

## Board Meeting Minutes

February 24, 2011

Approved March 17, 2011

The February 24 meeting of the Board of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order by President Tania Hossain at 7:38 p.m. at the Packard Center in Annandale.

Present: Carey Campbell, Fred Costello, Charles Dane, Kahan Dhillon, Esther Ferington, Charles Hall, Bill Hanks, Don Hinman, Tania Hossain, Cherie Lejeune, Jeff Parnes, Scott Schlegel, Art Wells, Flint Webb, and Ed Wyse.

### **Administrative Topics**—*Tania Hossain*

**Meeting Rules**—The board decided these meeting rules:

- Meeting topics that are published on the agenda will be addressed before any additional topics that participants may wish to introduce during the meeting.
- The Friday prior to a meeting is the standing deadline for participants to send proposed meeting topics to the president for inclusion in the agenda.
- Committee chairs and district council representatives are encouraged to send to the president written brief summaries of their reports for publication in the agenda. (This written information, a supplement to verbal reports, will both speed meeting proceedings and provide a more accurate, widespread, and lasting delivery of information than verbal reports alone.)
- Officer responsibilities (i.e., membership and Federation position vacancies) will be listed on the agenda under the heading "Administrative Topics."

### ***The Bulletin (newsletter)***—*Fred Costello*

The March edition of *The Bulletin* is with the president for review.

### **Approval of Board Meeting Minutes**—*Ed Wyse*

The board approved the minutes of the December 2, 2010, board meeting.

### **Treasurer's Report**—*Scott Schlegel*

Scott distributed a written report and explained current finances. The board voted to receive and file the report.

### **New Chair of Human Services**—*Tania Hossain*

Tania nominated Cherie Tripp Lejeune to be chair of the Human Services Committee. The board voted unanimously to install Cherie.

### **Filling Vacant Federation Positions on County Boards, Authorities, Committees, and Commissions**—*2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Don Hinman*

Don has been recruiting for representatives and liaisons at district council meetings.

- John Hanks has volunteered to be the Federation's representative to the Information Technology Policy Advisory Committee, to replace Thomas V. "Vic" Mukai. John's father, Bill Hanks, proudly seconded the motion to nominate John to this position. The board voted unanimously to nominate John and his nomination is being sent to the county Board of Supervisors for final approval.
- Herb Smith has been recruited to be the Federation's representative to the Criminal Justice Advisory Board, a currently vacant position. The Federation board voted unanimously to nominate Herb and his nomination is being sent to the advisory board for final approval.
- Flint Webb, who had earlier volunteered to serve as representative to the Engineering Standards Review Committee, reported that he must withdraw from consideration because the committee's schedule directly conflicts with his work schedule.

Positions for which the Federation still seeks volunteers are representatives to:

- Citizen Corps Council,
- Community Action Advisory Board,
- Engineering Standards Review Committee, and
- Airports Advisory Committee.

**Program—2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Don Hinman**

Don is coordinating the report from Federation liaisons and representatives to other organizations for the April membership meeting. The board discussed which persons should report. The agenda on the Federation web site incorrectly lists a different program for April and must be updated.

**Membership—1st Vice President Kahan Dhillon**

Don Hinman has been attending meetings of district councils to encourage membership.

Board discussion revealed that the Federation's membership year does not necessarily coincide with associations' budget years and election cycles. Many associations that renew their membership annually do so on a schedule that delivers their dues well into the Federation's membership year.

**Old Business**

**Citizen of the Year—Jeff Parnes**

At this point the news seems discouraging: few nominations, slow response from organizations that provide judges, guest speaker not set, and the date (which is dependent upon the guest speaker) not set. It was noted that historically most nominations arrive just before the deadline. Guest speaker coordination and decisions will be concluded soon.

**New and Miscellaneous Business—none**

**Board & Committee Reports**

**Budget—Carey Campbell and Charlie Hall**

Budget committee meetings have been set for Saturday, February 26, and Saturday, March 5, 2011. Please email the Budget Committee to RSVP for attendance by email to [fedbudgetchr2010@fairfaxfederation.org](mailto:fedbudgetchr2010@fairfaxfederation.org). Please note that the committee may need additional meetings dates. Participation via e-mail is highly recommended due to the short window of feedback time. Charlie Hall asked for general comments on the proposed budget by March 2.

Charlie reported the highlights of the just released county executive's budget. Charlie has identified five major areas of the budget to examine:

- Tax rate, what is appropriate?
- Pension policy, what is appropriate and best for the county and its employees?
- Why does the revised budget consistently exceed the adopted budget?
- Perceived lack of citizen input to the budget process.
- History of county government growth in the early 2000's, what functions had the most spending growth?

Charlie informally queried the board about their views on these issues and on county employee compensation. The board's informal advice will inform the budget committee's recommendations.

Charlie sought a volunteer to write the budget resolution on public safety and was referred to the Public Safety Committee's Gail Parker and Gabe Goldberg, neither of whom was present.

