

February Membership Meeting Minutes

7:30 pm, Thursday, February 21, 2013

meeting took place at the Mason Governmental Center – 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale

Approved by membership at the April 18, 2013, meeting

Call to Order/Welcome – Meeting was called to order by 1st Vice President Rob Jackson at 7:30 p.m.

Rob Jackson introduced Mary Lipsey, President of the non-profit Fairfax County Cemetery Preservation Association (www.honorfairfaxcemeteries.org). Ms. Lipsey gave us a brief overview of cemeteries in Fairfax County and spoke about the importance of preserving these sites. The Association is looking for volunteers to help preserve and protect Fairfax County's endangered cemeteries.

► **Membership Programming—Human Services**

Human Services Chairs Cherie Lejeune and Morgan Jameson introduced the evening's program and Jesse Ellis as the facilitator for the panel of experts for 'a sample' of human services programs being offered to county residents. Mr. Ellis gave an overview of the various resources available to county residents and thanked the Federation for the opportunity to showcase some human services programs. The panel discussion was started by Cheryl Keiper of the Department of Family Services who spoke on Parenting Programs (more information is available on their website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dfs/childrenyouth/parentingresource); Jamie MacDonald of the Community Services Board spoke on Mental Health First Aid (more information is available on their website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/csb); Evan Braff of the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services spoke on Community, Teen and Senior Centers (more information is available on their website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs); Tom Barnett, Office to Prevent and End Homelessness, spoke on the 100,000 Homes and Hypothermia Prevention Program (more information is available on their website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/homeless/real-cost-homelessness.htm); Taylor Dixon of the Department of Neighborhood and Community Services spoke on Athletic Services (more information is available on their website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/ncs/athletics); and Sharon Arndt of the Health Department's Department of Neighborhood and Community Services spoke on the Partnership for a Healthier Fairfax (more information is available on their website at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/livehealthy).

► **Administrative Topics** – Rob Jackson

► **Bulletin/Newsletter** – Fred Costello newsletter articles are due by February 24

► **Membership Meeting Minutes** – minutes for the January 2013 membership meeting were approved

► **Treasurer's Report** – Scott Schlegel – treasurer's report was received and filed

► **Citizen of the Year Banquet** – Rob Jackson recognized and congratulated the work of the Citizen of the Year Selection Committee and highlighted the accomplishment of the 2012 Citizen of the Year – Pete Murphy and the Honorable Kate Hanley - the recipient of the Special Gratitude / Lifetime Achievement Award. Tania Hossain announced Rose Chu and Phyllis Payne as recipients of the Citation of Merit Award and Kyle Talente as recipient of the Special Gratitude Award. In addition, she mentioned that preliminary announcement has been made to the public and invitations have been sent out.

► **District Council Reports (Dranesville & Hunter Mill - N/A)**

Membership – Open Floor – no report from membership

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Braddock - Art Wells – Art Wells reported the following via email: The monthly Braddock District Council (BDC) Membership meeting on February 13th was the BDC's annual "Information Forum" program featuring the West Springfield Police Unit under Captain Joe Hill. He and his officers addressed the overall timely topic of Community Security encompassing eight specific related services. Their presentation, followed by discussion, was well done. The 2014 School and County Budgets will be featured at the March 13th meeting.

The BDC's "Aging in Place" Committee continues to meet twice monthly on the first and third Wednesdays. with increasing interest and participation. At its February 20th meeting two presentations were given on the subjects of "Scams Against Older Adults: and "Legal and Financial Documents." The committee's next meeting will be on March 6th at Braddock Hall

Lee – Chris Soule – The next meeting of Lee District is on 2/27, with a presentation on zoning and code enforcement. Our March meeting is 3/13, and our presentation will be on the county and school budgets.

Mason – Roger Hoskins – Roger Hoskins reported that the MDC will be voting on 2 resolutions: An independent auditor for school budgets and a litter resolution. The program will feature the Annandale Chamber of Commerce and the 395 ramp people.

Mt. Vernon – Karen Pohorylo – no report

Providence – Flint Webb – Flint Webb sent report via email that the Providence District Council held an organizing meeting on February 19, 2013. Everyone in attendance determined that the PDC had an important role to play in the civic fabric of the community. Half a dozen stepped up to volunteer to set up a meeting this year and the announcement of a Program Committee. There was considerable discussion about whether the Program Committee would have the responsibility of setting up policy for the PDC and for the time being the PDC will not be making any resolutions until the integration between the PDC Board and the newly formed Program Committee can be established. After the next PDC meeting, the PDC will return to the policy of having monthly meetings on the third Tuesday evening every month. See <http://providencedistrictcouncil.org/>.

Upcoming meetings:

March 6 – Providence District Council Meeting Supervisor Linda Smyth, School Board Member Patty Reed, and the county and school budget staffs will discuss the FY2014 County and school budgets. Dunn Loring Administrative Center, 2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring, VA 22027. Board elections will take place at 7 pm and the budget presentation will begin at 7:15.

Sully - Jeff Parnes – no report

Springfield – Ed Wyse reported that the SDC met on February 19 to hear Supervisory Herrity deliver his State of the County address. His remarks are available at www.fairfaxcounty.gov/springfield/pdf_files/herrity_report/state_of_county_2013.pdf.

► Board & Committee Reports

Budget – Rob Jackson & Linda Boone – Linda Boone gave a brief overview of the next steps for the Federation's review of the County's budget and welcomed membership participation.

Citizens Association Services – Don Hinman

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Education – Leonard Bumbaca, Tim Thompson & Ed Saperstein – On behalf of the Education Committee, Charlie Dane presented the Access4All Resolution for a membership vote. The resolution was referred back to the Education Committee with recommendation to bring to the Board at its February meeting.

Environment - Flint Webb send in report via email in advance of this meeting. His report follows:

- **Uranium Mining – February 19**

Uranium mining may be dead in the General Assembly but an article in the E&E News suggests that the lobbyists have taken the fight to Governor McDonnell.

- **Traces of Anxiety Drug Affect Behavior in Fish – February 14**

Researchers in Sweden found fish exposed to Oxazepam anti-anxiety medications became less social. The Federation’s Legislative Program urges research and ensuing legislation to mitigate pharmaceutical and endocrine disrupter pollution in Virginia waters. For further information about the Swedish research see www.nytimes.com/2013/02/15/science/traces-of-anxiety-drug-may-affect-fish-behavior-study-shows.html?_r=1&.

- **EPA Invites Communities to Apply for Smart Growth Assistance – February 13**

The EPA put a call out to communities that would like smart growth implementation assistance (SGIA). The program will provide assistance in four areas:

1. **Community Resilience to Disasters and Climate Change** – Projects should aim to develop planning principles and building design guidelines that ensure future development provides communities with better protection against storms, floods, and other natural disasters.
2. **Redevelopment for Job Creation** – Projects should aim to support growing industries that provide quality jobs for existing residents using land use policies that direct development to existing

neighborhoods, are pedestrian-friendly, allow for transit connections, and are close to businesses and public services.

3. **Manufactured and Modular Homes in Sustainable Neighborhood Design** – Projects should help communities that are using manufactured and modular homes to address sudden population and economic growth. These communities should provide a mix of uses and maximize existing streets and other infrastructure investments, community gathering spaces, and water and energy efficiency.
4. **Medical and Social Service Facilities Siting** – Projects should aim to explore planning for high-quality community service facilities, including health care centers and social services centers, in ways that support neighborhood economic development and healthy communities.

