

Membership Meeting Minutes

Packard Center, 4022 Hummer Road, Annandale
Thursday, November 19, 2009

Approved December 17, 2009

The November 2009 Meeting of the Membership of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order by President Jeff Parnes at 7:40 p.m. in the general meeting room of the Packard Center. Present were 18 participants and the guest speaker. (Attendance list is attached to file copy.)

Calendar

Month	Membership	Board
Nov	19 – Greater Washington 2050 Plan (Paul DesJardin, Director of Community Planning and Services, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments)	None (note early Dec meeting)
Dec	17 – Storm Water (Randy Barlett)	10 (2 nd Thursday) at Marco Polo Rest in Vienna, VA
Jan 2010	21 - School Budget Presentation (Kristen Michael, Director, FCPS Budget Office)	28
Feb	18 – Tysons Plan	None (note early Mar meeting)
Mar	25 - County Budget Presentation (4 th Thursday)	4 – Budget (1 st Thursday)
Apr	15 – Report from Federation Appointees & Representatives	22
May	20– Report from Richmond (Selected Fairfax County legislators)	27
Jun	17 – Picnic: State of Fairfax by Sharon Bulova, BOS Chair and Installation of Officers	24

Program: Greater Washington 2050

Presenter: Paul DesJardin, Director of Community Planning and Services, Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (COG), provided an overview with handouts and answered questions about Region Forward—COG’s Greater Washington 2050 Vision. This report is a draft for public release and comment during the period November 14-30, although Paul indicated comments would be accepted after November 30. Region Forward is available at <http://www.greaterwashington2050.org/>. Jeff thanked Paul for his presentation and presented Paul a Federation mug. These minutes contain more on this topic under New Business.

Administrative Topics

Minutes | The membership approved the minutes of the Oct 15, 2009, membership meeting.

Treasurer’s Report | Scott Schlegel, with a handout, reported the balance sheet, budget overview, and membership list as of the meeting date and the transaction list for July 1 through the meeting date. Current assets and equity equal \$9,889. Participants accepted the report for file.

Officer and Board Vacancies and Appointments | Jeff Parnes

Co-Recording Secretary—Patty Parker will be moving and so must resign. Anyone interested in serving for the remainder of the 2009/10 term or know a likely candidate please contact Jeff (FedPres2009@fairfaxfederation.org).

Human Services—Need Chair

Environment—Roger Diedrich agreed to serve as co-chair of this committee.

Bulletin—Carol is planning to step down after the June 2010 bulletin. Anyone interested in serving as Editor when she steps down please either contact her (FedBulletinEditor2009@fairfaxfederation.org) or Jeff (FedPres2009@fairfaxfederation.org).

Future “Home” for the Federation | Jeff Parnes

The Federation is exploring new locations to hold its meetings and store its files as the Packard Center may be closed due to cost of required physical facility upgrades. Any member who knows of a suitable location should contact our second Vice President, Kahan Dhillon, at fed2ndvp2009@fairfaxfederation.org. During this meeting the FCPS’ Dunn Loring Administrative Center was suggested as an option.

Old Business

Fairfax County Commission to Study Whether Fairfax County Should Take Control of its Roadways from VDOT | Jeff Parnes

Fairfax County is formulating a commission to study whether Fairfax County should take control of its roadways from VDOT. The Federation’s willingness and desire to partake in such a commission was conveyed to BOS Chair Sharon Bulova. The BOS may, instead of creating a brand new commission, may assign the study to the already standing Transportation Advisory Commission, members of which include Jeff Parnes and Roger Hoskins.

Sally Ormsby Park Dedication Ceremony | Jeff Parnes

Several Federation Representations and board members attended last Saturday’s dedication.

Legislative Program | Tania Hossain

Final markups have been accomplished. Carol Hawn is reformatting it for distribution. Jeff is the scheduled 2nd speaker at the public hearing on January 10, 2010.

Board of Supervisors (BOS) Chairmen’s’ Photos

John Jennison transported and delivered the framed photos of all past Chairman since Jean Packard except for Kate Hanley and Jack Herry to Chairman Bulova's office during the summer. BOS Chairman Bulova's office staff has been able to size them up and work on where the hanging of the chairmen may best be performed. Jeff has Chairman Hanley’s portrait in his home awaiting delivery to Chairman Bulova's office. John and Tania have made repeated requests via emails and telephone voice messages to Pat Herry, asking for a discussion on how we may be able to include his late father, but to date have not received a response. The Chairman's office has also indicated that they too have been following up with Supervisor Herry regarding a photograph of the late Chairman Herry.