**Citizen Association Services—Don Hinman**

Don has continued to publicize the proposed rule from the Common Interest Community Board (CICB) regarding Association Complaint Procedures by distributing flyers to several district councils and urging attendees to send the information to other home owner associations (HOA) and condo associations. Don attended the meetings of three district councils: Providence, Lee, and Mt. Vernon. He will attend the Mason District Council on March 3. Jeff Parnes also distributed the flyer electronically to the Sully District Council.

Don submitted to the Federation webmaster a proposed committee website initial design with several links and documents to be posted. Webmaster Kosmo Tatalias indicated that he would work on the committee's website after the Federation budget work is completed.

Don continues to seek the collaboration of the county's Public Affairs Office and GIS Department in developing a GIS layer covering community associations and is optimistic about receiving good cooperation.

**Education**—*Leonard Bumbaca, Ed Saperstein, & Tim Thompson*

The Education Committee will meet March 8 at the Gatehouse Building.

**Environment**—*Flint Webb*

The Public Review Draft Report of the Fairfax County Bicycle Master Plan—(Phase 1) Tysons Corner Bicycle Master Plan was published February 17.

The park authority is expanding nature classes to several historic properties: Clark House in Falls Church, Dranesville Tavern in Herndon, Great Falls Grange in Great Falls, Hunter House in Vienna, and Stone Mansion in Alexandria.

The 49th Green Breakfast is March 12, 0820-1000, at Brion's Grille, 10621 Braddock Road, Fairfax, VA; the topic is Demystifying Recycling.

**Human Services**—*Cherie Lejeune*

Cherie proposed two projects that she would like to see implemented:

- A smart phone application that would identify, for use in emergency situations, those who have special needs that must be addressed and those volunteers who have special skills and equipment with which to assist.
- Equipping all seniors with cell phones.

**Land Use**—*Fred Costello*—no report

**Legislation**—*Frank Anderson*

Frank is scheduling legislators to speak at the May Membership Meeting "Report from Richmond."

**Public Safety**—*G. Gail Parker*—no report

**Resolutions and Policies and Procedures (P&P)**—*Bill Hanks*

A question has arisen how to respond to new member associations that pay their membership fees late in the Federation's membership year, which is July 1 through June 30. Federation P&P (Section 4) allow the board to authorize half-rate membership dues for new member associations that join in the January-June period. The board instructed Bill to insert in the updated P&P a provision that the board may authorize that new member associations who join during the April-June period and pay full membership dues have their membership effective from the payment date to the end of the succeeding membership year, which could be a period as long as 15 months.

**Transportation**—*Carey Campbell, Roger Hoskins, and Jeff Parnes*

Kathy Ichter, Director, Fairfax County Department of Transportation, retired this month.

On March 1 the Board of Supervisors will consider the report on Alternatives for Improving Roadway Services in Fairfax County. Jeff noted that Virginia jurisdictions that maintain their own roads are pleased with the results but spend more of their own funds than jurisdictions that rely on VDOT maintenance.

The Virginia Railway Express (VRE) experienced a record level of ridership last week.

Delegate Vivian Watts predicts the General Assembly will approve the purchase of bonds to fund transportation projects.

On February 29 the westbound I-66 high-occupancy vehicle ramps at Monument Drive and Stringfellow Road will open to all westbound traffic on weekends and during off-peak hours.

The pending Defense Department occupancy at the Mark Center gives urgency to building new ramps at I-395 and Seminary Road.

**Website—Jeff Parnes**

Jeff reported that the web site URL now displays a county map icon. When sending items to the webmaster, please use the e-mail address [fedwebmaster2010@fairfaxfederation.org](mailto:fedwebmaster2010@fairfaxfederation.org); messages addressed thusly will be received by both Jeff and Kosmo Tatalias who jointly maintain the web site.

**District Council Reports**

*Seven supervisor districts have councils of citizens associations; Dranesville & Hunter Mill districts do not.*

**Braddock—Art Wells—no report**

**Lee—Don Hinman**

The Lee District Association of Civic Organizations (LDACO) has drafted revised bylaws and will vote on them at the March 2011 meeting. Don thanks those Federation members who provided him samples of their bylaws for reference.

**Mason—Keith Taggart**

Tania reported that Mason District Council is sponsoring a roundtable discussion on property maintenance March 3, 7:30 p.m., at the Mason District Government Center.

**Mount Vernon—Karen Pohorylo—no report**

**Providence—Flint Webb—no report**

**Springfield—Mike Thompson—no report**

**Sully—Jeff Parnes**

The February 23 meeting topic was Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) and featured presentations by Kathy Smith, Chairman and Sully District Member, Fairfax County School Board, and Kristen Michael, FCPS.

**Adjournment**—The meeting adjourned at 10:10 p.m.

**Next Meetings**

The March meetings have been reversed in sequence to allow the board to act on the Budget Committee's recommendations on March 17 and then present a proposed budget recommendation to the Federation's membership at the March 24 meeting. Both meetings begin at 7:30 p.m. at the Packard Center, Annandale.

Minutes prepared by Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary