

## Membership Meeting Minutes

Thursday, December 15, 2011

Approved January 19, 2012

The December 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

**Development from a Developer's Point of View—Peter Otteni, Vice President of Development of Boston Properties**—Mr. Otteni discussed the steps in development of a property as a developer sees it. He began with the eight steps in the development process and the developer's evaluation of potential risk and reward. Mr. Otteni recommended the book: *Real Estate Development Principles and Process* by Mike Miles. Mr. Otteni noted that, if not for the hope of a reasonable profit, no one would place funds at risk and there would be no development. He made the theoretical concrete as he described the principles applied in a specific project in the Reston Urban Core. In a lively Q&A he described proffers as strictly voluntary but a part of the negotiation process. He confirmed one question: By law, may funds provided in a proffer be only used for its stated purpose even if the situation changes? Answer: yes.

### Administrative Topics

**The Bulletin (Newsletter)—Fred Costello**—Newsletter articles are due to the editor by December 28.

**Minutes—Ed Wyse**—The membership approved the minutes of the November 17 meeting.

**Treasurer's Report—Scott Schlegel**—Scott provided a handout of the financial situation and briefed on recent and key developments.

**Membership—Don Hinman**—Welcome to the Oak Hill Citizens Association as our newest member for the 2011-2012 year.

**2011 Citizen of the Year (COY) Award—Chair, Jeff Parnes**—The nomination period for the 2011 Citizen of the Year award is open until January 31. Please share the press release with members of the community.

**Call for Volunteers to Serve as Federation Liaisons and Representatives to Other Countywide Organizations**—Three candidates are under consideration to fill the current vacancy as representative to the Engineering Standards Review Committee. Other representative positions will be opening soon as some representatives are reaching the end of their terms. A list of positions is available at <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/contactus1.htm>. Individuals interested in serving as a Federation representative should contact 2<sup>nd</sup> Vice President Joe Gibson, email: [Fed2ndVP2012@fairfaxfederation.org](mailto:Fed2ndVP2012@fairfaxfederation.org).

### Old Business and New and Miscellaneous Business—none

### Board & Committee Reports

**Budget—Carey Campbell and Charlie Hall**—Tania noted that our annual Budget Position development process will start soon and then be an intense 6-week effort. Member organizations are invited to participate.

**Citizen Association Services—Don Hinman**—Issues related to governance of homeowners associations and civic associations will be addressed by the program of the April membership meeting. If you have issues you would like explored in this meeting, send them to Don.

**Education—Leonard Bumbaca, Ed Saperstein, & Tim Thompson**—Charlie Dane reported. The Education Committee meets January 10. The superintendent releases his budget proposal on January 12. The January 19 Federation membership meeting will be held at Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Administration Building (8115 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church, VA 22042) with Kristen Michael, Director, Office of Budget Services, FCPS, who will explain the FCPS budget proposal. [Not

reported in the meeting but worth knowing: two committee members attended the recent all day retreat of the incoming school board members.]

**Environment—Roger Diedrich and Flint Webb**—Flint asked members to send the committee their concerns related to countywide environmental issues. He also invited members to join the committee. Flint reported on the following committee activities. More detailed information will be published in January's *The Bulletin*.

- On November 9th Roger and I attended the Environmental Quality Advisory Committee (EQAC). The main topic was District Energy.
- On November 12th Roger and I attended the Green Breakfast. The issue was urban Stormwater management.
- I also attended the NOVA Climate Action Network meeting.
- On November 21st Roger and I attended the Great Falls Sierra Club meeting presentation by Mary Rafferty about Uranium Mining in Virginia.
- On November 29th Roger and I attended a meeting of environmental activists in the County to discuss smart growth legislative issues affecting the county.
- On November 30th I attended a meeting about the status of the watershed management plans.
- On December 5th Roger and I attended a reorganizing meeting of Friends of Accotink Creek (<http://www.accotink.org/>).

**Human Services—Cherie Tripp Lejeune**—Tania noted that Cherie was not present tonight because she hosted a tea for 200 seniors today. Several weeks ago Cherie arranged a Thanksgiving meal for about 100 seniors.

**Land Use—Fred Costello**—Fred introduced a proposed letter and resolution, which the board had approved last week, which requests that re-zoning from R to P-type housing be denied for infill projects unless three conditions cited in the resolution are met. The membership voted unanimously to approve the resolution and its cover letter.

**Legislation—Frank Anderson**—Tania stated that the Federation will support the positions in its newly developed Legislative Program and will inform the membership of developments related to our positions. She noted that the county is already following one of our recommendations: opposing a lifting of the moratorium on uranium mining in Virginia.

**Public Safety—As'ad Hess-Linckost**—Tania reported that Federation is working with the Franconia Police Station and Citizens Advisory Committee to collaborate on neighborhood outreach, specifically ways to inform the community of current crime situations.

**Resolutions—Bill Hanks**—no report other than the Land Use resolution passed at this meeting

**Transportation—Carey Campbell and Jeff Parnes**—Tania reported that the committee is drafting a letter on the topic of devolution of Commonwealth responsibility for highway maintenance.

**Website—Jeff Parnes**—no report

### **District Council Reports**

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

**Lee—Don Hinman**—A summary report was given during the meeting; this fuller report is published via these minutes. The annual Lee District banquet was held Wednesday December 8 at the Springfield Hilton. Two local historians who are volunteers at the Franconia Museum—Don Hakenson and Carl Sell—gave an excellent historical presentation on Civil War events in the area.

The Lee District Citizen of the Year is Suzette Kern, who has chaired the Lee District Budget Advisory Committee for several years. The Distinguished Public Service Professional Award went to Lloyd Tucker, a Regional Manager in the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services, who is well known for

his work with children and teens. The Distinguished Public Service Professional Award went to outgoing county executive Tony Griffin.

**Mason—John Birch**—The Mason District Council meets tonight.

**Providence—Flint Webb**— Flint Webb was awarded Community Service Award by the Providence District Council. The district council's holiday party was December 7; Tanya attended representing the Federation.

**Sully—Jeff Parnes**—The Sully District Council holds its annual meeting and party tonight.

There was no report tonight from the representatives from the other district councils: Braddock—Art Wells, Mount Vernon—Karen Pohorylo, and Springfield—Mike Thompson.

### **Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

### **Next Meetings**

The next membership meeting is Thursday, January 19, 2012, 7:30 p.m., on the topic of the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Budget. Please note that this membership meeting will be held at the FCPS Administration Building (8115 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church, VA 22042) and that the parking garage doors close for inbound traffic at 8 p.m. (To gain automobile entry after 8 p.m., you would have to contact someone already in the meeting via their cell phone and ask that person to come open the door for you.)

The next board meeting is Thursday, January 26, 2012, at the Packard Center.

*Minutes written by Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary*