

## Membership Meeting Minutes

February 18, 2016

**FINAL**

Approved March 31,  
2016

The second of two February Membership meetings of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order on February 18, 2016, by President Tim Thompson at 7:29 p.m. at the Mason Governmental Center 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, VA 22003.

### **Present:**

#### **BOARD:**

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), 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), Daniela Cockayne (Public Safety/Sleepy Hollow Citizens Association), and Patrick Smaldore (Public Safety).

#### **MEMBERSHIP:**

Members: Jon Clark (Annandale Acres Civic Association), Steve Belisle (Country Club View Civic Association), Joana Garcia (Crosspointe Swim and Racquet, Inc.), Amanda Sansbury (Lafayette Village Community Association), John Jennison (Mantua Citizens Association), Greg Doherty (Mason Hill Citizens Association), John Hanley (Reston Citizens Association), John Cockayne (Sleepy Hollow Citizens Association), Nick Firth (Stone Haven Civic Association), Julie Hirka (Stonewall Manor Community Association), and Gabriel Goldberg (Walnut Hill HOA).

Others: Joe Mondoro, Chief Financial Officer for Fairfax County; Alice Wigington, Coordinator in Budget Services for Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS); Lifen Zhou, Coordinator in Budget Services for FCPS.

#### **Invited Guests:**

Curtis Anderson introduced our invited guests Fairfax County Government & Public Schools Budgets Officials Joe Mondoro & Alice Wigington.

Joe Mondoro discussed the FY2017-FY2019 Advertised Budget:

- Continued shortfall in State funding for education is significant
- Modest economic and revenue growth continues
- Significant budget reductions have been taken since FY2009
- Significant cost avoidance decisions were also made
- In every budget year staff is looking for opportunities for efficiencies and to take advantage of cost savings including more than \$13 million identified for FY2017.
- However, additional significant program reductions will change the fabric of the County irrevocably and will need to be carefully evaluated during the next phase of the Lines of Business discussion commencing this summer.
- The FY2017 budget is balanced with a \$0.03 per \$100 of assessed value increase in the Real Estate Tax rate.
  - Each \$0.01 equates to approximately \$23 million.
- To provide options for the Board to address unmet requirements for the FY2017 budget includes a recommended \$0.04 increase in the Real Estate Tax rate.
- High office vacancy rate in the County – over 20 million sq. ft. vacant out of 116.5 million sq. ft.
- County's FY2017 real estate equalization growth lower than anticipated- half of what it was in FY2016 and only a quarter of what it was in FY 2015.
- More than half of County budget is transferred to Fairfax County Public Schools; however there is a \$68 million gap between the Advertised Budget and the FCPS request.
- County employee pay is fully funded; and required benefit adjustments are funded.
  - On track to amortize 100% of unfunded liability by FY2020.
- Public Safety Funding:
  - Ad-Hoc Police Commission/Diversion First is funded at \$7.50 million.
  - New South County Police Station is funded at \$3.14 million.
  - 14 new Police Patrol Officers in existing stations funded at \$2.90 million.
  - Police Polygraph Capacity increased by FTE funded at \$0.34 million.
  - Full-Year Funding for Fire and Rescue staffing is funded at \$2.20 million.
  - Fire Apparatus and Ambulance Replacement funded at \$1.78 million.
- Capital and Debt Service increased funding \$15.77 million.
- Human Services increased funding of \$12.01 million including 4 FTEs.
- Cost of County Operations funding increased by \$9.93 million including 14 FTEs.
- Community Development, including Transportation, is set \$3.77 million.

Alice Wigington discussed the FCPS request:

- Priorities are employee compensation and reducing class size in elementary schools.
- Proposing a \$2.7 billion operating budget which is a 4.8% increase over the FY2016 Approved Budget.
- Increased funding of \$10.8 million to help reduce class size in elementary schools.
- Total Compensation:
  - Base Salary Increase for All Employees: \$62.2 million
  - Increased funding to improve teacher salaries: \$40.0 million

- Living Wage Adjustment: \$1.4 million
- Health Insurance \$16.5 million
- Virginia Retirement System (VRS) Rate: \$11.9 million
- Fairfax County Employees' Retirement System (FCERS) Rate: \$1.6 million
- 89.3% of FCPS' operating budget is for employee compensation.
- FY2017 Advertised Budget includes a county transfer request of \$1.9 billion, an increase of \$122.7 million, or 6.7%.
- FCPS receives one of the lowest percentages of its budget from the State compared to other counties within Virginia.

The meeting was recessed at 8:45 pm

The meeting was reconvened at 8:56 pm

Tim Thompson remembered Charlie Dane who passed away recently.

**Meeting Minutes:** Curtis Anderson presented the minutes of February 2, 2016 Membership Meeting to be approved. Art Wells moved, seconded by Fred Costello to accept. Approved unanimously.

**Treasurer's Report:** Matthew Bell submitted the following report by email: The current funds in the Federation account are: \$15,008.03.

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

Bill Barfield noted there is an opening for Chair of the Resolutions Committee.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

**New Business:**

1. Proffers – Tim Thompson discussed the issue of proffers and House Bill No. 770 which passed the House of Delegates on February 3, 2016. The Legislative and Land Use Committees offered a resolution and Mantua Citizens Association offered a marked of version of the same resolution. Federation rules require a 2/3 vote of those in attendance in order to consider a resolution at this meeting since it has not been reviewed or acted upon by the Federation's Board. John Jennison moved, seconded by Art Wells, to consider the resolution on proffers; the vote passed 32 to 0, with 5 abstentions, which exceeds the 2/3 requirement.

Art Wells moved, seconded by John Jennison, a Draft Resolution proposed by the Federation committees. A motion was made by Jeff Parnes, seconded by John Jennison, to substitute the Resolution submitted by the Mantua Citizens Association; the motion passed unanimously. After several edits to the Mantua Resolution were suggested and approved, the amended resolution (attached) was approved by a vote of 28-0-0.

## **District Council Reports & Membership – Open Floor**

(Dranesville & Hunter Mill - N/A)

1. Braddock – Art Wells – Report attached.
2. Lee – Vacant – No report.
3. Mason – John Birch – Will meet next week.
4. Mt. Vernon – Katherine Ward – No report.
5. Providence – Flint Webb – No report.
6. Springfield – Ed Wyse - No report.
7. Sully – Jeff Parnes – Will meet next Wednesday with VDOT.
8. Membership – Open Floor – No report.

## **Board & Committee Reports**

1. Budget – Curtis Anderson – Asked for input to the budget document presented last year.
2. Citizens Association Services – Don Hinman – No report.
3. Education – Ed Saperstein & Nancy Trainer – No report.
4. Environment - Flint Webb and Monica Bilger– No report.
5. Human Services – Cherie Tripp Lejeune & Morgan Jameson – No report.
6. Land Use - Fred Costello & Jack Dobbyn – No report.
7. Library - Kathy Kaplan and Dennis Hayes– No report.
8. Membership – Ed Wyse & Shiasta Keating – No report.
9. Public Safety – Daniela Cockayne and Patrick Smaldore– No report.
10. Resolutions – VACANT – No report.
11. Transportation – Jeff Parnes & Karen Campblin – Upcoming items are Countywide Transit Network, and I-66 and the Beltway.
12. Website – No report.

**Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 10:29 p.m.

## **Next Meetings:**

**Membership Meeting** – March 17, 2016 - 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



[www.fairfaxfederation.org](http://www.fairfaxfederation.org) P.O. Box 3913, Merrifield, VA 22116-3913

## RESOLUTION ON PROFFERS in Fairfax County

This resolution is approved by the Membership of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations on February 18, 2016. It is the position of the Federation on PROFFERS and is forwarded to the Fairfax Delegation to the Virginia General Assembly, the Fairfax Board of Supervisors, the press (both media and written) and is available to all Fairfax County residents.

- 1) **WHEREAS**, the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations (Federation) appreciates communication and cooperation between Fairfax County citizens, Fairfax County's Board of Supervisors (BOS) and the Fairfax County Delegation to the Virginia General Assembly, and
- 2) **WHEREAS**, this resolution is predicated on the General Assembly's current actions (see Reference below) impacting the use by county governments in dealing with proffers from the home building industry, and
- 3) **WHEREAS**, proffers are available to any Virginia local jurisdiction such as Fairfax County, which may require proffers, as warranted, due to the impact of new residential, commercial and institutional construction upon existing county and state facilities, infrastructure, social & public safety services, and
- 4) **WHEREAS**, limiting the use of proffers by county governments for residential, commercial and institutional development removes an important local land use control and decision making aspect for management and stewardship of existing and future county facilities, infrastructure and social and public safety, and
- 5) **WHEREAS**, while parks, schools, and certain transportation areas may be excluded from pending proffer legislation, the loss of proffers may cause the need to raise Fairfax County real estate taxes to fund initiatives to offset adverse consequences of new development or to force the County to completely forgo such newly needed initiatives because of budgetary constraints, and
- 6) **WHEREAS**, Fairfax County strives to work closely with its development community to balance the socio-economic impacts of new development with County services and public facilities for County residents, and

- 7) **WHEREAS**, Fairfax County is known for not requesting unreasonable proffers, and only requires proffers to be related to the impact of the development on the public facilities, infrastructure, and social and safety services of the County or the quality of resident's lives in the proximate vicinity of the development, and
- 8) **WHEREAS**, Fairfax County does not require proffers that are deemed to be unreasonable; and that the continued use of proffers for residential, commercial, institutional developers are currently incorporated into Fairfax County's existing budget and are presently relied upon in County budgets for FY 2017 and FY 2018, and
- 9) **WHEREAS**, in their February 2, 2016, letter to the Fairfax General Assembly Delegation members, Chairman Bulova and the Board of Supervisors requested Fairfax County's land use authority be retained, and
- 10) **WHEREAS**, Chairman Bulova, the Board of Supervisors, several community organizations and Federation members have asked for the Federation's position on the County's use of proffers with the development community,

**THEREFORE, BE IT**

**Resolved**, that the Federation requests the Fairfax County's land use proffer authority be fully retained; and be it further

**Resolved**, that the Federation requests the General Assembly establish and fund an economic impact study by George Mason University on the use of development proffers within the Commonwealth and within Fairfax County.

**Approved by the Federation's Membership on February 18, 2016.**

**Reference:**

**SB 549 Conditional zoning; provisions applicable to certain rezoning proffers**

<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?ses=161&typ=bil&val=sb549>

**HB 770 Conditional zoning; provisions applicable to all rezoning proffers, definitions.**

<http://leg1.state.va.us/cgi-bin/legp504.exe?ses=161&typ=bil&val=hb770>

## Attachment 2

### **Braddock District Report (Art Wells):**

The Braddock District Council's (BDC) February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting featured District School Board Representative Megan McLaughlin and Supervisor Cook who led a spirited discussion of the proposed FCPS FY2017 Budget. Considerable concern was raised by the large attendance over (a) the large unfunded gap between budget requirements and projected revenue, and (b) the additional tax revenues and sources needed to close the gap. In fact, most of the discussion centered on the tax issue.

The BDC's next meeting will be on March 9<sup>th</sup> which will focus on both (a) the County's Advertised FY2017 Budget, and (b) the FCPS's proposed FY2017 Budget (a continuation of the discussion at its February 10<sup>th</sup> meeting.)

The BDC's special committee on "Aging in Place" held its monthly meeting on February 17<sup>th</sup> featuring the resources and useful services of the Fairfax County Consumer Affairs office. Also during February, the Committee widely distributed an excellent paper on the unfortunate issue of "Financial Exploitation of Older Adults".