For more information on the SGIA program and applications visit

<http://epa.gov/smartgrowth/sgia.htm>. For more information on the Partnership for Sustainable Communities visit www.sustainablecommunities.gov

- **Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee, Technical Advisory Committee – February 12**

1. Tier 3 tailpipe emission standards: EPA is in the process of developing tailpipe emission standards for cars and light-duty trucks. The emissions of heavy-duty trucks will also be affected by revised fuel sulfur standards. The rule is expected to

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include tailpipe emission standards for oxides of nitrogen (NO_x), reactive volatile organic compounds (VOCs) and particulates (PM) and will lower the sulfur content limits for gasoline to allow for use of 3-way catalyst controls. The rule is expected to lower NO_x emissions from existing vehicles by 25%. The reduction in current vehicles' emissions is achieved by the introduction of cleaner fuels. The rule is projected to be published in the Federal Register this March. The TAC approved a letter for action by the MWAQC to go to EPA endorsing the new standards.

2. New roadside air quality monitors: EPA is requiring States (including the District of Columbia) to install roadside ambient air quality monitors. One of the new Virginia monitors will be installed near the mixing bowl. The exact location of the new monitor has not been determined yet but it is expected that wherever the new monitors will go they are likely to be among the highest reading monitors in the region. The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality (VDEQ) has upgraded all the ozone monitors so that the QA/QC can be done overnight.
3. Mobile emissions budget: The VOC and NO_x budgets are projected to continue to drop due to new tailpipe emissions standards but are projected to start increasing again in 2040 as the area continues to grow. Due to changes the mobile emissions budget will need to go through a second round of public review.
4. Ana Prados was re-appointed to the TAC representing the Federation. Other stakeholder representatives come from the Edison Electric Institute, the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority and the Department of Defense.

For more information see www.mwcog.org/committee/committee/documents.asp?COMMITTEE_ID=97.

- **First Round of Public Meetings Fairfax Connector Silver Line, Phase 1 Bus Service Plan – January 31 - February 11**

The Fairfax Connector held a number of public hearings on the proposed bus service changes that will take place once the Silver Line to Wiehle Road has opened in December of this year. There will be 12 new Fairfax Connector routes; 21 existing routes (41% of all Connector routes) will be modified; and six routes will be discontinued. Many of the routes being modified had been terminating at the West Falls Church Metro stations – they now will terminate at the Wiehle Road Metro station instead. Other routes that will be modified are routes that had terminated at the Tyson's Westpark Park and Ride and those will terminate at one of the Tyson's area Metro Stations instead. The discontinued routes are duplicated by Metro Service or some of the new routes. The time between Silver Line trains is expected to be 6 minutes during rush hour; the same as the current and future Orange Line. To accommodate Silver Line trains going through the Rosslyn tunnel the Blue Line frequency will be decreased or some Blue Line Trains may terminate at the Rosslyn Metro Station. The Connector expects that there will be no increased cost to the system as a result of the changes and in fact they are expecting the time between busses will decrease due to the shorter bus runs. The plan will be taken up by the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors in July. For more information see the Fairfax Connector Silver Line, Phase 1 Bus Service Plan web site www.fairfaxcounty.gov/connector/routes/dulles_rail/.

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• Friends of Accotink Creek (FACc) – February 4

The FACc has started planning the Sustainable Living Presentations as part of the Lands and Waters Grant. There are four specific topics being developed:

- Stormwater Management @ Home: This program would involve having professionals look at stormwater management issues at individual homes or neighborhoods and discuss remedies including rough cost estimates.
- Composting for Your Home: Discuss options for composting household food scraps and how to use home compost.
- What is a RPA and What You Can and Can't Do: This will be a basic primer on Resource Protection Areas.
- Permeable Pavers: This will discuss the different types of porous pavers and how they could be use in your yards.
- Native Plant Landscaping: This will be a basic introduction to the wonderful native plants and how they could be used in your yard.

All these programs are in development but may be available to your homeowner or civic association later this year. If your HOA or CA would like to receive any of these presentations contact Flint Webb, the Federation Environment Chair, and he will put you in touch with the folks preparing the presentations.

