

## Membership Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 19, 2012

Approved February 23, 2012

The January 2012 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 Conference Room 5055 of the Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Administrative Center, 8115 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church. The attendance list is attached to the file copy of the minutes.

### Program

**FCPS Proposed Budget for FY 2013—Kristen Michael, Director of Budget, FCPS**—On January 12—one week prior to this meeting—the superintendent released the proposed budget for next year. Ms. Michael's presentation to us used the same set of slides. Our inquisitive members asked a number of questions—some quite specific—about all matter of educational and managerial decisions that are reflected in the budget. The presentation and question/answer period lasted ninety minutes. The slides of this presentation and other relevant FCPS budget documents are available at <http://www.fcps.edu/fs/budget/budgetdocuments.shtml>. President Hossain thanked Ms. Michael for her insightful presentation and presented her a Federation mug.

### Administrative Topics

**The Bulletin (Newsletter)—Fred Costello**—Newsletter articles are due to the editor by January 27.

**Minutes—Ed Wyse**—The membership approved the minutes of the December 2011 meeting.

**Treasurer's Report—Scott Schlegel**—Scott provided a handout of the financial situation and briefed line-by-line on budgeted versus actual expenses to date this fiscal year.

**Membership—Don Hinman**—Welcome to our newest members: Sunset Manor Civic Association, Sleepy Hollow Citizens Association, Chantilly Highland Homes Association, Groveton Virginia Civic Association, Ravenwood Park Citizens Association, and Lee Boulevard Heights Citizen Association.

Don reported that he has focused his recruiting efforts at the district level having recently visited meetings of councils in Lee, Mount Vernon, and South County. Dottie Dane made a membership appeal at the Braddock District Council. Don plans to visit the Providence District Council January 24.

Don is consolidating and updating listings from several sources of homeowner and civic associations. He also asked for feedback on the most recent version of the postcard-sized advertising card, which he distributed.

**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. Make the last push in your organization to submit nominations. The nomination form on our website is short and easy to complete.

**Availability of Packard Center in Future is in Doubt—President Hossain**—Currently the Arts Council of Fairfax County leases the Packard Center from the Park Authority and sublets to the Federation space to store our files and to hold our twice monthly meetings. It appears the Arts Council will relocate when its lease expires this spring. Who would then lease the Packard Center and arrangements as to how we would be able to continue using the facility are currently unknown.

**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.

**Citizen Association Services—Don Hinman**—Tania reported that our legislative position on resale packets is listed as a top priority by Delegate Mark Sickles.

**Education—Leonard Bumbaca, Ed Saperstein, & Tim Thompson**—Ed Saperstein is drafting Federation testimony on the FCPS Superintendent's proposed budget. (Public hearings are scheduled January 30-31.)

**Environment—Roger Diedrich & Flint Webb**—Roger and Flint helped draft the Agenda for a Sustainable and Competitive Fairfax County that was initiated by the Fairfax Coalition for Smarter Growth (FCSG). Other Federation board members had many comments about the various positions and the document in general; Flint sent these to Stewart Schwartz, Executive Director of FCSG. (Post meeting Flint reported that Stewart distributed a revised draft about January 13.)

The Friends of Accotink Creek last month documented online instances of trash along Accotink Stream, posting both photographs and geographic coordinates. (See <http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10150453415739839.386053.139483784838&type=http://www.facebook.com/media/set/?set=a.10150453415739839.386053.139483784838&type=3>). Some of the trash is substantial, including an automobile. Flint is helping this group write its first set of bylaws.

On January 17 Flint testified at the public hearing for the Fairfax County Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC) on the 2011 Annual Report on the Environment. Flint's comments focused on the need to include climate adaptation considerations when planning and reviewing plans for construction in or near flood plains, installing new stormwater management facilities, and evaluating the adequacy of water resources.

The Virginia Conservation Network will hold Conservation Lobby Day 2012 in Richmond on January 23. Roger is organizing a group that will be talking to State Senator Chap Peterson.

**Human Services—Cherie Tripp Lejeune**—Tania reported that the Mobile Neighbor application that Cherie is developing has been demonstrated for the Mantua Civic Association.

**Land Use—Fred Costello**—Fred made a presentation to the Mason District Council on January 18. He reported that residents there are greatly concerned about infill. This comment was supported by the representatives attending tonight from Braddock and Providence district councils.

Fred will call Chairman Bulova's office to inquire whether she has seen our letter and resolution on zoning, as we have had no feedback yet.

Fred cited Ms. Michael's comment that the County was surprised by the large number of students in K-3. He noted that many County re-development plans assume low populations of children, especially in multi-family units (one child per 13 dwelling units).

**Legislation—Frank Anderson**—No report.

**Public Safety—As'ad Hess-Linckost**—No report.

**Resolutions—Bill Hanks**— No report.

**Transportation—Carey Campbell and Jeff Parnes**—No report.

**Website—Jeff Parnes**—Jeff was not present. A suggestion was made that the contacts page is too long and should be made easier to navigate. Joe Gibson will pass this information to Jeff.

### **District Council Reports**

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

**Braddock—Art Wells**—Bill Barfield, Chair of the BDC attended this meeting. He raised the question whether there was a role for the Federation regarding BRAC (DOD Base Realignment and Closure) issues. This generated much discussion and an intention to monitor the issues closely to determine if and what actions the Federation should take.

**Lee—Don Hinman**—The Lee District Supervisor's office will hold its Annual Open House, Saturday, January 21, 2012 from 1:00 p.m. to 3:00 p.m.

Following the open house, Supervisor McKay will host a meeting to review the results of the Penn Daw Special Study, whose purpose was to develop a future vision for the land area west of North Kings Highway and surrounding commercial uses comprising the 11-acre Penn Daw Plaza.

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

**Mount Vernon—Karen Pohorylo**—No report.

**Providence—Flint Webb**—Michelle Thompson, Fairfax County's Homeowner and Community Association Liaison, will address the district council at its January 24 meeting.

**Springfield—Mike Thompson**—Ed Wyse reported the SDC will meet January 31.

**Sully—Jeff Parnes**—The Sully District Council meets tonight.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 10:15 p.m.

**Next Meetings**

Our next meetings will focus on developing the Federation's positions on the school and county budgets.

The next board meeting is on Thursday, February 16, 2012, (this time on the third Thursday of the month) 7:30 p.m., at the Packard Center.

The next membership meeting is Thursday, February 23, 2012 (this time on the fourth Thursday of the month), 7:30 p.m., at the Packard Center.

*Minutes written by Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary*