

Board Meeting Minutes

December 5, 2013

Call to Order/Welcome – Rob Jackson

The November/December meeting of the Board of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order by President Rob Jackson at 7:38 p.m. at Hokkaido Seafood Buffet, 5900 Leesburg Pike, Falls Church, VA.

Present: Rob Jackson, Ed Wyse, Bill Barfield, Linda Boone, Scott Schlegel, Ed Saperstein, William Hanks, Tim Thompson, Morgan Jameson, Flint Webb, Fred Costello, Kathy Kaplan, Matt Bell, Linda Boone, Tania Hossain, Cherie Tripp Lejeune, Daniela and John Cockayne, Don Hineman

Guests: Margaret Wyse, Bernadette Saperstein, Sue Miller

Administrative Topics

The Board approved the Federation subsidizing this holiday Board meeting. Each member paid \$10 for the buffet.

Appointments: Bill Barfield— Ana Prados was tentatively reapproved to her position on the Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Committee--Technical Advisory Committee (MWQAC - TAC), pending receipt of her CV and request to continue.

The Bulletin (Newsletter): Fred Costello, Editor—January 1 is the due date for articles for the combined December-January Bulletin.

Board Meeting Minutes: Linda Boone, Recording Secretary—The Board unanimously approved the minutes of the October board meeting as moved by Mr. Hanks and seconded by Mr. Webb. The Minutes are filed for record.

Treasurer's Report: Scott Schlegel, Treasurer— Memberships have increased, so the budget is in the black. Following a motion by Mr. Webb and a second, the report was received and filed.

Citizen of the Year Banquet: Tania Hossain updated that the publicity for nominations for the award is starting. The SAIC sponsorship has not been confirmed for this year. Members were asked to identify other sponsors who may be able to contribute smaller amounts to the event, which will be held at the Tysons Crown Plaza. Tysons Partnership may be able to help as well as the South County Development Corporation. Please let Ms. Hossain know if there ideas for the program.

Board and Committee Reports

Budget: Linda Boone—President Jackson remarked that the Federation has done well this year by identifying issues that are important to our homeowners and then providing quality analysis and recommendations to the Board of Supervisors. He encouraged the Federation to approach the budget review similarly. He suggested that the strength/value of the Federation would be to inform the Board of Supervisors what our members consider to be a balanced budget—by adding and reducing funds to get

to the budget number we recommend to the Board. We need to make hard decisions, not just support various budget items. Ms. Boone distributed a copy of the process she had previously emailed to the officers and board members concerning the principles for reviewing the budget and items the Federation may want to focus on. She asked members to consider what 8-10 budget items we should concentrate on during this budget and the Board will approve that revised strategy at the January meeting. She also asked for leads for each of the topics who will ensure the analysis and recommendations are completed timely for all votes by the Board and Membership. Ms. Boone has requested an early briefing from the Department of Management and Budget on the budget. She referred to the County Executive's briefing to the School Board that she had distributed earlier by email as containing the County's perspective on revenue for the FY 2015-16 budgets. Fairfax County Public Schools Superintendent Karen Garza has identified a projected budget shortfall of \$100M. The Federation will hear her full budget presentation at its Membership Meeting on January 16, 2014.

Mr. Webb mentioned that there were some items the Federation has considered outside the budget that may have impacts on the budgets. The Federation can approve resolutions or submit letters to the Board of Supervisors or other delegates/representatives at any time. Stormwater projects and Residential Studio Units are examples.

Tax districts, meals tax, and other items may affect budget discussions this year.

Citizen Association Services: Don Hinman—asked the Federation to continue its support of legislation this session that would restore the ability of HOAs to assess charges for rules violations. This legislation is key to being able to effectively manage homeowner associations. We need to press Chap Peterson to support this legislation as he has been a vocal opponent in the past.

Education: Ed Saperstein, & Tim Thompson—Tim Thompson asked that the Membership meeting on January 16 start at 6:00 p.m. to accommodate Superintendent Garza's schedule. It was moved by Mr. Thompson, seconded by Mr. Bell, and unanimously approved to move the meeting. This will allow Federation members to hear about the State of Fairfax County Public Schools directly from the Superintendent. The meeting will be held at the Schools' Administrative Offices on Gatehouse Road.

Environment: Flint Webb—met with Delegate Kay Kory to discuss environmental issues—authority for County to institute a bag fee; ability to charge road sign violators is now effective; probably will not be any legislation about uranium mining this year; and Metro to Centreville discussions.

Human Services: Cherie Lejeune—discussed success in reaching out to older County residents. She asked for a letter of support from the Federation to the District Councils to demonstrate the Next Door software and outreach. She has worked with Evan Branff of Fairfax County Neighborhood and Community Services to help improve communication with seniors in HOAs.

Land Use: Fred Costello—the Federation's resolution on Residential Studio Units was successful. The Board of Supervisors has taken low density housing sites out of potential locations for RSUs and made other important changes to Zoning's proposal.

Library Ad-hoc Committee: Kathy Kaplan reported huge successes with the Federation's position on libraries. A new strategic plan is required, the Beta Plan test is rejected, the Board of Supervisors approved money to replace collections decimated by recent weeding, and the 45 vacant positions throughout the library system will be filled. The Library Trustees are to develop a new timeline and present it to the Board of Supervisors on January 11, 2014 for increased community involvement in charting the course of libraries in the future. The Ad-hoc Committee found a strong supporter in Deputy County Executive Dave Mulchany. This was Ms. Kaplan's final report at this time. Mr. Hanks moved approval of the report, Mr. Webb seconded, and the report was unanimously accepted by the Board.

Regarding the Federation's Resolution about library operations, its approved was moved by Ms. Hossain and seconded by Ms. Cockayne. Discussion included the unanimous removal of the last whereas clause. The Resolution was unanimously approved.

Ms. Kaplan asked for additional funding to support her continued requests for information from the library system. It was moved and seconded that an additional \$100 be approved. The motion passed with 1 Nay and 2 Abstentions.

Legislation: Mr. Barfield—stated that delegates are awaiting receipt of the Federation’s Legislative Package. He asked for permission to discuss topics and send letter from President Jackson to the delegates. Ms. Hossain moved and Mr. Webb seconded the motion which was unanimously approved. Discussion followed about the need to begin legislative discussions earlier in the year to allow time to get the Board and Membership’s approval of legislative topics to delegates in time for them to craft bills and prefill them in early December. In the future, legislative discussions will begin during the September Membership meeting and will be completed with the October Membership and Board meetings.

Membership: Per Mr. Wyse, the First Vice President, the Federation has 44 paid members.

Public Safety: Daniela Cockayne—no report

Resolutions: Bill Hanks— no report

Transportation: Jeff Parnes/Karen Campblin—Not present and no report.

Website: Jeff Parnes—not present and no report.

District Council Reports

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

Braddock: Mr. Barfield reported the he attended the Taste of Braddock and the Fairfax Committee of 100 meetings.

Lee: Chris Soule—not present and no report

Mason: Roger Hoskin—not present and no report

Mount Vernon: Karen Pohorylo—not present and no report

Providence District Council: Flint Webb—reported that Sheri White gave a presentation on the 911 system. The Holiday Party will be held December 17.

Springfield: Ed Wyse—the District Council and Supervisor Herrity hosted a community meeting on December 4 concerning Residential Studio Units. Major concerns were problems with changing the character of neighborhoods and enforcing the number of occupants and vehicles.

Sully: Jeff Parnes—not present and no report

Old Business

None

New Business

Coffee mugs are needed. After review via email, the mugs recommended are cobalt blue with white revised text that indicates the Federation’s 75 years of community service. If there is space on the cup, the Federation’s website will be added. It was unanimously approved to order 144 of the mugs to give as mementoes to our speakers and guests at a cost of about \$1000.

Adjournment—The meeting adjourned at 9:35 p.m.

Next Meetings

Membership Meeting—January 16, 2014, 6:00 pm at the FCPS Administrative Offices on Gatehouse Road, Fairfax, VA

*Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations
Minutes of Board Meeting December 5, 2013*

Board Meeting—January 30, 2014, at 7:30 pm at Hidden Oaks Nature Center, 7701 Royce Street, Annandale, VA.

Minutes prepared by Linda Boone, Recording Secretary