

Board Meeting Minutes

August 6, 2015

FINAL

Approved September
24, 2015

The August meeting of the Board of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order on August 6, 2015, by First Vice President Ed Wyse pending the arrival of President Tim Thompson at 7:36 p.m. at Dunn Loring Center, Room 108, 2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring, VA 22027.

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), 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), Jeff Parnes (Sully/Transportation/Website/ Chantilly Highlands Homes Association).

Committee Chairs: Flint Webb (Environment), Cherie Tripp Lejeune (Human Services), Kathy Kaplan (Library/ Woodside at Holly Oak), Patrick Smaldore (Public Safety), Charlie Dane (Resolutions/Stone Haven Civic Association), Karen Campblin (Transportation), Nancy Trainer (Nominating/Education/ Potomac Hills Citizens Association).

Other: John Cockayne (Federation Representative to the Citizen Corps Council), Dottie Dane, LaTisha Elcock (Federation Representative to AAPAC)

Administrative and Organizational Topics

Calendar: Ed Wyse presented a calendar for Membership and Board meetings. The board approved the calendar without objection (attachment 5).

2016 Citizen of the Year (COY) Banquet: Ed Wyse moved, seconded by Curtis Anderson, to accept Jeff Parnes' proposal to hold the 2016 COY Banquet on April 3, 2016; motion passed. Jeff Parnes moved, for the Committee, to hold the 2016 COY Banquet at the Crowne Plaza Tysons Corner; motion passed. Jeff asked for volunteers to serve on the COY banquet committee, indicating that he hoped to have the committee review the menu options and solicit banquet sponsorships well in advance of the COY nomination period. If interested, please contact him at FedCOY2016@FairfaxFederation.org.

Federation Appointments:

- (a) Tim Thompson appointed Ambassador Dennis K. Hays (ret.) as Co-Chair of the Library Committee. The appointment was approved unanimously.
- (b) Tim Thompson appointed John Hanks to be reappointed to the Information Technology Policy Advisory Committee. The appointment was approved unanimously.
- (c) Tim Thompson is looking for people to appoint to the Criminal Justice Advisory Board and Fairfax Partnership for Youth.
- (d) Tim Thompson appointed Karen Fendrich to be Audit Committee Chair. Seconded by Bill Barfield. The appointment was approved unanimously.

Bulletin/Newsletter: Fred Costello – No report.

Meeting Minutes: Curtis Anderson presented the minutes for the May 28, 2015 Board Meeting and the June 30, 2015 Executive Committee Meeting. Nancy Trainer moved, seconded by Charlie Dane to approve the minutes of the May 28, 2015 Board Meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

Ed Wyse moved, seconded by Art Wells to approve the minutes of the June 30, 2015 Executive Committee Meeting. Motion approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: Matthew Bell reported Total Assets of \$\$14,895.94. Jeff Parnes moved, seconded by Nancy Trainer, to accept and file the Treasurer's report; motion approved unanimously. Thank you to Ed Wyse for depositing checks timely.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:

1. Education Committee – Resolution on the Advanced Academic Program (AAP): Nancy Trainer and LaTisha Elcock presented the proposed resolution. Flint Webb moved, seconded by Bill Barfield to approve the resolution by amending it to eliminate “Whereas” clauses 2, 3, 6, and 7, and the first clause of “Whereas” clause 11; motion approved unanimously (attachment 1).
2. Resolution on Need for Greater Cooperation Between Fairfax County and Fairfax County School Board: Charlie Dane presented the proposed resolution. Charlie Dane moved, seconded by Flint Webb to approve the resolution with minor typographical changes; motion approved unanimously (attachment 2).
3. Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Superintendent's Budget Task Force: Charlie Dane, representative to FCPS Supt Budget Task Force provided an update on the work of the 35 member committee. At this time, ALL ideas for savings or revenue increases that have been presented by committee members and the public are listed, their effect clarified, and associated savings given. Nothing can be taken off the list at this point. This list will be finalized August 19th and community meeting will be held on September 9th at South Lakes HS at 6:00 pm and on September 12th at 9:00 am at Mount Vernon HS. Other meetings may be held if requested by County Board and FCPS Board members.

Board & Committee Reports

1. Budget – Curtis Anderson – No report.
2. Citizens Association Services – Don Hinman – No report.
3. Education –Ed Saperstein & Nancy Trainer – Working on a second resolution on over identification of Level IV AAP students. Keeping an eye on school budget. Tim Thompson, Ed Saperstein and Nancy Trainer have continued efforts on using tobacco funds for education.
4. Environment - Flint Webb & Monica Billger – Green Breakfast on July 11 celebrated the founding of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District.
5. Human Services – Cherie Tripp Lejeune & Morgan Jameson – No report.
6. Land Use - Fred Costello – No report.
7. Library - Kathy Kaplan – Report attached (attachment 3).
8. Legislation - Bill Barfield, Matt Bell and Katherine Ward – Committee needs to develop its survey.
9. Membership – Ed Wyse & Shiasta Keating – The Committee’s outreach efforts resulted in three new members.
10. Public Safety – Daniela Cockayne and Patrick Smaldore – An article about drones was posted on the web page.
11. Resolutions – Charlie Dane – No report.
12. Transportation – Jeff Parnes & Karen Campblin – (a) proposal from VDOT to limit trucks on Edsall Road; (b) VTRANS/VDOT 2040 Plan is looking at corridors of statewide significance - discussing improvements to existing corridors and create a new corridor; (c) received feedback from testimony made in June; (d) Fairfax County Transportation Advisory Commission visited Fairfax Connector bus depot on West Ox Road – Fairfax Connector is among the 100 largest bus services in terms of ridership in the United States.
13. Website – Jeff Parnes, Fred Costello & Brian Graham – Jeff reminded the board that the 2016 email aliases were now in operation in the format FedXXXX2016@FairfaxFederation.org . The 2015 addresses will remain in place for another year and the 2014 addresses were deleted.

District Council Reports

(Dranesville & Hunter Mill - N/A)

1. Braddock – Art Wells – Report attached (attachment 4).
2. Lee – Vacant – No report.
3. Mason – John Birch – No report.
4. Mt. Vernon – Katherine Ward – No report.
5. Providence – Vacant – Elections held July 15, 2015, and Flint Webb is no longer the representative to the Federation.
6. Springfield – Ed Wyse - No report:
7. Sully – Jeff Parnes – In July Sully heard four land use cases and planned its meeting schedule for the remainder of 2015 and the first half of 2016. There will be no August meeting. They will be cosponsoring their sixth-bi-annual legislative candidates’ night in September and their second-quadrennial Sully candidate night in October.
8. Membership – Open Floor – No items announced.

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 9:57 p.m.

Next Meetings:

Membership Meeting – September 17, 2015, 7:30 p.m., at the new Providence Community Center, Classroom 2, 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax, VA 22031.

Board Meeting – September 24, 2015, Dunn Loring Center, Room 108, 2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring, VA 22027.

Minutes prepared by Curtis M. Anderson, Recording Secretary

Attachment 1

**Fairfax County Federation of Citizens' Associations
Proposed Resolution on the Advanced Academic Program**

WHEREAS, many studies have shown that advanced learners are best served when grouped together in academic classrooms; and

WHEREAS, FCPS provides services to advanced learners along a continuum of Advanced Academic services, ranking students according to their needs from Level I to Level IV, where Level IV represents students who require placement in a full-time Advanced Academic Program (AAP); and

WHEREAS, FCPS established "Centers" in which to gather Level IV AAP students from various base schools in order to ensure that these students would have an academic and socio-emotional cohort not typically available in their base schools; and

WHEREAS, the increase in the percentage of Level IV-identified AAP students has led to concerns that, as former FCPS teacher of the year Vern Williams has commented, "kids aren't grouped as rigorously [and therefore top students do not have] more than just four or five peers close enough in ability to choose from to create a peer group;"¹ and

WHEREAS, the special needs of the top students within the AAP may significantly differ from the needs of other students within the program; and

WHEREAS, the 2013 George Mason University review of FCPS' AAP stressed the importance of "critical mass" for gifted students, defined in part by the presence of at least two classes per grade level or subject area; and

WHEREAS, no single elementary school consistently identifies 50 or more students per grade level as Level IV-eligible; and

WHEREAS, FCPS' most recent Capital Improvement Program (CIP) suggests establishing AAP Centers at Franklin Sherman and Chesterbrook Elementary Schools which would not admit AAP-eligible students from outside their base school populations, and thus do not meet the traditional meaning of a Center within FCPS; and

¹ Davis, Noah. "What Makes You So Smart, Middle School Math Teacher?" *Pacific Standard Magazine*, 24 Oct. 2014.

WHEREAS, some elementary schools provide Level IV AAP services to their base school students through a Local Level IV program; and

WHEREAS, parents of students at elementary schools that have a Local Level IV program have a choice of whether or not to send their AAP-eligible students to a Center; and

WHEREAS, one of the strengths of FCPS as a school system is that it provides essential services to families through a variety of programs, based on which program is right for each individual child, rather than a “one size fits all” approach to education,

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, by the Federation:

1. We recommend that FCPS reject the suggestion within the CIP to establish “One School Centers,” such as those proposed at Franklin Sherman and Chesterbrook Elementary Schools; and
2. We recommend that FCPS direct the Department of Facilities and Transportation that in future planning, the CIP must take into consideration that the maintenance of a high-quality AAP requires FCPS to offer the option of a strong Center-based education to all Level IV-identified students in elementary school.

Attachment 2

Proposed Resolution on Need for Greater Cooperation between Fairfax County and Fairfax County School Board

Background

In a sequence of three Joint Fairfax County Board of Supervisors (BOS) and Fairfax County School Board (FCSB) Committees over the past 5 years, the supervisors and school board members have expanded existing cooperative actions, but as the most recent joint BOS/FCSB Budget Committee has stated “the wants/needs can not be achieved with the projected revenues”.

Information on Previous Efforts Seeking Budget Reductions through Cooperation Between Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and Fairfax County School Board, including summaries of the accomplishments and shortcomings of the three Joint BOS and FCSB Committees, is provided in Attachment 1.

RESOLUTION

**The Need for Greater Cooperation between
The Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and Fairfax County School Board**

Whereas, the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations (Federation) appreciates the improved communication and cooperative efforts between the Fairfax County’s Board of Supervisors (BOS) and the Fairfax County School Board (FCSB) members, and encourages continued discourse and additional collaboration, and

Whereas, future Fairfax County revenues appear to be inadequate for the needs of the desired County programs and public school programs, and

Whereas, the Federation believes that significant savings to the County’s taxpayers can be achieved through even greater cooperation, and

Whereas, the Joint Budget Committee, which completed its report in 2014, has outlined the most comprehensive description of areas for cooperation that have the potential for the most significant savings, implementing these recommendations will depend upon the commitment of the County and School Boards.

Whereas, fair and comparable compensation is important to (or enables) retention of quality County and Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) administrative staff and support personal, and

Whereas, competitive compensation is important for the retention of quality teachers, and

Whereas, elections for all County supervisors and members of the FCSB are scheduled for the fall of 2015, and the election of supervisors and school board members supportive of expanded cooperative efforts will be critical to obtaining the savings necessary to continue present important County and School programs.

Therefore,

Be It Resolved that the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations (Federation) appreciates the improved communication between the Fairfax County's Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County Public School Board members, and encourages continued cooperation, especially that will enable additional efficiencies and/or cost savings to the Fairfax County taxpayer, and

Be It Further Resolved that the Federation, encourages District Councils, Citizen Associations, and other county citizen organizations to focus on the issue of joint Board cooperation, including compensation structure and merging of some activities and facilities, and to question all Board candidates in order to help determine each candidate's commitment to expanding cooperative undertakings.

Information on Previous Efforts Seeking Budget Reductions through Cooperation Between Fairfax County Board of Supervisors and Fairfax County School Board

The Joint County and FCPS Smart Services Committee produced an extensive list of existing cooperation between the County and FCPS (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/government/budget/smart-services-matrix.pdf), and recent areas of cooperation include funding "turf" fields for selected schools, funding for all-day Mondays, early childhood education, and participation in neighborhood readiness teams. As a result of the Smart Services Committee (1) a new model to provide child care (SACC) was developed allowing for increased student participation, (2) cooperation with the County's legal services was expanded, and (3) planned development of a new financial data storage and retrieval system [part of FOCUS] was continued.

Although this Smart Services Committee looked for savings through possible mergers of departments, through shared services, and through joint use of facilities, none of these possibilities came to fruition, few savings were realized, and the development of a combined information system for human resources and others was eventually abandoned.

The Joint County and FCPS Committee on Infrastructure established a common understanding of Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) terms, identified the magnitude of County and School facility construction and renovation needs, and designated \$13 M in additional funding for FCPS CIP projects^{1/}, and both organizations committed to setting aside, when possible, additional monies from year end funds for CIP projects. (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/infrastructure-financing-committee.htm).