Fairfax Federation Forum | Jeff Parnes

The federation’s own discussion board—<http://fairfaxfederation.org/smf/index.php>—is now active. Please follow the link and register – any questions, please get with Jeff at Fedwebmaster2009@fairfaxfederation.org.

Metropolitan Washington Transportation Planning Board's Community Leadership Institute | Jeff Parnes

Don and Fred attended last month’s session as reported below under Board & Committee Reports, Transportation, Community Leadership Institute.

New Business

Greater Washington 2050 | Jeff Parnes

Jeff is the Federation’s representative to the Greater Washington 2050. He and guest speaker Paul DesJardin were able to provide background and context about the development of the Greater Washington 2050 vision. These include:

- Because the vision extends so far into the future—forty years—the vision stressed the desired end state (the goals) rather than strategies to accomplish the goals. It was deemed impractical to forecast the technologies that will be in use at 2050.
- The targets and indicators were, to a large degree, derived from other policy and vision documents.
- The targets apply to the entire region. Some targets may seem unchallenging for Fairfax County, but are appropriately challenging for the entire metropolitan area.
- Feedback has already been received that the goal of economic growth of 5% to 7% annually is unrealistically optimistic.

In informal discussion, the meeting participants decided that, because the vision is a draft for public release and comment and therefore is subject to change, the Federation should not at this time make a decision whether to

endorse the plan. The Federation decided to propose six modifications to the vision. The proposed modifications were drafted in discussion and approved as a package by voice vote.

1. Add a goal: "Develop high speed, energy efficient, interurban connectivity."¹
2. Add interim goals or targets to track process toward the 2050 targets.
3. On page five add the underlined clause to the existing sentence: "Participants also rated the region on a number of issues and ranked them on their importance and how well the region is performing in those areas."²
4. Add a goal: "Increase the percentage of teleworking."
5. Add a goal (or constraint): "Limit addition of new regional activity centers to planned transit corridors."³
6. Add a goal: "Minimize waste disposal."

Tania Hossain will make final edits to these comments. The Corresponding Secretary, Esther Ferington, will forward the resolution to the COG.

Resolution on Parking of Commercial Vehicles | Fred Costello

The county has proposed changes to Section 82-5-7 of the Fairfax County Code, which prohibits parking of commercial vehicles on public streets in residential districts (see <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/parkingcodechanges.htm>) to be voted on at the 7 Dec BOS meeting. Fred Costello proposed a resolution in support of the proposed changes. In discussion one modification was made (a friendly amendment). The final resolution below was passed by voice vote. Esther will prepare the final resolution for submission to the BOS.

"Whereas, many residential communities in the county have experienced an increase in commercial vehicle parking in the last decade, and
Whereas, this is not only an issue in almost every magisterial district in Fairfax County, but a regional concern as well,
Whereas, this issue has been a concern and subject of discussion over the years by the Federation which is the county's umbrella organization for the county's homeowner, community, and civic organizations, and the Federation has supported county action on the issue,
Whereas, a number of the commercial vehicles being parked are not owned by residents in adjacent or nearby residential communities,
Whereas, the county's zoning ordinance was reviewed carefully during the last year in response to parking complaints and updated to address these concerns, and
Whereas, the changes have been recommended by the Board of Supervisor's Transportation Committee and have been widely publicized and discussed for months and were recently advertised for public hearing on November 16 by the Board of Supervisors to be held on December 7th,
Therefore, be it resolved, that since this action is consistent with Federation positions in the past on parking of commercial vehicles in residential areas, the Federation endorses the advertised changes to the County's Parking Ordinance when the item comes before the Board of Supervisors on December 7."

Citizen of the Year Nominations Open | Jeff Parnes

Jeff reminded the membership to start thinking about whom they would like nominate as 2009 Citizen of the Year.

¹ This goal was initiated by Gail Parker suggesting that the transportation portion of the vision was exclusively inward looking but ought to include a goal to develop high speed rail links with other areas. In drafting, the proposal was made more general (looking toward the "what" rather than the "how" and in keeping with the intent of the vision to avoid specific technologies).

² This addition explains the provenance of the performance portion of the Regional Priorities/Performance Chart.

³ The genesis of this goal was Fred Costello's assertion that the vision's concept (Introduction, page 6) of evolving transportation patterns from "grid" (DC in 18th Century) to "spokes" (region in 20th Century) to "web" (region in 21st Century) was impractical because across-web traffic patterns would not provide sufficient volume to make mass transit practical. Flint noted that the Internet type of web (in which messages are routed to their destination via the most available paths regardless of distance) was not suited for physical transportation networks, but a spider web design (with fewer, direct cross-spoke connections) could be practical.

Note of Condolence

The members in attendance agreed to send a note of condolence to the family of Clayton Ormsby.

Board & Committee Reports

Association Services | Don Hinman (absent)

Although Don was absent, the following announcement was provided via the agenda. "The Great Falls Citizens Association contacted the committee seeking to procure consulting services to analyze a proposed VDOT project's impact on our community. They asked if the Federation would have any suggestions as to firms we should contact." The Federation does not have such a list.

Budget | Carey Campbell (absent) and Charlie Hall (absent)

Education | Charlie Dane

FCPS Superintendent Dale participated in the committee's November meeting where the main topic was the extreme measures that are options to address the reduced funding and suggest ways to ameliorate some of the reductions. For a listing of options, see www.fcps.edu, and click on "FY2011 Budget details." Then, on the budget page, scroll down to "[Potential FY2011 Program and Service Reductions for discussion purposes.](#)"

Five members of the Education Committee, in different capacities, participated in different school board committee meetings to provide our thoughts on how the school board can do a better job of communicating with the public.

Environment | Flint Webb

Flint attended the Energizing Fairfax County meeting last night. There were presentations from Dean Tisdandt, Chief Operating Officer, Fairfax County Public Schools; Stuart Freudberg, Director of Environmental Programs for COG; Mark Gibb, Executive Director, Northern VA Regional Commission; David Molchany, Deputy County Executive, Fairfax County; Mark Lowham, Sr. VP, WEST*GROUP; and Bud Thompson from the Great Falls Civic Association about the activities their organizations are doing to reduce energy consumption. Sharon Bulova wants to give an award for energy savings.

Flint attended the Green Breakfast where Mike Knapp, Urban Forest Management Division, Department of Public Works and Environmental Services talked about changes to the tree ordinance. They are "tweaking" the ordinance to make it easier to manage for developers. We need to keep track of this to make sure they are not going to give away too much.

Announcements:

- The Environmental Quality Advisory Committee is having a public hearing to go over the Annual Report on Monday 11/30.
- The proposed County budget will cut 15% from the Park Authority which will cut one more person from an already over-stretched organization.
- They are standing up a Northern Virginia Senior Environmental Corps of Volunteers age 55+ to work on improving our parks and open spaces.

Human Services | Position vacant

Land Use | Fred Costello

The Noble Estates Homes Association (NEHA) contacted the committee after being referred by Senator George Barker to discuss the current Fairfax County zoning issue related to the proposed "Paradise Springs Winery." Pam Barnett, President of NEHA, will meet with Fred to examine if there is a countywide issue.

Legislation | Tania Hossain—see Old Business, Legislation Resolution, above.

Membership | Tania Hossain

Two membership applications were received this past month—Noble Estates Homes Association and Adams Walk Homeowners Association—bring current membership to 38.

Public Safety | Gail Parker

Public Safety is working on a revision to the Federation's Public Safety section of the website.

The Washington Region Council of Government's Transportation Planning Board (TPB) Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) will have its Virginia Meeting December 10 at the Patent and Trademark Office in Alexandria at 6:00 p.m. Federation (and the public) are invited to attend and participate. Presentation will be made on high-speed rail and a speaker from Rep Oberstar's office is invited to speak on regional transportation funding proposal.

