

Membership Meeting Minutes

Thursday, April 14, 2010

Approved May 19, 2010

The April 2011 meeting of the Membership of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order by President Tania Hossain at 7:30 p.m. in the Packard Center, Annandale. The attendance list is attached to the file copy of the minutes.

Program: Three of the Federation's representatives to county-wide committees described the work of their committees. Don Hinman introduced the speakers.

- Latisha Elcock, representative to the Fairfax County School Board Advanced Achievement Advisory Committee. Latisha explained the charges given by the school board to the committee in the last two years and how the committee performed its tasks.
- Rob Jackson, representative to the County's Redistricting Advisory Committee. Rob explained the redistricting advisory committee processes over the past four months and its product. He also commented on the redistricting products of the General Assembly.
- Mark Tipton, representative to the County's Trails and Sidewalk Committee. Mark described issues the committee is addressing: excessive permitting requirements for bus stop shelters, determining requirements for bicycle facilities in new developments, proposed use of volunteers to help maintain county trails, and lack of funding to maintain walkways.

All presenters answered questions from the membership. Tania and Don thanked Latisha, Rob, and Mark for their efforts as Federation representatives and presented each with a Federation mug.

Administrative Topics

***The Bulletin (Newsletter)*—Fred Costello**—Newsletter articles are due to the editor by April 18.

Minutes—Ed Wyse—The membership approved the minutes of the March 24, 2011, membership meeting.

Treasurer's Report—Scott Schlegel

Scott distributed his report as a handout and discussed the highlights. The membership voted to accept and file the report.

Membership—Don Hinman

Don introduced a guest, Joe Gillme of the Midtown Condominium Association, Midtown Alexandria Station. His association is considering joining the Federation.

Vacancies on County Boards and Commissions—Don Hinman

Second Vice President Don Hinman is recruiting for three Federation representatives to other organizations: Airports Advisory Committee, Community Action Advisory Board, and the Engineering Standards Review Committee. Volunteers who represent the Federation do not have to be from associations that are Federation members.

Old Business

2011 Citizen of the Year (COY) Award—Chair, Jeff Parnes (*Jeff was not able to attend but his written report was provided in the agenda.*)

Attending the banquet supports the Federation, celebrates those we honor for their service to the community, and is an evening of good cheer and fellowship. As representatives to the Federation, we ask that you make every effort to attend.

Honorees selected: Citizen of the Year: Mollie Loeffler; Citation of Merit: Charlie Dane; and Special Gratitude Awards: Bill Lecos and Anthony H. Griffin.

Banquet location and date: Sunday, May 15, 2011, at the Crowne Plaza Tysons Corner

Speaker: Our 1st Vice President, Kahan Dhillon, has arranged for Katharine Weymouth, CEO/Publisher of The Washington Post Media, to be our speaker. We are extremely lucky and appreciative to Kahan for his efforts.

Banquet Tasks: Jeff created a Google doc identifying all activities required for successful completion of the banquet, and he and many volunteers (we could always use more) have claimed the various tasks that they will be doing. Carol Hawn is working on the program. This past weekend Jeff sponsored a working luncheon to stuff, stamp, address, and mail the invitations. Eight Federation board and representatives (and one fiancée) participated. We still await Tony Griffin's list.

Banquet Reservations: You can make reservations two ways – online at <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/COY/COYrsvp.htm> and in response to our mailed invitation. Remember that the banquet is the one event the Federation sponsors that celebrates Fairfax and involves the Federation with the movers and shakers of the County.

New and Miscellaneous Business

Nominations for Federation Officers for 2011-2012—Tania

Those who wish to nominate themselves or others for officer positions (president, 1st & 2nd vice presidents, treasurer, and corresponding and recording secretaries) should send nominations to Jeff Parnes. The nominating committee includes Jeff Parnes (chair by virtue of his position as Immediate Past President), Past President John Jennison, Charlie Dane, and Art Wells; there is one vacancy to be filled.

Policies and Procedures

At its next meeting, the Federation's board will consider adopting a revised set of policies and procedures that a special committee chaired by Bill Hanks has drafted.

Board & Committee Reports

Budget—Carey Campbell and Charlie Hall

While the county's budget will not be officially adopted until April 26, the Board of Supervisors has agreed upon a markup that sets a residential tax rate of \$1.07. The county executive had proposed \$1.09 and the Federation had proposed \$1.075. A "revenue neutral" rate would be \$1.065. The Board of Supervisors vote to approve the markup budget passed 7-3. Committee members shared some of the intricacies and nuances of the money flow between the Commonwealth, the county, and the public schools and how the Board of Supervisors addressed the issue of full-day kindergarten for all elementary schools.

Citizen Association Services—Don Hinman—no report

Education—Leonard Bumbaca, Ed Saperstein, & Tim Thompson

The next committee meeting is April 16. On May 2 the school board conducts a budget work session.

Environment—Flint Webb

Upcoming events:

1. National Sustainable Design Exposition, open to the public April 16-17, National Mall (<http://www.epa.gov/P3/expo/>)
2. Fairfax Committee of 100 dinner meeting, Cleaning Up the Chesapeake Bay—Do We Really Mean It This Time?, April 21, 2011, 6:30 p.m. registration and socializing, Marco Polo Restaurant, 245 Maple Ave W, Vienna, VA. RSVP to Bill Hanks at wwhanks@cox.net
3. Northern Virginia Urban Forestry Quarterly Roundtable—Managing Natural Areas in Urban/Urbanizing Areas, May 5, 2011, 9 a.m.-2:45 p.m., Wetland Studies and Solutions, Inc., 5300 Wellington Drive, Suite 100, Gainesville, VA (http://treesvirginia.org/joomla/index.php?option=com_content&view=article&id=50&Itemid=61)
4. Clean Air Partners Annual Meeting and Awards, May 18, 2011, 05:00 p.m. - 08:00 p.m., Event Nationals Park, 1500 South Capitol St, SE, Washington, DC 20003 (http://www.mwco.org/environment/meetings/detail.asp?COMMITTEE_ID=115&EVENT_ID=7337&MONTH_CHOICE=5&DAY_CHOICE=18&YEAR_CHOICE=2011)

Human Services—Cherie Tripp Lejeune

Cherie intends for her committee to establish requirements for an application for associations that would identify members with special needs to be considered during emergency situations and would identify members with special talents and equipment that could help in emergency situations. The framework for this application would be a community directory supplemented with the emergency information.

Land Use—Fred Costello (*Fred submitted this written report for publication in the agenda but it was inadvertently omitted; in the meeting it was decided that it would be published in the minutes.*)

Other than reviewing the County's Community Development Agency budget, we have been working on the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force. The Task Force's Vision Committee, on which Fred Costello serves, issued its final report, giving the planning principles for Reston. The principles are not concerned with how to plan but what to plan. For example, it calls for a minimum of 20% open space and 45% tree cover. The beautifully illustrated report is available at http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/projects/reston/vision_sub_committee/vision_committee_report_march_2011.pdf. The work of the Reston Task Force is now concentrated in the Steering Sub-Committee.

Legislation—Frank Anderson—no report

Public Safety—G. Gail Parker

Gabe Goldberg reported that he is awaiting a decision on his request for a Federation representative seat on the (Police) Chief's Advisory Committee.

Resolutions—Bill Hanks—no report

Transportation—Carey Campbell, Roger Hoskins, and Jeff Parnes (The co-chairs were not able to attend; the agenda states that Jeff's written report would be provided in the minutes.)

Alternatives for Improving Roadway Services: There have been no further Board of Supervisors actions in response to the study evaluating Alternatives for Improving Roadway Services in Fairfax County.

Transportation Committee web site updates. The committee's page (<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/transportation1.htm>) has links (to:

- Capital Beltway HOT Lanes and the Dulles Corridor Metrorail projects. On 7 April 2011, Transurban, Fluor and Virginia Megaprojects/VDOT/VDRPT hosted a forum to report on progress. The Northern Virginia Transportation Alliance was the sponsor of this event which featured a greeting by Fairfax County Board Chair Sharon Bulova, and construction updates on both projects. VDRPT Director Thelma Drake briefed attendees on incentives and tools available to help Tysons employer/employees cope with construction-related and future traffic conditions. Virginia Megaprojects Communications Director Steve Titunik provided an overview of the Regional Transportation Management Plan. For those keeping score: Beltway HOT Lanes are now 65% complete and looking to open in late 2012 and the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Phase I is 33% complete and on track to open in 2013.
- The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority (MWAA) decision on 6 April to locate the proposed Dulles Airport Rail station under the parking lot in front of the mail terminal. This location is estimated to cost \$250 to \$300 million more than a proposal that would bring the rail above ground in front of the north parking garage. The MWAA staff presented a technical analysis of alternative airport rail alignments. The MWAA heard a brief on the Financial Impact of Alternative Airport Alignments. The MWAA heard from Mame Reiley, Chair, Dulles Corridor Committee, advocating the current underground alignment. The MWAA Board then voted for the underground alignment. Illustrations of the proposed alternatives are in their decision press release. Reaction to the decision by elected officials was uniformly negative. Virginia Secretary of Transportation Sean Connaughton wrote expressing the Commonwealth's disappointment with MWAA's decision to advance the tunnel alignment indicating that the decision could add \$250 to \$300 million to the overall project cost. Tenth District Congressman Wolf reported that "This is bad decision. MWAA had a chance to cut more than \$600 million from the project and chose not to. I am disappointed and share the concerns of state and the local partners. Everything possible needs to be done to keep costs down on this project." Fairfax County Board Chairman Bulova indicated that the county expects MWAA to cover the expected cost increase for the underground alignment for the Dulles Station.

At its 5 April 2011 meeting the Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC) was briefed on these topics; links to the documents are on the web site (<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/transportation1.htm>):

- Secondary Streets and Completing Functions by the Department of Public Works and Environmental Services. County staff furnished excerpts from 2009 Virginia Statewide Fire Prevention Code regarding road widths and emergency vehicle access.
- The status of Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) traffic amelioration efforts.

Website—Jeff Parnes (*This report was not given during the meeting but is distributed via these minutes.*)

The online forms on the web site are working; please feel free to use them for:

- Membership renewal: <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/memberappl.htm>
- COY Dinner RSVP: <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/COY/COYrsvp.htm>

Providence District Council posted a new bulletin.

Budget and Transportation Committee pages are updated.

COY pages are updated.

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—no report

Mason—Keith Taggart—no report

Mount Vernon—Karen Pohorylo—no report

Providence—Flint Webb

The next meeting of the Providence District Council is April 26 with a report from legislators.

Springfield—Mike Thompson—no report

Sully—Jeff Parnes (*Jeff was not able to attend but his written report was provided in the agenda.*)

The Sully District Council March meeting received reports from:

- County office of Management and Budget on FY 2012 budget
- Sully representative on Fairfax County Redistricting committee

These land use cases were addressed:

- INOVA Hospital
- About the Distributed Antenna System concept

Topics of future meetings are:

- April – Fairfax County Housing and Community Development Agency
- May – Report from Richmond, all eight State Senators and Delegates representing Sully have been invited, responses received from three as of now
- June – State of Sully by Sully Supervisor Mike Frey

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 p.m.

Next Meetings

The next membership meeting is May 19, 2011 when we will hear from our Commonwealth representatives during our Report from Richmond evening. Board members will meet on April 28, 2011. Both meetings start at 7:30 p.m. in the Packard Center, Annandale.

Minutes written by Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary