

## Board Meeting Minutes

May 26, 2016

Approved September 22, 2016

The May meeting of the Board of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order on May 26, 2016, by President Tim Thompson at 7:43 p.m. at Dunn Loring Center, Room 108, 2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring.

### **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), 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), and Katherine Ward (Mt. Vernon/Legislation).

Committee Chairs: Ed Saperstein (Education/Glen Haven Farms Homeowners Association), and Karen Campblin (Transportation)

Other: Peter Sitnik (Mt. Vernon representative-designate)

### **Administrative and Organizational Topics:** Tim Thompson –

1. Thank You: Tim Thompson expressed his gratitude to all of the officers, District Council Representatives and Committee Chairs for all they have done in the past year.

**Bulletin/Newsletter:** Fred Costello – Articles are due the last Saturday of the month (May 28) at 9 am.

### **Meeting Minutes:**

1. April 28, 2016: Curtis Anderson presented the approval draft of the minutes for April 28, 2016. Fred Costello moved, seconded by Katherine Ward to approve the minutes as submitted. Approved unanimously.

### **Treasurer's Report:**

1. Treasurer's Report: No report.

### **Unfinished Business:**

1. None.

## **New Business:**

1. Resolution- Supporting the Washington Metro Area Transit Authority SafeTrack Plan: Karen Campblin presented and discussed the resolution proposed by the Transportation Committee.
  - a. Karen Campblin moved, seconded by Katherine Ward, to adopt the resolution as presented.
    - i. Tim Thompson moved, seconded by Ed Saperstein, to add “OPM” before VDOT in the final resolve. Motion approved unanimously and the resolution was so amended.
  - b. Tim Thompson moved, seconded by Fred Costello, to add “including the Federal Government” after “agencies” in the second resolve. Motion approved unanimously and the resolution was so amended.
  - c. The amended resolution was approved unanimously as amended. (Attachment 1).
  - d. Moved by Katherine Ward, seconded by Ed Saperstein, to send out the resolution as “Approved by the Board” in advance of the membership picnic. Approved unanimously.
2. Ad Hoc Library Committee: Tim Thompson moved, seconded by Curtis Anderson, to recreate the Ad Hoc Library Committee as a special committee until June 30, 2017. Approved unanimously.
3. Airbnbs: Katherine Ward raised the question about the Federation’s position on Airbnbs in neighborhoods. Tim Thompson referred the issue to the Land Use Committee and asked Ed Wyse to send out a notice to our membership requesting input on the issue. Karen Campblin noted that the legislature has a special committee looking into the issue as well.

## **Board & Committee Reports**

1. Budget – Curtis Anderson – No report.
2. Citizens Association Services – Don Hinman – No report.
3. Citizen of the Year (COY) Banquet – Jeff Parnes – Report submitted electronically:
  - a. Photos posted,  
[http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/Federation\\_Picture\\_Gallery/Federation\\_Picture\\_Gallery.html](http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/Federation_Picture_Gallery/Federation_Picture_Gallery.html)
  - b. Reimbursement for banquet still outstanding. One of this year’s honorees has indicated that he would like to be a sponsor to the event next year.
4. Education –Ed Saperstein & Nancy Trainer – For the 2017-2018 school year, the Superintendent has issued a calendar to start the school year before Labor Day. The state granted permission to start early for three years based on the recent high incidence of snow days. Our long term goal is to change the law so that school districts can establish their own start dates without state interference.
5. Environment - Flint Webb & Monica Billger – No report.
6. Human Services – Cherie Tripp Lejeune & Morgan Jameson – Report submitted electronically:
  - a. The Senior Tech event which had a BIG Federation presence re my Neighbor to Neighbor representation for the 50+ Living Aging Well event in April (<http://www.livingwellfairfax.org/>) was a HOME RUN.

