

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations
Board Meeting Minutes
April 24, 2008

Meeting Attendance: Jeff Parnes, Charles Dane, Esther Ferington, Scott Schlegel, Art Wells, Flint Webb, Sally Ormsby, Carol Hawn and Jim Davis.

Absent: Tania Hossain, Merrily Pierce, John Jennison, Jim Colby, Roger Hoskin, Bill Hanks and District Council Reps Mike Thompson, Rebecca Cate and Don Hinman.

- I. Calendar
 - A. May 15 Membership meeting: Report from Richmond. Jeff has received confirmation (either in writing or verbally from: Senators Ken Cuccinelli, Richard Saslaw, and Delegates Mark Sickles, Tom Rust and understood that Senator Chap Petersen and Delegate Margaret Vanderhye wished to attend.
 - B. Jeff took the action to make sure he has written confirmations from each speaker [AI 1](#)
 - C. There was concern that we will have more elected officials than we have audience. Esther suggested that we send a reminder e-mail to the membership encouraging participation in the May meeting. [AI 2](#)
 - D. June 19 Membership meeting: Picnic Gerry Connolly will be the featured speaker
- II. Rotating Board Secretaries
 - A. Roger Hoskins was supposed to be Board Secretary for this meeting but he was not in attendance so Flint Webb volunteered with the understanding that he would be skipped over for the next rotation.
 - B. Art Wells will be the secretary for the May Board meeting
 - C. Jim Davis is slated to be secretary for the June Board meeting
- III. Approval of Board Meeting Minutes
 - A. November Board Meeting Minutes:
 1. The minutes were approved but Jeff was not certain that he had the final version. [AI 3](#)
 - B. December Board Meeting Minutes:
 1. Jeff was not sure that the December minutes had been approved because the January minutes were missing.
 - C. January Board Meeting Minutes
 1. Jeff could not find a copy of the January Board Meeting Minutes. [AI 4](#)
 - D. March Board Meeting Minutes
 1. The Board started reviewing the minutes but it appeared the minutes did not include edits provided by Charles and Esther provided to Bill. [AI 5](#)
- IV. Treasurer's Report
 - A. Income is approximately half what was budgeted (before Washington Post contribution for COY Dinner) but expenses are down by approximately the same amount.
 - B. In the mail Charlie brought to the meeting was a letter from David Jones at the Washington Post.
 1. The letter included a check for \$1,500
 2. Jeff read the letter. Mr. Jones required that in exchange for the check that the Federation provide a report within 90 days of the completion of the fiscal year with the following:
 - a. A summary of the program, including the number of people served, dates and other pertinent information about the dinner,
 - b. An evaluation of the program
 - c. Names of key individuals who were involved.
 3. Scott will prepare the report with Sally Ormsby providing a program if needed. [AI 6](#)
 - C. Sally wondered if we had paid the dues to the State Corporations Commission.
 1. Sally said that we need to find out how our "Agent" is because the "Agent" is supposed to fill out the paperwork. [AI 7](#)
 - D. Cash on hand = \$8,329.95
 - E. Jeff requested that Scott put together a budget for next year for the next Board meeting. [AI 8](#)
 1. We made the goal of increasing membership by 50% so Jeff suggested that we include a goal of increasing membership an additional 50% for next year as well.
 - a. Charles felt that the "new" members this year were simply old members that had lapsed and that getting 50% more for next year would be a more difficult goal.

