospital). Guest speakers will include Supervisor Gerald Hyland and representatives from Fairfax County Public Schools and the county transportation office. A map is available on the Federation website and will be in the November newsletter.

n. Roger Hoskin reported the Mason District Council has just held a lively candidates night.

o. Carol Hawn reported that she has two printers' bids for the brochure. Consideration of the bids was deferred to the Board meeting. She will send the separate, previously approved design invoice from Wolf Run Studios to Jeff Parnes for payment.

p. Sally Ormsby reported that March 9 and 16 have been reserved as alternate dates for the Citizen of the Year banquet, pending the chosen speaker's schedule. Carol Hawn has updated the nomination form for this year and will supply it to Jeff Parnes for posting on the website.

Next Membership Meeting: NOTE special location (Walt Whitman Middle School in the Mount Vernon District). November 17, 2005, the impact of BRAC; see item "m" above for details.

Next Board Meeting: October 27, 2005.

Meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.