Membership Meeting Minutes

February 2, 2016

The first of two February Membership meetings of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order on February 2, 2016, by First Vice President Ed Wyse at 7:03 p.m. at the Fairfax County Public Schools Gatehouse Administration Center, Room 1600, 8115 Gatehouse Road, Falls Church, VA 22042.

Present:

BOARD:

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

Committee Chairs: Ed Saperstein (Education/Glen Haven Farms Homeowners Association), Patrick Smaldore (Public Safety), Nancy Trainer (Nominating/Education/ Potomac Hills Citizens Association).

MEMBERSHIP:

Members: Christopher Verhorff and Peggy Daley (Holmes Run Civic Association), Julie Hirka (Stonewall Manor Community Association).

Others: Charles McAndrew, Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance; Arthur Purvis, Fairfax County Taxpayers Alliance; Dr. Karen Garza; Elliott Smaldore.

Ed Wyse acknowledged the recent passing of Charles Dane.

Invited Guests:

Ed Saperstein introduced our invited guest Dr. Karen Garza, Superintendent of the Fairfax County Public Schools.

Dr. Garza discussed and responded to several questions concerning:

- Snow day decisions
- Two handouts:
  - Great Things are Happening in Fairfax County Public Schools
  - FCPS Budget Overview/FY2017 Proposed
- How to use technology to improve education
- Strategic Plan developed over 14 months
- Portrait of a Graduate
• Center for Excellence on Cybersecurity
• Flexibility in the curriculum to support different ways to graduate
• Internships for students, including with Genesys Works
• Junior Achievement and Finance Park
• School/Private Business partnerships
• FCPS Foundation is prepared to grow
• Computers are not on a replacement cycle; would require another $28 million in the budget if put on a normal replacement cycle
• Flipped classrooms
• Teacher scales and the Compensation Study
• How existing costs increasing at a higher rate than revenue translates into budget cuts
• Retention and turnover of teachers
• Fairfax County Public Schools receive only 15% of their budget from the State, which is significantly lower than the approximately 40% that other public school systems receive from their states
• FCPS started the school year with about 200 vacant positions (predominantly special education and math)
• Incentive pay; requires legitimate measures

At 8:24 pm the meeting went into recess.

Meeting reconvened at 8:30 pm.

Meeting Minutes: Curtis Anderson presented the minutes of November 19, 2015 Membership Meeting to be approved. Nancy Trainer moved, seconded by Fred Costello to accept. Approved unanimously.

Treasurer’s Report: $15,008.03 in the accounts.

The Bulletin: Input for the next edition is required by 9 a.m. on February 27.

Unfinished Business: None.

New Business:
1. Documents – Bill Barfield noted that he has 75 years’ worth of documents of the Federation that need to be organized and properly stored at the Virginia Room.
2. Citizen of the Year – 7 nominations have been received and nominations will be closed at midnight tonight. There are three people assigned to the selection committee. Reserve April 3, 2016 for the banquet.

District Council Reports & Membership – Open Floor
(Dranesville & Hunter Mill - N/A)

Board & Committee Reports
1. Budget – Curtis Anderson – Asked for input to the budget document presented last year.
6. Land Use - Fred Costello & Jack Dobbyn – 20-25 people attended the meeting on urbanization and all presentations and summaries are posted on the website.
7. Library - Kathy Kaplan and Dennis Hayes– No report.
11. Transportation – Jeff Parnes & Karen Campblin – Yesterday there was a meeting about Reston metro stops. Tomorrow there is a meeting about bridge over Piney Ridge. I-66 has had several meetings cancelled, but comments are due.
12. Website – Updated for Public Safety items.

Adjournment - The meeting adjourned at 8:52 p.m.

Next Meetings:
Membership Meeting – February 18 – Budget: Fairfax County Government & Public Schools Budgets with budget officials J. Mondoro & Alice Wigington, at Mason Governmental Center
6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003
Board Meeting – February 25, 2016 - Dunn Loring Center, Room 108 (Entrance 2)
2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring, VA 22027.

Minutes prepared by Curtis M. Anderson, Recording Secretary
Attachment 1

Braddock District Report (Art Wells):
The Braddock District Council (BDC) joined with Supervisor Cook’s office in the sponsoring of the “Taste of Braddock” at its December 9, 2015 meeting. This is a major annual event for both the Supervisor’s office and the BDC. Featured was food served by various business firms within the district which was enjoyed by a large turnout of citizens.

The next BDC meeting will be held on Wednesday, February 10, 2016 at Braddock Hall meeting room.

The BDC’s special “Aging in Place” committee’s meeting on January 20, 2016 featured a presentation by Maureen Fletcher on the topic of “Exercise: What & Where”. The overall theme of the presentation was that seniors must remain mobile to stay in their current home as they age.