2. Carol was concerned that we are probably sending newsletters out to a lot of lapsed members. [AI 9](#) & [AI 10](#)
- F. Scott brought up the need to update the current version of Quicken Quickbooks because the version the Federation owns is no longer going to be supported.
1. Jeff suggested that he include the price in the budget
 2. Scott suggested that there are several versions and wondered if we needed any of the features in the advanced version. Jeff did not think we did.
 3. Jeff pointed out that we might be able to get an earlier version which will still be serviceable. Scott said that he was planning to look into whether Quickbooks is available through Fairfax County Schools discounted software program.
- V. Organizational Topics
- A. Board Vacancies: Tanya has resigned from Chair of Human Services Committee
- B. Revised Membership/Dues Structure
1. Charles handed out information about the dues structure for Montgomery County Civic Federation and a proposal for revising the Fairfax County Federation of Civic Associations.
 2. Sally asked if Charlie had looked into the dues structure for the Arlington County Federation. [AI 11](#)
 3. The Montgomery County Federation allows individual and businesses to be members but they get no votes.
 4. Montgomery County also gives a discount for electronic newsletters
 - a. Jeff envisages that rather than providing a discount to members that do not get hard copy newsletters we would charge extra to members who want hard copy newsletters – the default is therefore for electronic newsletters.
 5. The Montgomery County Federation did not have membership category for umbrella organizations like the Reston Citizens Association.
 - a. Charlie proposed that umbrella organizations should be treated as a different form of civic association and that member organizations receive a discounted membership.
 6. The issue was tabled until the Arlington County Federation has been investigated.
- C. Airports Advisory Committee
1. Joe Chudzick has agreed to continue to hold the Federation's seat on the Committee until we find someone else.
 - a. Carol Hawn – who chairs the Committee, said that Jeff will need to write a letter to re-appoint Joe through January 2009. [AI 12](#)
- D. Jim Davis has proposed Amy Coggin as Citizen Justice Advisory Board (CJAB)
1. Ms. Coggin is a long-time citizen of Fairfax County and is an investigator in the Public Defender's Office – a State position
 2. The motion to appoint her to the position was unanimous with one abstention.
- E. Charles announced that he may have a candidate for appointment to the FCSB G&T Advisory Committee
- VI. Old Business
- A. Nominating Committee
1. John Jennison was not able to attend the Board Meeting due to a raccoon in his attic.
 2. Art announced that there have been no meetings of the committee. [AI 13](#)
- B. Washington Post Coordination
1. Discussed earlier with respect to the Treasurer's report
 2. When Jeff spoke to Mr. Jones Jeff requested:
 - a. The Washington Post include the Federation in their community awards web site (<http://www.washingtonpost.com/community/communityservice/awards.shtml>)
 - b. Have a representative attend the Banquet. (A little difficult at this point.)
- C. Northern Virginia Association of Volunteer Administrators (NAVA) invited the Federation to nominate John Horejsi for a NAVA award. Jeff forwarded the request to Senator George Baker who nominated John Horejsi for COY.
- VII. New Business
- A. Bill Lecos, the President and CEO of the Fairfax County Chamber of Commerce is now scheduled to speak in September
1. Several Board members voiced uncertainty about what the subject was. [AI 14](#)
- B. Washington Regional Equity Network (WREN)

1. Jeff asked if the Federation would like to join the Washington Area coalition of DC-based non-profits. [AI 15](#)
 - C. Citizen Corps tent at the Fairfax Fair
 1. We decided not to participate.
 - D. Yves Maroni Files
 1. The Federation received three boxes from Mr. Maroni's estate
 2. Motion: Donate the files to the archives in the Virginia Room at the Fairfax City Regional Library. [AI 16](#)
- VIII. Board & Committee Reports
- A. Legislative Committee – Sally Ormsby
 1. Jeff presented the position on the Fairfax County budget
 2. The presentation can be viewed at 3:53 of the video
 - B. Bulletin/Newsletter – Carol Hawn
 1. The deadline for the Bulletin will be Sunday 4/26.
 2. The big thing that will need to be in the Bulletin is the slate of officers
 - C. Education and Youth – Charles Dane
 1. Charles provided a draft resolution advising how the Fairfax County School Board (FCSB) can cut \$30.7M from next year's budget.
 - a. The proposal had not been approved by the whole committee
 - b. Charles would like the position approved by the Board so he can testify that it is the position of the Federation. There was considerable discussion about the proposal but no Board action.
 2. Next Education Committee meeting will be 5/13
 - a. Location will be at the Packard Center in the smaller room
 - b. The topic is someone from Instructional Services on how to address the minority academic achievement gap
 - D. Environment – Flint Webb
 1. Jeff included information from the Clean Fairfax Council about organizing neighborhood cleanups.
 - a. The subject brought up questions about the rules for removing, political and otherwise in VDOT right of ways. [AI 17](#)
 - b. There is a \$100 fine for littering that is rarely assessed against people who put signs in the right of way.
 - c. Carol Hawn brought up the dispute about the sale of advertisements on County busses and bus stops.
 - 1) The objections of the Sully District had angered the disabled community who had been told that the funds from the advertisements would go to making the bus stops handicapped accessible.
 - 2) [My notes are not very complete here I am not sure whether it was Carol who brought up the issue or not.]
 2. Flint mentioned that he participated in the stream cleanup. [AI 18](#)
 3. Flint also mentioned that the Environmental Committee is working on a resolution to include vegetative buffer areas on plot plans so that they are conveyed to future owners more explicitly
 - a. The resolution is based on the resolution approved by the Mount Vernon District Council
 - E. Human Services – Position is vacant after Tanya's resignation
 - F. Land Use – Jim Colby – No report
 - G. Membership – Charles Dane
 1. Federation presentation made to the MCA on April 2 – same day as Jeff's testimony to the BOS about the budget.
 2. Federation presentation to the Providence District Council planned for May 20th. [I just spoke to Becky and she points out that it is the same night as the HOT lane public hearing which will affect Providence District severely so they are considering moving the PDC meeting.]
 - H. Public Safety – Merrily Pierce – No report
 - I. Resolutions – Bill Hanks – No report
 - J. Transportation – Roger Hoskin
 1. On May 20 & 21 there will be hearings about the HOT lanes on the beltway. The first one will be in Ernst Center at NVCC from 5-9.
 - K. Web Site – Tania Hossain

1. Sally mentioned that she had a number of COY Dinner photographs. [AI 19](#), [AI 20](#)
- IX. District Councils
 - A. Braddock – Art Wells
 1. Last month they had their Richmond Report
 2. Next meeting is the 2nd Tuesday in May
 - B. Mount Vernon Council
 1. At the last meeting they passed the vegetative buffer recording resolution.
 - C. Sully – Jeff Parnes
 1. They canceled their Report from Richmond meeting because the guests all had conflicts with the veto session.
 - D. Drainsville
 1. John Foust is trying to re-instate the Drainsville District Council
 - E. The Hunter Mill District Supervisor is also trying to get the Hunter Mill District Council re-instated.
 - F. Providence – Becky Cate – No report

Action Items:

1. Jeff Parnes will get written confirmations on each of the speakers for the May Report from Richmond program.
2. Jeff took the action to send out a reminder e-mail to the membership and Board to remind them to attend the May Report from Richmond meeting.
3. Charles will make sure Jeff has the final copy of the November Board minutes.
4. Tania to provide Jeff with a copy of the January Board Meeting Minutes.
5. Charles and Esther will provide comments on Draft March minutes to Jeff for incorporation unless Bill provides updated draft
6. Scott will prepare a report for the Washington Post as required by David Jones letter.
7. Scott will contact the State Corporations Commission to find out 1) Status of the Federation, 2) Who the “Agent” is, 3) How much the Federation owes.
8. Scott will prepare a budget for next year.
9. Carol Hawn will send Jeff a copy of the labels she has been using for the newsletter.
10. Jeff will convert the list to an electronic format and send it to Charles and he will review the list against the membership forms he has.
11. Charles took the action to investigate the dues structure for the Arlington County Federation.
12. Jeff Parnes will write a letter to the Airports Advisory Committee re-appointing Joe Chudzik to the Airport Advisory Committee.
13. Art Wells will remind John Jennison that the slate of officers will need to be included in the newsletter and the deadline is April 26th.
14. Our Future President will get more details about what the Chamber of Commerce speaker will have as a subject.
15. The Board should look at the Washington Regional Equity Network (<http://washingtonregionalequity.net>) to see if we should join.
16. Sally Ormsby will take the files from Yves Maroni’s estate to the Virginia Room at the Fairfax City Regional Library.
17. Sally Ormsby will distribute to the Board information about what the rules are for removal of political signs in VDOT right of ways.
18. Flint Webb will report the progress of the annual stream cleanup and send photos of his participation to be posted on the web site.
19. Jeff Parnes will provide Sally information about how to post the COY photographs
20. Sally will post the COY photos to the web site and send an e-mail to the Board to review the photos to pick out the ones that should be posted to the web site.