- b. I ran out of time to do the ASK BACK (photos and comments) re the EVENT MAY 14, 15 of KNOCK (it did make the May Federation newsletter).
7. Land Use - Fred Costello – No report.
8. Library - Kathy Kaplan and Dennis Hayes – No report; Library Committee has not been reconstituted.
9. Legislation - Bill Barfield, Matt Bell and Katherine Ward – No report.
10. Membership – Ed Wyse & Shiasta Keating – No report.
11. Public Safety – Patrick Smaldore and Daniela Cockayne – No report.
12. Resolutions – Jeff Parnes – Please send a copy of all resolutions top the resolution chair after your committee has vetted the draft resolution but before it submitted to the board for consideration.
13. Transportation – Jeff Parnes & Karen Campblin –
  - a. VDOT is having a series of public hearings about I-66 outside the Beltway.
  - b. There are a few comment deadlines and hearings coming up in late May and June. Information is on the committee webpage
14. Website – Jeff Parnes and Fred Costello – Report submitted electronically:
  - a. Picnic RSVP now activated. Link is on home page and calendar.
  - b. The last few meetings have been added to the picture gallery including: [http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/Federation\\_Picture\\_Gallery/Federation\\_Picture\\_Gallery.html](http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/Federation_Picture_Gallery/Federation_Picture_Gallery.html)
  - c. HOA Topics Meeting, May 2016
  - d. Citizen of the Year Banquet, April 2016
  - e. EDA Meeting, March 2016
  - f. Budget Meeting, February 2016
  - g. Education Meeting, February 2016.

### **District Council Reports**

(Dranesville & Hunter Mill - N/A)

1. Braddock – Art Wells – Report attached (Attachment 2).
2. Lee – Vacant – No report.
3. Mason – John Birch – No report.
4. Mt. Vernon – Katherine Ward – Report attached (Attachment 2).
5. Providence – Flint Webb – No report.
6. Springfield – Ed Wyse - No report.
7. Sully – Jeff Parnes – No report.

**Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 8:35 p.m.

Minutes prepared by Curtis M. Anderson, Recording Secretary

### **Next Meetings:**

**Membership Meeting Picnic**– June 16, 2016, 6:30 pm at [Nottoway Park Shelter #1, 9537 Courthouse Rd, Vienna VA](#); picnic signup list has been established.

**Board Meeting** – June 23, 2016, 7:30 pm at Dunn Loring Center, Room 108 (Entrance 2), 2334 Gallows Road, Dunn Loring, VA 22027.

Attachment 1

**RESOLUTION - Supporting the Washington Metro Area Transit Authority Safe Track Plan**

WHEREAS the Washington DC Metro Transit rail system (Metrorail), operated by the Washington Metro Area Transit Authority (WMATA), is the second busiest system in the country and accommodates approximately 566,000 riders per day.

WHEREAS Metrorail is a central link in the region's transportation system, directly linking to: Rail - AMTRAK, VRE and MARC; Transit Bus – MetroBus, Fairfax Connector, ART, DASH, TheBus and RideOn, and airports - Dulles International and Ronald Reagan National.

WHEREAS the reliability and safety of Metrorail has continually declined over the past few years, culminating on January 12, 2016 with a tunnel fire caused by an electrical malfunction which caused a fatality to one of the passengers and the smoke inhalation sickening of more than 80 other riders.

WHEREAS further safety hazards forced authorities to take Metrorail offline for 29 hours on March 16, 2016 to conduct system-wide track inspections, emergency repairs and safety upgrades.

WHEREAS WMATA's General Manager Paul Wiedefeld presented the Safe Track Plan, an aggressive Metrorail track improvement program which accelerates three years of work into one year, which will entail extended station closures, single tracking, and reduced service for up to one month per safety surge project. WHEREAS a total of 15 Metrorail safety surge projects were identified, of which, it is anticipated nine will have direct impact to riders traveling to and from Fairfax County, VA.

WHEREAS the first Metrorail safety surge project is expected to begin on June 4, 2016.

NOW BE IT RESOLVED that the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Association supports the Metrorail Safe Track Plan presented by WMATA;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Association requests the Fairfax County Government, adjacent municipalities, relevant agencies including the Federal Government, employers, businesses, and communities implement a regional coordinated approach to minimize traffic disruptions associated with the Metrorail Safe Track Plan;

BE IT FURTHER RESOLVED that this regional coordinated approach to minimizing traffic disruptions promote innovative transportation demand management solutions such as: expanded bus services, bus lanes, telecommuting, flex-time, real-time traffic information, social media, smartphone apps, innovative community outreach/education programs, and the use of alternative transportation modes including biking, walking, and shared rides; and

BE IT FINALLY RESOLVED that the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Association requests the Fairfax County Government Department of Transportation take the lead in this effort, and working with OPM, VDOT, WMATA, NVTA and NVTC, develop a proactive approach to implement this regional coordinated effort to minimizing Metrorail traffic disruptions.

## Attachment 2

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

The Braddock District Council (BDC) meeting of May 11<sup>th</sup> featured discussions of (a) nominations of officers for the 2016-2017 Program Year, and (b) organizing the annual “Best of Braddock” program. The latter recognizes individuals, organizations and business firms which have made significant contributions to the well-being and overall functions of the District during the past year. The awards will be made at the annual Braddock District picnic on July 13<sup>th</sup>.

A major feature of the May meeting was an extended discussion of the county budget and local taxes. From the nature of the discussion it seems clear that (a) the lower level of the local economy is the principal cause of both (a) the shortfall in revenue for the support of the county functions and service, and for the operation of the school system, and (b) the necessity for an additional source(s) of funding.

The BDC’s next meeting will be on June 8<sup>th</sup> which will feature the election of the 2016-2017 officers and further arrangements for the “Best of Braddock” awards.

The BDC’s special committee on “Aging in Place” met on May 18<sup>th</sup>. The featured presentation was on the generally continuous and timely issue of “Decluttering” by Mr. Patsieann T. Misiti who owns and operates a firm to assist in sorting out items no longer needed or useful, i.e., decluttering one’s living quarters.

### **Mount Vernon District Council Report (Katherine Ward):**

The MVCCA General Council (GC) was very active this month. They passed 3 land use resolutions and 1 resolution pertaining to the environment. In addition, they resubmitted a 2014 resolution encouraging the County to place the meals tax on the ballot.

In the area of land use the resolutions pertained to:

1. The County’s proposed amendments to the Zoning Ordinance. The MVCCA does not oppose this proposal. However, we did propose a 90-day notification period by the County to all citizens when future changes to the ZO are proposed; when comprehensive plan language changes are proposed and when County staff is proposed a new Fairfax Forward work plan. The MVCCA GC feels that citizens require at least a 90-day comment period.
2. The GC agreed to continue to work with Johnson Development Corporation on their proposal to build a 21 century storage facility on a 1.8 acre site currently occupied by a 1960’s motel. Rezoning and complan language changes will be required.
3. Approval was granted to Starbucks for a 24-hour operation at their new drive thru facility on Richmond Highway. This Starbucks replaces a Checkers burger joint drive through.

The Environment and Recreation Committees resolution pertaining to Dominion’s Powers Project DUE 2015-00133 to replace existing high tension power lines running

along and in the environmentally sensitive Huntly Meadows Park was also passed by the GC. It calls for the State and the County to engage Dominion Power to ensure that environmentally sound materials are used; provide for compensatory mitigation; and establish and enforce contractor operating rules.

Finally, the GC approved the resubmission of a 2014 resolution requesting that the County place the meals tax referendum on the Nov ballot. The resolution requests that the funds be used for education and other family services and not go into the General Fund.

MVCCA also held their annual executive board elections. One new co-chair was elected and a new secretary. Two incumbent co-chairs and the treasurer were reelected. One of the MV district communities raised the issue of Airbnb in their neighborhood and was seeking Council action to get the State and County to ban such activity in residential suburban neighborhoods. According to the representatives of this community the home in question has a daily occupancy turn-over rate, with cars coming at all hours of the night and day. The community asked the MVCCA rep to bring this issue up with the Federation. (Note: this was brought to the attention of the Federations Board at the May 26<sup>th</sup> meeting)

The Transportation committee is continuing to look into the increased air craft noise of incoming and out-going flights from National Airport generated by the FAA use NextGen Satellite Navigation System. A signature campaign has been set up by the Villamay community on [www.Change.org](http://www.Change.org). 664 signatures have been secured to date.