

Membership Meeting Minutes

January 15, 2015

FINAL

Approved February 19,
2015

The December Membership meeting of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations (FCFCA) was called to order by President Tim Thompson at 7:46 p.m. at Mason District Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003.

Present:

Officers: Tim Thompson (President/Colvin's Glen-Colvin's Forest Citizens Association), Ed Wyse (First Vice President/Springfield/Membership/ Civic Association of West Springfield, Bill Barfield (Second Vice president/ Legislation/ Country Club View Civic Association), Matthew Bell (Treasurer/Legislation), Curtis Anderson (Recording Secretary/Budget), Fred Costello (Corresponding Secretary/Land Use/Fox Mill Estates Homes Association).

District Council Representatives: Art Wells (Braddock/Truro Homes Association), John Birch (Mason/Bel Air Homeowners Association), Katherine Ward (Mt. Vernon/Wellington Civic Association), Flint Webb (Providence/Environment).

Committee Chairs: Ed Saperstein (Education/Glen Haven Farms Homeowners Association).

Members: Jon Clark (Annandale Acres Civic Association), Ellen Young (Belle View Condominium Unit Owners Association), Karen Pohorylo (Engleside Civic Association), John Simonetti (North Springfield Civic Association), Carol Turner (Ravenwood Association), John Hanley (Reston Citizens Association), John Cockayne (Sleepy Hollow Citizens Association/Citizens Corps Council), Larry Clark (South County Federation), Charles Dane (Stone Haven Civic Association), and Philip Hughes (Westlawn Civic Association).

Others: Lucy Caldwell, Ned Poffenberger, Debbie Smith (Mason District Council)

Membership Program: Lucy Caldwell, Public Information Officer for Fairfax County Police, presented a short video then discussed the upcoming 2015 World Police and Fire Games next June 26 thru July 5, 2015. Fairfax County will be in the international spotlight with 12,000 public safety athletes from 70 countries participating in 60 sports in 53 area venues. Almost 2,000 Fairfax citizens of the 4,000 volunteers needed will help run the events. No charge for the tickets to watch the events. For more information see www.fairfax2015.com.

Administrative and Organizational Topics: Tim Thompson:

- **Citizen of the Year Award and Banquet.** For information see <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/coy1.htm>, to be held on May 3, 2015 at the Crowne Plaza at Tyson's Corner. Tania Hossain is in charge.
- **Library.** Update of meeting with Chairman Bulova and follow-on actions. Chairman Bulova had indicated in a statement that, in response to a resolution of the Federation, she was asking for an audit of the Library Foundation, the System Gift Funds, and the Friends of the Library groups. Ed Wyse reported that he made clear to the Chairman and the Auditor that the Federation had called for a comprehensive audit of the Library Administration and not of the Library Foundation or the Friends of the Library groups. Chairman Bulova acknowledged that the misinterpretation of the Federation's position occurred within Chairman Bulova's office. Subsequently, the Auditor to the Board of Supervisors has sent out a form to each of the Friends groups requesting information, and the Friends groups are upset about the form.

Federation Appointments: Tim Thompson:

- **Chairman of Resolutions Committee.** Due to the recent passing of Bill Hanks, we are in the process of looking for a new Chairman of the Resolutions Committee and a new Federation representative to AHOME.
- **Federation's appointee to the Engineering Standards Review Committee.** Jim Phelps has resigned as the Federation's appointee to the Engineering Standards Review Committee. Bill Barfield has received names of two candidates to be reviewed at next week's Board meeting.

Bulletin/Newsletter: Fred Costello needs articles the Saturday following the board meeting on January 24, 2015.

Meeting Minutes: Curtis Anderson presented the minutes of December 11, 2014 Membership Meeting to be approved with one amendment deleting Karen Pohorylo as a Mount Vernon District represented. Approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Matt Bell presented the Treasurer's report (attached) showing cash and equity of \$18,224.15. Net Income from July 1 through January 15, 2015 was \$601.23; \$860.00 in membership dues were collected. Charles Dane moved, seconded by Bill Barfield to receive and file the Treasurer's Report. Approved unanimously.

Unfinished Business: No unfinished business presented.

New Business:

1. **Legislative Town Hall Meetings:** Please attend the town hall meetings that are being scheduled.

District Council Reports

(Dranesville & Hunter Mill - N/A)

1. Braddock – Art Wells – Report attached.
2. Lee – Chris Soule – Ed Wyse reported that Supervisor McKay is hosting his annual open house on Saturday, 1/24, at the Franconia government center.
3. Mason – John Birch – Debbie Smith reported on a petition and proposed resolution concerning the use of the Willston Community Center. The Council supports its use as a school as opposed to a new community services building. Tim Thompson indicated that the resolution has been referred to both the Land Use and the Education Committees to bring to the Federation Board.
4. Mt. Vernon – Katherine Ward– Jerry Hyland Town Hall meeting is January 31st. Still concerned about the \$4 million for the Route 1 extension but it looks like the money will be made available.
5. Providence – Flint Webb – Report attached.
6. Springfield – Ed Wyse - No report.
7. Sully – Jeff Parnes – Although Jeff did not attend, he furnished a written report via email:
 - December meeting: Sully Planning Commissioner John Litzenberger discussed ongoing trends in land use and transportation from his perspective
 - January Meeting: Members of the Loudoun County planning staff will speak to developments in the Route 50 Corridor in their county
8. Membership – Open Floor – No items presented.

Board & Committee Reports

1. Budget – Curtis Anderson – No report.
2. Citizens Association Services – Don Hinman – No report.
3. Education –Ed Saperstein & Nancy Trainer – Ed Saperstein reported (a) School system working on a long term strategic plan, and (b) the Superintendent released the FY2016 budget requesting just under 4% increase which more than the Board of Supervisors' guidelines, but less of a difference than has been proposed in recent years.
4. Environment - Flint Webb – Report attached. The Federation's Cankerworm resolution has been forwarded by Chairman Bulova to the appropriate officials.
5. Human Services – Cherie Tripp Lejeune & Morgan Jameson – No report.
6. Land Use - Fred Costello & Jack Dobbyn – No report.
7. Library - Kathy Kaplan – Report attached.
8. Legislation - Bill Barfield & Matt Bell – see discussion above under Membership Report. Several Federation 2015 Legislative Top 11 Issues have had movement in related General Assembly bills (not all with patrons from the Fairfax delegation):
 - Federation Resolution 15C03 Plastic Bag Fee/Credit is referred to Senate Committee on Finance as Senate Bill SB886.
 - Federation Resolution 15H02 Declare Libraries to be Essential Services is before House Subcommittee #2 as HB2066.

Federation Resolution 15E02 School Opening Date referred to House Committee on Education as HB1838 School Calendar.

Federation Resolution 15E03 Update LCI has related activity with HB2394 Local Composite Index; Appeal of Computation and with SB309 Composite Index, Local; Procedure for Appealing Computation referred to Committee on Education and Health.

Federation Resolution 15P01 Law for Hands-free Driving has two related active bills to amend the Code of Virginia: SB1279 and HB1926 relating to holding personal communications devices while driving.

Don Hinman/Citizens Association Services was alerted to follow Senate Bill SB1008 Homeowner Bill of Rights.

9. Membership – Ed Wyse & Tania Hossain – Ed Wyse reported 49 members.
10. Public Safety – Daniela Cockayne– Cybersecurity and Phishing schemes are getting more elaborate and frequent; if it happens frequently we suggest blocking your phones. There have been incidences of thieves stealing mail from mailboxes to obtain identity information including brokerage bills.
11. Resolutions – VACANT – No report.
12. Transportation – Jeff Parnes & Karen Campblin – Jeff submitted written input via email that Ed Wyse reported: .
 - Recent Federation Resolution regarding endorsement for \$4M funding for mass transit on Rte. 1 corridor study sent to elected officials
 - I-66 Improvements Public Information Meetings are scheduled for Jan. 26, 27, 28, and 29. More information can be found on <http://transform66.org/>
 - Working with county to ensure Fairfax Connector bus routes are shown on all area maps through which each route travels
13. Website – Jeff Parnes, Fred Costello & Brian Graham – Jeff submitted written input via email that Ed Wyse reported:
 - The COY page is active, and now allows attachments to be uploaded as part of the application.
 - In discussion with Treasurer regarding creating online reimbursement request form.

Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

Next Meetings:

- Board Meeting, January 22, 2015, 7:30 p.m., Dunn Loring Center, Room 108 (Entrance 2), 2334 Gallows Rd, Dunn Loring, VA 22027.
- Membership Meeting: Subject to be determined, Feb. 19, 2015, 7:30 p.m., Braddock Hall, 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke.

Minutes prepared by Curtis M. Anderson, Recording Secretary

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations

Balance Sheet
 As of January 15, 2015

	Dec. 11, 14
ASSETS	
Current Assets	
Checking/Savings	
BB&T Act # 5234331304 (Checking)	18,224.15
Total Checking/Savings	18,224.15
Total Current Assets	18,224.15
TOTAL ASSETS	18,224.15
LIABILITIES & EQUITY	
Equity	
1110 – Retained Earnings	15,917.94
3000 – Opening Bal Equity	1,704.98
Net Income	601.23
Total Equity	18,224.15
TOTAL LIABILITIES & EQUITY	18,224.15

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations

Income Statement
 July 1 through January 15, 2015

	Jul 1 – Jan 15, 2015
Income	
4080 – Interest	0.83
4090 – Membership Dues	860.00
4170 – Program Fees	
4180 – Banquet	0.00
Total 4170 – Program Fees	0.00
4190 – Reimbursed Expenses	-73.60
Total Income	787.23
Expense	
6160- Dues and Subscriptions	72.00
6230 – Licenses and Permits	25.00
6290 – Rent	89.00
Total Expense	186.00
Net Income	601.23

Braddock District Council Report – Art Wells, Braddock District Council Representative

- The annual “Taste of Braddock” co-sponsored by the Braddock District Supervisor’s Office and the Braddock District Council (BDC) was held on December 10th. It was another huge success as it was highly attended. Many food businesses in Braddock District contributed to the success of the event.
- BDC’s meeting on January 14th featured two “close to home” presentations. The first was by Tom Kennedy (tfkinva@aol.com). He discussed his involvement with VDOT in the replacement of ADA ramps on the sidewalks of The Kings Park Community to form “Yard Curbs” to make these ramps ADA compliant. The second presentation was by Rich and Marion Taschler (richtash@msn.com) who discussed their self-taught, do-it-yourself efforts over 31 years to super insulate and solarize their home in Burke which they bought in 1975.
- Tom Kennedy also informed the Council of initial actions to organize a citizens’ Task Force to make recommendations for the renovation of the 40 year old Audrey Moore RECenter. The first meeting of the “Friends of Audrey Moore RECenter” is scheduled at 7:30 on February 5th at Braddock Hall.
- The next BDC meeting will be on February 11th which will feature a presentation by the county Fire Department.
- The next meeting of BDC’s special committee of “Aging in Place” will be on January 21st at 7:00 at Braddock Hall.

Providence District Council Report – Flint Webb, Providence District Council Representative

- On December 16th, the Providence District Council held the annual Holiday Party. Delegate Mark Keam and supervisor Linda Smyth. One major topic of discussion was the plans for widening I-66 and the impacts the project will have on the District.
- The PDC is still in the process of revising their bylaws and articles of incorporation.

Upcoming Events:

- January 21st, 7:30 – 9:00 pm, **Providence District Council Meeting**, Dunn Loring Administrative Center, 2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring, VA 22027, Entrance #2, room 108.
 - Topic: **I-66 and Our Neighborhoods**.
 - Speaker: Commissioner Micah Himmel, Providence District Representative to the Fairfax County Transportation Advisory Commission (<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/fcdot/tac/>) will provide an overview of the work of TAC and representative from VDOT will brief us on the I-66 Project.

Check the Providence District Council web site (<http://providencedistrictcouncil.org/>) for details

Environmental Report – Flint Webb, P.E. Environment Committee Chair

Activity since the November 20th Membership meeting some key activities of the Environment committee:

- Friends of Accotink Creek (FACc)Town Meeting: The Friends of Accotink Creek held their monthly town meeting on December 15, 2014. The minutes are available at http://www.accotink.org/2014/FACC_Meeting_20141215_Notes.pdf. Key items discussed were:
 - **Whole Foods Funds/Mastenbrook Grant:** Environmental Consulting Services, Inc. has indicated an interest in conducting a muscle survey of the Accotink below the Lake Accotink damn with the Partnership for the Delaware Estuary.
 - **Coalition of Watershed Friends in Fairfax:** The FACc is exploring the possibility of developing a coalition of watershed friends groups in Fairfax County.
 - **Virginia Stream Restoration Funding:** Fairfax County recently received a grand from the Virginia Stormwater Local Assistance Fund to cover stream restoration projects in Wakefield Park, the Davenport neighborhood and on an intermittent tributary in Lake Accotink Park. These projects may offer opportunities to rescue native plants which might be relocated to the recent Brookfield Pond project.
 - **Elections:** The FACc held elections.
 - **Long Branch (south) Trail:** The County has received a proffer to construct a 10 foot wide asphalt trail along the Long Branch south tributary to the Accotink. The plans indicate that the trail will eventually run the length of Long Branch South to the Springfield Metro station.
 - **Stream Monitoring:** 20 volunteers showed up to help out at the December 13th quarterly monitoring at Lake Accotink Park including one person in a wheelchair.
 - **Americana Park Planting:** There is a plan for wet meadow planting in the Americana park next spring. Earth Sangha will be providing the plants. DPWES is hoping that the FACc will be able to provide volunteers to help with the planting.
 - **Trail Hikes:** Kris Unger would like to schedule regular trail hikes on the afternoons of the second Sunday every month.
- Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC) meeting: At the December 20th EQAC meeting the main subject was the Fall Cankerworm spraying. The meeting was set up as a debate between Fairfax County Pest Management Branch and a consortium of citizen and environmental groups including the Audubon Society of Northern Virginia, Friends of Dyke Marsh, Friends of Mason Neck, Northern Virginia Bird Club Friends of Huntley Meadows and the Mount Vernon Council of Citizens Association Environment and Recreation Committee. The consensus of the EQAC was to continue spraying with better community outreach. It was pointed out that individual homeowners can ask that no spraying take place over their property.

- January 10th Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District (SWCD) Green Breakfast:
 - The guest for the January 10th Green Breakfast was Lily Whitesell, Watershed Specialist, Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District. Ms. Whitesell introduced the new Conservation Assistance Program (CAP). The CAP provides incentives for Fairfax County civic and homeowner associations to utilize more sustainable practices for community property – indoors or outdoors. The program will provide support for Watershed conservation and energy conservation programs. For more information see the web site: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/cap/>.
 - The Northern Virginia SWCD is also conducting a survey of homeowners about water and electricity conservation practices to find out whether programs such as the CAP will be effective in reducing stormwater runoff and/or reducing energy usage. To take the survey go to <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/XNNNFTZ>.
 - Finally the SWCD announced the annual native seeding sale. The theme is NOVA Natives inspired by the new native plant guide available for download at www.plantnovanatives.org. For more information on the seedling sale see: <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/nvswcd/seedlingsale.htm>.

Upcoming Events:

- January 19th, 7:00 to 9:00 pm: **Friends of Accotink Creek Town Hall Meeting**, Audrey Moore RECenter. See <http://www.accotink.org/> for details.
- January 21st, 7:30 pm: Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC) annual public hearing on the environment. Conference Rooms 2 and 3 of the Fairfax County Government Center, 12000 Government Center Parkway. For more information see <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dpz/eqac/>.
- January 26th – 29th, 6 – 8:30 pm: I-66 Widening Public Hearings at several locations in the County. See <http://transform66.org/> for details.
- January 28th, 7 – 8:30 pm Green Spring Gardens Master Plan Revision, Park Lawn Elementary School, 4116 Braddock Road, Alexandria. For more information see www.fairfaxcounty.gov/parks/plandev/green-spring-gardens.htm.
- February 16th, 7:00 to 9:00 pm: **Friends of Accotink Creek Town Hall Meeting**, Audrey Moore RECenter. See <http://www.accotink.org/> for details.
- February 21st, 11:30 am – 3 pm, Fairfax County Park Friends gathering, Frying Pan Farm Park.

Library Committee

I can't make it tonight, but I wanted to make a few comments about where things stand with regard to the library. The Auditor of the Board sent out a letter and a questionnaire to the 21 Friends of the Library groups on January 13, 2015.

Last night the Library Board met and from written notes sent me by a branch manager who attended, it appears the audit has generated a great deal of ill will and mistrust of the county among the Friends' groups. The various Friends' groups are individual, independent nonprofit organizations, 501 (c) 3. Two of the library trustees are on Friends' boards, Liz Clements for George Mason Regional Friends and Don Heinrichs for Sherwood Regional Friends. They both expressed frustration at the audit. There apparently is no way to intelligently complete it. Liz Clements demanded that the county has to provide more information as to why they are asking for this audit.

Some of the Friends have sought legal advice as to how to fill out the document which one Friends' president described as "incomprehensible and weird." It is clear from the document that the Auditor of the Board hasn't the foggiest idea how Friends conduct their operations.

At the meeting with Sharon Bulova it was stated that a new MOU, memorandum of understanding, will be given to the Library Board by the BOS at their joint meeting, Tuesday, January 20 at 10 am, Government Center, Room 9/10. Since the MOU is currently between each Friends' group and the Library Board, one assumes the Library Board will have to vote to approve any changes to the MOU.