• Federation Board Meeting – January 24

The Federation Board was treated to an excellent presentation about the litter clogging up our streams from Elizabeth Martin. The presentation has been sent to be posted on the Environmental Committee Federation web page www.fairfaxfederation.org/environment1.htm. The Board requested additional information and failed to act on the proposed resolution. One of the new issues discussed in the debate

surrounding the litter resolution was the problem of shopping carts being discarded in the streams. Replacing shopping carts are a significant cost to commercial businesses in the area and are also difficult to remove from our stream valleys. There was also a discussion about requiring businesses to charge for shopping bags; several bag bills were introduced this year but they died in committee. This issue will be re-introduced in conjunction with the 2014 Legislative Program.

• Friends of Accotink Creek (FACc) – January 22

The FACc has been given a grant from Lands and Waters. The Grant includes three parts:

1. Sustainable living Presentations: Prepare a set of presentations for Home Owner Associations, Civic Associations, and District Councils on a number of environmental issues.
2. Community Engagement: Originally the concept was to outreach to specific HOAs and homeowners to explain the need for stormwater easements so the County can go forward on projects that are being held up due to lack of necessary easements.
3. Filing for 501(c)(3) status: This will require preparation of Articles of Incorporation and By-Laws. The organization will be a member organization. There was some discussions about the advantages and disadvantages of registering as a 501(c)(3) or 501(c)(4) organization but the upshot was that the advantages of being able to get tax deductible donations outweighed the limitation on political activity.

FACc also had a tour of a construction site to identify issues with the stormwater management procedures. The plan is to develop a cadre of citizen inspectors that could

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help the County identify improper stormwater management at construction sites to help extend oversight capability.

FAC has also started planning for the spring stream cleanups and would like to use the cleanups to educate the public about other issues in our streams including erosion, invasive plants, rare and endangered native plants, and hazards such as poison ivy. The plan is to have a designated person to walk the stream with the volunteers to point out things along the way.

FAC officially signed their position supporting EPA's attempt to regulate peak flow as a surrogate for sediment loading.

Upcoming Meetings:

February 25 – Monthly Meeting of Friends of Accotink Creek. 7 pm Audrey Moore Rec Center, 8100 Braddock Road, Annandale, VA 22003. See www.accotink.org/.

February 25 - State Implementation Plan Revision - 1997 Fine Particulate Matter National Ambient Air Quality Standards. 7 pm, Fairfax County Government

Center, in conference room 2/3. For further information see <http://townhall.virginia.gov/ViewNotice.cfm?GNID=438>.

February 26 – Master Naturalist training program starts. The training includes 40 hours of training meeting on Mondays. For more information see www.virginiamasternaturalist.org/fairfax.html#training.

February 28 – Air & Waste Management Association, Baltimore-Washington Chapter meeting. Dr. Ana Prados (Federation MWAQC TAC representative) will describe using satellite data to monitor air quality. 6:30 – 9:30 pm, National Association of Clean Air Agencies (NACAA) offices located at 444 North Capitol Street, NW - Suite 307- Washington, DC 20001. Conflicts with the Federation Board meeting so I will be missing the February Board meeting.

Human Services – Cherie Tripp Lejeune & Morgan Jameson – no further report

Land Use - Fred Costello & Matt Bell – Fred Costello reported that the Reston Plan has stalled right now.

Legislation – Frank Anderson – no report. Tania Hossain reported that the Federation's legislative agenda take action items generated some

Membership – Tania Hossain welcomed Sleepy Hollow Civic Association and Glen Haven Farms HOA

Public Safety – Melissa Smarr – no report

Resolutions – Bill Hanks – reported that the litter resolution was not ready for review per the President.

Transportation – Jeff Parnes – no report

Website – Jeff Parnes – no report

Next Meetings:

Board meetings are on February 28 (Budget) at Braddock Hall and March 21 (Budget) at Mason Governmental Center; Membership meeting with guest speaker Fairfax County Executive Ed Long is on March 28 (Approval of the Federation's FY 2014 Fairfax County Budget Resolution) at Braddock Hall.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:40 pm by presiding officer Rob Jackson, 1st Vice President

Minutes respectfully submitted by Tania Hossain, Secretary Pro Temp