Resolutions | Bill Hanks (absent)

Transportation | Roger Hoskin and Carey Campbell (absent)

Community Leadership Institute

Don Hinman and Fred Costello attended the recent National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB)-sponsored Community Leadership Institute, two half day sessions on October 29 & 31. The session was for people who have some knowledge of local transportation issues, want to know more about TPB and the regional transportation planning process, and to whom advocacy should be directed. John Mason, former mayor of Fairfax City, gave an outstanding talk that highlighted the issues to be faced in the next 20 years: climate and energy, market globalization, population growth, an aging population, an aging infrastructure, declining Federal resources, emerging mega-regions such as Boston to DC, that Americans will not give up cars, and national security. Working sessions on a mock re-development plan revealed the complexities of working with disparate personal objectives.

VTrans2035

The Commonwealth of Virginia is currently developing its statewide long-range multimodal transportation plan, known as VTrans2035. We have been indicated as someone who may be interested in reviewing the draft plan. A draft report for VTrans2035 is available on the web (www.vtrans.org) for review and comment starting the week of November 2 and ending November 30. Attached is an e-note, which provides more information about how to comment on the draft report. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact Ryan M. Link, 804.287.3192, rlink@mbakercorp.com or Katherine Graham, VDOT, 804-786-4198, Katherine.graham@VDOT.virginia.gov.

Website | Jeff Parnes—no report

District Council Reports

Braddock | Art Wells

On October 21 the Braddock Supervisor, Braddock District Council, and the county staff conducted a Town Hall meeting at Braddock Secondary School to formally launch the Community Engagement Initiative. The town hall meeting had numerous exhibits and 125 people attending.

On November 14 the Community Budget Dialogues came to Kings Park where attendance was high.

The Citizens' Budget Committee has held several meetings. The next meeting is scheduled November 23 with Tom Davis to attend. The budget committee plans to give its report to Supervisor Cook in early January.

On December 3 the Taste of Braddock will be held at the Kings Park Library and Braddock Supervisor's Office.

On January 23 the district will hold the Braddock Leadership Institute at Kings Park Library and Braddock Supervisor's Office to train those who are interested in improving their communities.

Dranesville—N/A

Hunter Mill—N/A

Lee | Don Hinman (absent)

Mason | Roger Hoskins

The district council did not meet in October; its next meeting will be in January.

Mount Vernon | Karen Pohorylo (Absent)

The Mount Vernon Council of Citizens' Associations (MVCCA) elected new officers on November 18 for the term beginning January 1. The new officers are:

- Co-chairs: Al Bornmann, Robert (Bob) Reynolds, and David (Dave) Plummer
- Treasurer: Brenda Hebert
- Secretary: Carol Coyle (incumbent)

Providence | Charles Hall (Absent)

Springfield | Mike Thompson (Absent)

Sully | Jeff Parnes

The SDC had a transportation brief at last night's meeting and will have a police report in December. The Land Use and Transportation Committee is reviewing the three APR cases that had been deferred awaiting the VDOT 527 analysis: one in November and two in December.

Closing Announcement—Celebration Honoring Ann Rodriguez

You are invited to attend A Celebration of Ann's Life to be hosted by the Arts Council of Fairfax County on Wednesday, December 2nd, beginning at 11:30am, at CenterStage, Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods. The program will be followed by a reception across the hall in the Community Room hosted by the Reston Community Center. Both the program and reception are open to the public.

- o Date: Wednesday, December 2, 2009, beginning at 11:30am
- o Location: Reston Community Center, Hunters Woods, 2310 Colts Neck Road, Reston, VA 20191, Phone: (703) 476-4500 <http://restoncommunitycenter.com>
- o RSVP: Please rsvp at rsvp@artsfairfax.org.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 p.m.

Next Meetings

The next board meeting is scheduled December 10, 2009 at 7:30 p.m. at the Marco Polo Restaurant in Vienna, VA.

The next membership meeting is scheduled December 17, 2009, at 7:30 p.m.

Summary of Action Items from This Meeting

Action	Who
Prepare final version of the Federation's comments on the draft Greater Washington 2050 vision to the COG	Tania Hossain
Submit the Federation's comments on the draft Greater Washington 2050 vision to the COG	Esther Ferington
Prepare the final resolution on parking of commercial vehicles for submission to the BOS	Esther Ferington
Prepare a note of condolences to the family of Clayton Ormsby	Esther Ferington

Minutes prepared by Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary

