

Membership Meeting Minutes

September 17, 2015

FINAL

Approved October 29,
2015

The September Membership meeting of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order on September 17, 2015, by President Tim Thompson at 7:34 p.m. at the Providence Community Center (Classroom #2), 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax, VA.

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), Curtis Anderson (Recording Secretary/Budget), Fred Costello (Corresponding Secretary/Land Use/Fox Mill Estates Homes Association).

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

Committee Chairs: Ed Saperstein (Education/Glen Haven Farms Homeowners Association), Morgan Jameson (Human Services), Charles Dane (Resolutions/Stone Haven Civic Association), Nancy Trainer (Nominating/Education/ Potomac Hills Citizens Association), Patrick Smaldore (Public Safety).

Members: Mary Speer (Five Oaks Estates Citizens' Association), Nick Firth (South County Federation), and Gabriel Goldberg (Walnut Hill Homeowners Association).

Others: Senator Dick Saslaw, Delegate Marcus Simon, Samuel Sterling campaign manager for Senator Dick Saslaw.

Invited Guest Speakers

Senator Dick Saslaw discussed current legislative issues concerning revenues. In particular Senator Saslaw discussed:

1. The State needs more revenue. It changed from a tax of 16 cents per gallon of gasoline to a sales tax on gasoline, then the price dropped so revenues dropped. Reducing the car tax years ago cost \$950M per year.
2. Any new taxes must be subtle enough that people will not oppose them.
3. Gasoline suppliers adjust the price they charge so the price at the pump is nearly the same in neighboring states; therefore, if Virginia increased the tax on gasoline, the suppliers would reduce the price so Virginia would remain on par with the neighboring

states. In North Carolina, the tax is 20 cents per gallon as compared to Virginia's 8 cents per gallon.

4. ABC stores, because they are a monopoly, net \$250M per year to the state.
5. Part of the need for more revenue is the greater use of college. At present 80% of high-school graduates go to college. Colleges are structuring their tuition charges so students will graduate with a debt of no more than \$10,000.
6. HOV lanes are to move people. They are not intended to reduce gasoline consumption.
7. Redistricting is governed by a national scoring system that emphasizes compactness.
8. Incumbents are favored in elections because they can raise more money.
9. Selling of the Exxon-Mobil land to Inova will restore the 4000 jobs lost when Exxon-Mobil moved. Inova pays no property tax; therefore, there is a loss of \$2M per year in revenue. Inova agreed to pay \$2M over five years to lessen the blow.

Administrative and Organizational Topics

Citizen of the Year (COY) Banquet: Nominations for COY 2015 open on 1 December - whom will you nominate? Awards banquet scheduled for 3 April - save the date!

ITPAC: John Hanks has been reappointed.

Bulletin/Newsletter: Fred Costello needs articles the Saturday following the board meeting; this month the deadline is September 26, 2015.

Meeting Minutes: Curtis Anderson presented the minutes of June 18, 2015 Membership Meeting to be approved. Katherine Ward moved, seconded by Nancy Trainer to approve. Approved unanimously. Ed Wyse recommended approval of the minutes of the May membership meeting. These minutes were also approved unanimously.

Treasurer's Report: No report.

Unfinished Business: No unfinished business presented.

New Business: No new business presented.

District Council Reports & Membership – Open Floor

(Dranesville & Hunter Mill - N/A)

1. Braddock – Art Wells – No report.
2. Lee – Chris Soule – No report.
3. Mason – John Birch – No report.
4. Mt. Vernon – Katherine Ward – Report attached (attachment 1).
5. Providence – Flint Webb – The PDC held their monthly meeting last night (September 16) the topic was Metropolitan Washington Air Quality Status 2015 presented by Sunil Kumar from the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments. Besides announcing the progress on attaining the current ozone

National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS), Dr. Kumar explained how transportation projects (such as the I-66 widening) are taken into consideration in the air quality planning process.

- a. The next meeting will be the Candidate Forum on October 7th. The Candidate Forum will be videotaped and will be available on the PDC web site at <http://providencedistrictcouncil.org/>
6. Springfield – Ed Wyse - No report.
7. Sully – Jeff Parnes – Next Monday (21 Sept) Sully District Council, with the support of the LWV, Fairfax, and other groups, will hold legislative candidates night, all candidates for the five senate and delegate districts have been invited. For our next meeting on 28 October we have invited the Sully candidates for Supervisor and School Board.
8. Membership – Open Floor – A letter concerning zoning changes was presented by Terry Maynard (see attachment 2, letter from Terry Maynard, Reston 2020 Committee)

Board & Committee Reports

1. Audit – Karin Fendrich – Charles Dane presented the Audit Committee Report. The Audit Committee presented its report on its review of the financial records of the Federation for the period July 1, 2014 through June 30, 2015, showing an ending balance of \$14,451.95, income of \$7,666.53, and expenses of \$10,837.50 (report attached). The committee's opinion is that the End-of-year report accurately reflects the position of the Federation. Curtis Anderson moved, seconded by Katherine Ward to accept the report. Motion adopted unanimously.
2. Budget – Curtis Anderson – No report.
3. Citizens Association Services – Don Hinman – No report.
4. Education –Ed Saperstein & Nancy Trainer – Nancy Trainer presented the attached resolution on the Advanced Academic Program. Nancy Trainer moved, seconded by Katherine Ward to approve the resolution. Motion adopted unanimously (attachment 3).
5. Environment - Flint Webb – No report.
6. Human Services – Cherie Tripp Lejeune & Morgan Jameson – No report.
7. Land Use - Fred Costello & Jack Dobbyn – Fred Costello spoke on a proposed zoning ordinance amendment that would double density in revitalization areas. Comment period was very short and during the summer. Tim Thompson spoke with Chairman Sharon Bulova and learned that the Board of Supervisors will not take this issue up until January.
8. Library - Kathy Kaplan – Report attached (attachment 4).
9. Legislation - Bill Barfield & Matt Bell – Tim Thompson mentioned the following links for candidate forums:
 - a. Each District: <http://files.ctctcdn.com/80afe1af001/7d9e4b08-7ed1-47b2-a153-ab995458fc17.pdf>
 - b. County Wide (Chairman & At-Large School Board):
<http://files.ctctcdn.com/80afe1af001/04979ea5-851b-4c2c-b87c-fba3dbffe82c.pdf>.
10. Membership – Ed Wyse – The following report was presented:
 - a. **Current Situation**
 - Paid For Current Membership Year (Jul 2015 – Jun 2016): 38

- In Grace Period (thru Dec 2015): 16
 - Total Members: 54
- b. **Recruiting & Retention Activities Mid-August to Mid-September**
- Screened county's rather stale list of citizen associations whilst sending to non-member associations the resolution requesting citizens to ask candidates for county & school boards how they would improve boards' collaboration; now know which e-mail addresses on the list are valid
 - Sent invitations to 7 former members who lapsed over past two years
 - Sent renewal reminders to the 17 "grace period" members
 - Sent invitations to join to two non-member associations
 - Pres/1VP/2VP met with President of MCA & 2 past MCA presidents to re-establish relationship (9/13/2015)
11. Public Safety – Daniela Cockayne– No report.
12. Resolutions – Charles Dane – No report.
13. Transportation – Jeff Parnes & Karen Campblin – Report attached (attachment 5).
14. Website – Jeff Parnes, Fred Costello & Brian Graham – Jeff Parnes reported Banquet and Picnic pictures posted, if you attended either event and can help identify any one that isn't properly identified your comments are welcome.

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 8:59 p.m.

Next Meetings:

Board Meeting – September 24, 2015 at 7:30 pm at the Dunn Loring Center, Room 108 (Entrance 2), 2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring, VA 22027
Membership Meeting – October 15, 2015 at 7:30 pm at the Providence Community Center (Classroom #2), 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax, VA

Minutes prepared by Curtis M. Anderson, Recording Secretary

Attachment 1

MOUNT VERNON COUNCIL OF CITIZENS' ASSOCIATIONS REPORT FOR THE FEDERATION

The MVCCA is currently working with the County Staff to continue the comprehensive plan changes for the Richmond Highway Corridor that will ensure adequate density to support mass transit along the corridor. We are in opposition with the staff regarding the timing of this project and want it to be completed sooner rather than the staff's proposed 2040+ ideas.

We continue to champion new developments that have already been approved and are awaiting site plan approval. And we are supporting the change to the Huntington Club's comprehensive plan language that would remove the office component of that major redevelopment of 19 acres along side of the Huntington Metro.

Furthermore, we have supported the installation application of Exenet Systems Company and Verizon for multi-system Distributed Antenna Systems (DAS) throughout the Mount Vernon area. Phase 1 application for 2232 review has been submitted to the Planning Commission. This installation will enhance with cell service in our area.

The MVCCA honored Congressman Jim Moran , Senator Toddy Puller and Supervisor Gerry Hyland for all their many years of support to the Mount Vernon District at our Sept 23rd General Council Meeting. We presented each of them a specially selected book.

Congressman Moran: Acts Passed by the Congress of the United States-1789
(contains all bills passed during George Washington's first term as President)

Senator Puller: The Mount Vernon Ladies Association- 150 years of restoring George Washington's home


Supervisor Hyland: General Washington's Gardens

Attachment 2

Dear FCFCA Leaders,

You may wish to read and share with you members this link to an article I posted on RestonNow regarding the potential consequences of the County's planned zoning changes in PDCs and PRMs not only in Reston, but in the other categories of communities affected, and their irrevocability.

[Op-Ed: Fairfax County and Reston's Future Urban Growth | Reston Now](#)



[Op-Ed: Fairfax County and Reston's Future Urban Growth ...](#)
By looking at doubling density, officials are ignoring the Reston's Master Plan.
[View on www.restonnow...](#) Preview by Yahoo

Combined with the economic strategy approved by the Board last spring, the implications for many County communities beyond Reston is absolutely staggering.

Thank you for the excellent work you do on behalf of the County's citizens, especially the initiative you have taken on this zoning code amendment. And best wishes for your future success.

Sincerely,
Terry Maynard
Reston 2020 Committee

Attachment 3

Fairfax County Federation of Citizens' Associations 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

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

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

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 4

Library Committee Report:

Library Committee co-chair Dennis Hays and I met with Supervisor Hudgins on September 16 at the Reston Regional Library to talk about the plans to bulldoze the library as part of a PPEA on the library land. Hudgins said the most important thing here was to "leverage" the land under the library to provide more revenue to the county. A high-density, mixed-use development is desired. The Reston Friends of the Library were very unhappy they had been excluded from the planning process for the new library. Hudgins said there was no plan, the county had only put out a preliminary RFP to ascertain which developers were interested and were able to demonstrate solvency. She said at the meeting Saturday September 22, we would be asked what we wanted.

At the September 22 meeting, we were asked to participate in a survey of human services needs in Rston Town Center North. The library was not mentioned. We weren't asked any questions about what we wanted in our new library. Many people expressed displeasure at that point. DPWES Capital Improvement Project Director Andrew Miller agreed by the end of the meeting that he would hold another meeting where we would be told the specifications for the new library that would be included in the next RFP. We hope that will include the size of the new library and how many designated parking spaces will be provided.

Reston Citizens Assn published a White Paper requesting that the Embry Rucker Shelter be moved to Cameron Glen, the vacant nursing home next to the North County Government Center in Reston, and that the library be rebuilt on the current shelter site which is right next door to the library. Andrew Miller suggested it might be possible to move both the shelter and library to the vacant nursing home during construction.

Historically, renovated libraries are given 2,500 sq ft temporary facilities with 10,000 books for the duration of the renovation. Reston Regional currently holds 175,000 books. We could be looking at the loss of library service for Reston for all the years of demotion and reconstruction, 3 to 5 years, without a temporary facility. And that's only if they do include the library in the PPEA. If the county does not include the library, it could be much longer that we would be without the largest and busiest branch of the county's library system while we wait for the other parcels in Reston Town Center North to be redeveloped.

Supervisor Herrity decided that Pohick Regional Library would not have a temporary facility during renovation. Pohick closed this month. It's a troubling precedent. Tysons-Pimmit Regional Library will close at the end of the year and we still have not heard from Supervisor Foust if a temporary facility will be provided by the county. Supervisor Foust is holding a community meeting concerning the renovation of Tysons-Pimmit September 28 at 7:30 pm at Tysons-Pimmit Library.

The BOS and the School Board had a meeting on September 11 in which Ed Long presented information on the Lines of Business Process. It will include 15 meetings and the report will not be made public until January with public input not until March. Library

managers were told cuts to the FY2017 library budget will not be made public until after the election. Incumbents won't have to answer pesky questions about the library during their campaigns. We may very well be looking at a recommendation from Ed Long for a 20% cut to the library budget. Library Board Chair Charles Fegan said DMB had suggested such a cut earlier this year. As I said before, there is no way to cut \$5.9 million from the library budget without a RIF, significant reduction of hours, and/or branch closures. Ed Long described this review of county programs as an "LOB on steroids."

Kathy Kaplan
Co-chair, Library Committee

RCA White Paper: <http://ffxlibraryadvocates.blogspot.com/2015/09/rca-white-paper-on-future-redevelopment.html>

Dennis Hays letter to Connection:

<http://ffxlibraryadvocates.blogspot.com/2015/09/county-proposes-to-bulldoze-reston.html>

Lines of Business presentation to BOS:

<http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/lobs/fy2016/lines-of-business-bos-presentation-09-11-2015.pdf>

Attachment 5

Transportation Committee Report:

There are many upcoming public meetings or surveys that interested residents can attend or complete listed on the committee webpage:

- Provide Input on Proposed FY 2016 Transportation Alternatives Projects 17 September 2015
- VTrans Multimodal Transportation Plan (VMTP) - Webinar on the VMTP Needs Assessment and HB2 Linkages's 1-3 PM ET 17 Sep 2015
- Metrobus riders can comment on proposed service changes to dozens of routes 17 Sep 2015
- Briefing on the Preferred Alternative for the Transform 66 Outside the Beltway Project 17 September
- Try Transit Week 21--25 September
- Northern Virginia Transportation Authority Announces a Ribbon Cutting Ceremony for New Buses September 21, 2015 at 1 pm
- Go Car Free on 22 September 2015
- Route 7 Corridor Improvements 24 September 2015
- Announcing the October 2015 Community Leadership Institute deadline 25 September 2015
- I-66 Inside the Beltway Public Information Meetings 5 - 7 October 2015
- Comments on Draft 2015 Amendment to the Financially Constrained Long-Range Transportation Plan (CLRP) and the Air Quality Conformity Analysis accepted till 10 October 2015
- I-66 Outside the Beltway Design Concept Public Information Meetings 19-21 October 2015
- Grant applications for the Enhanced Mobility of Seniors and Individuals with Disabilities (Section 5310) Program accepted till 23 October 2015
- Northern Virginia Regional Bikeway and Trail Network Study Summer and Fall 2015
- Earn rewards for green trips with Fairfax Connector! Summer and Fall 2015

- Public Comment Sought on Final Recommendations for North Kings Highway Intersection Improvements through 15 November 2015
- How do you Envision Route 7? through Spring 2016

Recent Committee Actions

- Input in response to the I--66 Inside Beltway Public Information Meetings 30 June 2015
- Testimony on the I--66 Outside Beltway Environment Impact Statement 28 May 2015

Transportation--related Presentations of Interest to Fairfax Federation Members

- At its 16 Sept 2015 meeting (agenda) the Metropolitan Washington Transportation Planning Board (TPB) was briefed on:
 - Overview of the Draft 2015 CLRP Amendment
 - Draft Air Quality Conformity Analysis of the 2015 CLRP Amendment
- On 10 Sept 2015 VDOT held Public Information Meetings to discuss Maintenance of five bridges over the Dulles Toll Road (Route 267) in Fairfax County

- At its 10 Sept 2015 meeting the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) was briefed by the COG/DTP staff on:
 - the new projects that have been submitted for the Constrained Long--Range Plan (CLRP).
 - the purpose and process for the Air Quality Conformity Analysis and the results of the analysis for the 2015 CLRP, and
 - an analysis of how the region's transportation system is expected to perform based upon inputs from the 2015 CLRP.

- At its 22 July 2015 meeting (agenda) the Metropolitan Washington Transportation Planning Board (TPB) was briefed on:
 - National Capital Region Passenger Rail Safety and Preparedness Initiative

- Implementation of Regional Priority Bus Project under TIGER
- At its 14 July 2015 meeting the Board of Supervisors Transportation Committee was briefed on:

- I--66 Inside the Beltway ---- Framework Document
- Dulles Metrorail Silver Line Phase 2 Status and Funding
- HB 2 ---- Project Prioritization Process
- Student Free Fares on Fairfax Connector Bus System

- At its 9 July 2015 meeting the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) was briefed by the COG/DTP staff on:

- the Transportation Land--Use Connections (TLC) Program
- the Transportation Alternatives Program (TAP), and
- a research recently completed study under the federal Transportation, Community and Systems Preservation (TCSP) Program.

These programs are all designed to promote non--motorized circulation and access improvements in Regional Activity Centers and in communities that seek to reduce auto--dependency.

- VDOT held a Design Public Hearing on 17 June 2015 on constructing a permanent bridge on Hunter Mill Road over Difficult Run

- At its 17 June 2015 meeting (agenda) the Metropolitan Washington Transportation Planning Board (TPB) was briefed on:

- Responsibilities and Activities of the Northern Virginia Transportation Authority

- COG State of the Region Infrastructure Report
- Status Report on the Development of a Regional List of Unfunded Transportation Projects

- On 16 and 17 June 2015 VDOT held Public Information Meetings on Multimodal Improvements to I--66 Inside the Beltway
- On 3 June VDOT reviewed its plans to replace the Walker Road bridge over Piney Run

- At its 20 May 2015 meeting (agenda) the Metropolitan Washington Transportation Planning Board (TPB) was briefed on:

- Metro's Connecting Communities Key Performance Indicator, Walkability Research and Station Area Strategic Investment Plan

- DC2RVA High--Speed Rail Project
- Study to Identify Pedestrian/Bicycle Access Improvements at Select Rail Stations

- Activities of the COG Multi--Sector Working Group

- At its 19 May 2015 meeting the Board of Supervisors Transportation Committee was briefed on:

- Outside the Beltway Project
- Dulles Metrorail Silver Line Phase 2 Status and Funding
- Update on Implementation of Intelligent Transportation Systems (ITS)

- Technology on Fairfax Connector Buses

- Bicycle Parking Guidelines
- Update of Snow Removal from Sidewalks

- At its 14 May 2015 meeting the Citizens Advisory Committee (CAC) of the National Capital Region Transportation Planning Board (TPB) was briefed on:

- Briefing on TPB Activities Related to Safety
- TPB CAC Report -- April 15, 2015

- On 11 May 2015 the Route 28 Widening and Improvement Ground-breaking was sponsored by the NVTA.

Sully District Council Land use and Transportation Committee chair and Sully Transportation Advisory Commissioner Jeff Parnes with two additional Fairfax County Transportation Advisory Commissioners Alan Young (at large) and Kevin Morse (Braddock) at Dulles Matters Seminar. Various artifacts of the meeting are available

- On 8 May 2015 the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission held the Transit Means Business forum

- The forum featured U.S. Deputy Secretary of Transportation Victor Mendez along with Virginia Secretary of Transportation Aubrey Layne, providing

the opportunity to hear what top transportation policy makers have to say about transit's role in economic competitiveness.