This Infrastructure Committee did not (1) establish a common basis for deciding on the priority of renovation and construction projects, (2) establish a common queue for County and FCPS CIP projects, (3) identify joint use of facilities, (4) recommend combining any of the different design and construction groups within the county, (5)

realize any savings, (6) identify the reason for different construction costs between the County and FCPS, and (7) adequately discuss the use of Economic Development Authority bonds.

In odd numbered calendar years, the County's CIP has programmed bond referendums for voter approval of FCPS construction and renovation bonds. The County will continue to utilize the voter approved referendum as the basis to sell \$155 million annually in general obligation bonds for FCPS. The County has used both voter approved General Obligation bonds and Economic Development Authority bonds^{2/} for some of its capital improvement projects which do not require voter approval and carry 0.2 to 0.25 percent higher interest rates (in the current market).

The Joint County and FCPS Budget Committee which completed its work in 2014, outlined the most encouraging cooperative steps, and recognized that "What We Need/Want is more than What We Have", and thus recognized the need to prioritize expenditures and to look for savings, noting that projected revenue increases are expected to be limited to 3 percent (www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/jointboards).

The Joint County and FCPS Budget Committee members developed a better understanding of each other's budget, and the committee made several positive recommendations including (1) the use of common terminology, (2) the development of a similar approach to funding common budget requirements, (3) a list of budget process recommendations that will enable all parties to better understand and compare budget documents, (4) reaching agreement on multi-year budgeting and use end-of-year (carryover) funds only for one-time expenses, (5) recommending a review of leased facilities to eliminate excess space, and (6) most importantly encouraged both organizations "to evaluate opportunities for providing services jointly or on behalf of both organizations to eliminate waste, redundancies and inefficiencies".

Furthermore, the Joint Budget committee recommended that "the approach to funding common budget requirements should be similar in the areas of developing and fundinglong-term liabilities such as retirement, and supporting compensation increases" and went on to outline specific tasks including determining "shared costs drivers such as salary increase, retirement and health rates, and contractual increases" which would be "used by both organizations to develop a comprehensive and comparable summary of fiscal needs. However, since that Joint Budget Committee recommendation was developed the County has independently established a projected County employee salary increase structure through 2025.

1/ Note while this additional funding had been scheduled for FY2016, the County's Executive Director in his Advertised FY2016 Budget has proposed delaying this funding until FY2017, and the BOS has agreed to provide this funding from EOY monies if available.

2/ FCPS projects funded with EDA funds include South County Secondary School and School Administration building for a total of \$130.769M, and County projects funded with EDA funds include Herrity and Pennino buildings, Laurel Hill Golf Course, Mott,

Gum Spring, Baileys, James Lee and Providence Community Centers, Herndon Harbor House/Adult Day Health Care Center, South Fairfax County Government Center, Weihle Avenue Metrorail Parking Garage, Mid-County Mental Health Center, and the Public Safety Headquarters. For a total of \$510.42 M although revenue from some of these projects may cover the cost and perhaps County bonds could not have been used for some of the projects, such as public-private partnerships.

Attachment 3

Library Committee Report (Kathy Kaplan)

1. FCPL Budget at end of FY2015. Expenditures \$2.69M below budget.

Compensation expenditures lower by \$2.24M than original budget. (\$700,000 moved from Compensation to OpExp in September and \$1.35M in January).

OpExp underspent by \$2.10M (encumbered carryover amount?)

Expenditures by Category
GENERAL FUND DEPARTMENTS - FAIRFAX COUNTY PUBLIC LIBRARY
Year-to-Date July 2014 - June 2015

Expenditures by Category	Revised Annual Budget	Expenditures Year-to-Date
COMPENSATION	\$19,561,666.00	\$19,537,274.70
OPERATING EXPENSES	\$9,369,878.61	\$7,271,699.02
CAPITAL OUTLAY	\$609,613.00	\$40,205.00
TOTALS:	\$29,541,157.61	\$26,849,178.72

2. Lines of Business review: 20% cut to the library budget was mentioned by Library Board chair Charles Fegan last spring. The Park Authority was told they would also receive a 20% cut to the Parks budget. We are waiting for the FY2017 budget from Ed Long in early September. Historically, the Library Board has voted on the budget in October without ever actually seeing it.

Based on Budget documents provided by Co-deputy library director Melanie Quinn last October, savings from cuts to the library are as follows:

Every 3 hours the branches are reduced, the saving is approximately \$674,000 with cut of 14 positions.

Closing a library branch would save \$800,000 a year for regional, about \$500,000 for community branches.

Closing Regional libraries on Sundays would save \$877,000 with the elimination of 40 half-time positions.

Closing evening hours on Tuesdays would save \$674,000 with elimination of 14 half-time positions.

There is no way to reduce the FCPL budget 20%, or \$5.9M without closing multiple branches and/or a sizable RIF. Last year FCPL budget was cut \$800,000 (14 FTE circ aide positions with savings of \$500,000 and \$300,000 in savings from holding positions vacant).

3. Reston Regional RFP. Supervisor Hudgins held a meeting July 29 about

redevelopment of Block 7 and 8 which includes the library and shelter. Both county staffers present stated the library "may" be located on its current site. If it isn't located on its current site, it may be years before it is rebuilt. Info from Community Action board meeting last night says the county in the RFP requests a library, a shelter and 40 units of subsidized handicapped housing on the site. Developer will add their own part, all with minimal parking in Reston Town Center North. Next developers' meeting will be held August 20 at DPWES. September 19 will be the only public input meeting for Reston. No task force with local residents for new library.

4. Pohick Library due to close September 3. People should go to Pohick and check out books, especially nonfiction books, and return them to branches which lose books due to floating--Fairfax City Library, George Mason Regional Library, Sherwood Regional Library and Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library. 20,000 books were discarded when Woodrow Wilson closed, down to 30,000 from 50,000. The Federation could consider alerting member organizations of the need to move Pohick's books before the branch closes. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library is due to close at the end of the year.

5. The numbers of discarded transfers in very good condition have increased since April 2015. In July there were 15 bins of discarded transfers. Transfers are books that are transferred to other branches because they have multiple copies or because they are low demand. The books are sent to Technical Operations for redistribution and they are discarded there. Prior to April the average monthly discard of transfers was 8 bins. Since April that number has doubled. A bin can hold 550 books.

6. Currently there are approximately 55 library vacancies including 5 branch manager positions.

7. Chair of MOU (Memorandum of Understanding) Committee and Budget Committee Michael Donovan (Braddock) resigned from both committees. Karrie Delaney (Sully) assumes Budget chair and Miriam Smolen (Providence) assumes MOU committee chair. Numerous Friends groups said they would not sign the new MOU as represented in the spreadsheet circulated this summer by Donovan. The MOU committee has never met. Changes to MOU are being driven by county staff, not by the Library Board.

8. Charles Fegan asked Bulova for \$200,000 for books because of empty shelves. I suggested he ask for \$2M.

9. The numbers of ebooks purchased has increased this year over last year. Vendor statements for FY2016 (ebook and print book wholesalers) are not available on the County Transparency page as they were likely purchased with the county credit card (P card or Purchasing card). To find out how much FCPL spent on materials in FY2016 will require a FOIA.

10. The listing for the new Library Director position has closed. The current Library Director completes his DROP term in March. Chair Charles Fegan suggested the candidate would have to be approved by the BOS, however, under Virginia Code the Library Board "selects and appoints" the new director.

Attachment 4

Braddock District Report (Art Wells)

The Braddock District Council (BDC) and the Supervisor's office jointly sponsored the annual "Best Of Braddock" awards to a large attendance at its annual picnic on July 8th. Several awards were made to citizens (including Citizen of the Year), organizations and firms in recognition of their contributions to the District during the past year.

The BDC will kick off its 2015-2016 program year at its meeting on September 9th at Braddock Hall.

Attachment 5

FCFCA Meetings Calendar for 2015-2016 Membership Year

As of 2015-08-07

Month	Membership			Board	
	Date	Program	Location	Date	Location
2015					
Jul	—	—	—	—	—
Aug	—	—	—	6	Dunn Loring Administrative Center
Sep	17	Legislative Package for January 2016 Legislative Session	Providence Community Center (Classroom #2)	24	Dunn Loring Administrative Center
Oct	15	TBD	Providence Community Center (Classroom #2)	22	Dunn Loring Administrative Center
Nov	19	Public Safety	Mason Governmental Center	—	—
Dec	17	TBD	Mason Governmental Center	3	Restaurant (TBD)
2016					
Jan	21	TBD	TBD	28	TBD
Feb	18	TBD	TBD	25	TBD
Mar	17	TBD	TBD	24	TBD
Apr	3	Citizen of the Year Banquet	Crowne Plaza Tysons Corner-McLean	28	TBD
	21	TBD	TBD		
May	19	TBD	TBD	26	TBD
Jun	16	Picnic, Installation of Officers, State of Fairfax	Mason District Park (tentative)	23	TBD