

Board Meeting Minutes

7:00 pm, Thursday, August 29, 2024, at Mason District Government Center

Attendees – (see Attachment 1)

Call to Order – 7:15pm.

Old Business –

1. Approve prior minutes – Minutes of the Executive Committee meeting, July 25, 2024, were approved as submitted. Motion: Mark Crawford, Second: Jeff Parnes
2. Treasurer report –
Income Report
http://www.fcfa.org/treasurer/20240829_FederationFinancialIncomeReport.pdf
Transaction Report
http://www.fcfa.org/treasurer/20240829_FederationFinancialTransactionReport.pdf
Federal Tax Non-profit Status for 2023-2024 Submitted:
<http://www.fcfa.org/treasurer/FCFCAForm990Nfiling2023-24year.pdf>

New Business –

3. **2024-2025 Calendar** –
2024 Federation meetings are in-person. Tim announced nominations have been received for the 2024 Citizen of the Year (COY) award. Award coordinators: Jeffrey Parnes, Bill Barfield and Tim Thompson. The 2023 COY award ceremony was in May.
Sue Kovach Shuman asked for email verification and phone numbers to contact board members in case of a meeting cancellation or bad weather necessitating meeting via Free Conference Call.
4. **Open Committee Roles** –
Tim Thompson announced FCFA Advisory Committee nominations are underway. Shirley Ginwright plans to Chair the FCFA Criminal Advisory Committee. Shirley was recognized by the FBI's Washington Field Office (April 28, 2017) for Communities of Trust Committee (COTC) leadership and dedication to preventing violence in Fairfax County and improving communication efforts between residents and service providers. [Ginwright-COTC](#). Ginwright was the FCFA representative for Braddock District Supervisor Sharon Bulova. [Ginwright-Bulova](#). Mark Tipton plans to Chair the Trails and Sidewalks Committee.
 - Criminal Advisory Committee: Shirley Ginwright
 - Trails and Sidewalks Committee: Mark Tipton

Discussion: Email membership to ask, “who might have an interest in serving” on FCFCA Committees. Include District Councils as well as the Arlington Council Civic Association and forward a list of FCFCA Committee positions available with specific request “give us names”. Advocate to have land use lawyer on the Land Use Committee [Sample: Fairfax Real Estate Lawyers](#). Committee members are not required to be a member of the Federation to be a Committee member. Board plans to update the Fairfax County District Council roster.

Action Item #1 Sue Kovach Shuman plans to contact Jeff Agnew, Providence District Council president, for help in finding a Federation representative from Providence.

Recommendation: Contact George Mason University for FCFCA volunteers. Students may be willing to work on issues tabulated from the survey as a “Master’s Thesis”

Recommendation: Work with other Counties (Ad Hoc groups, Citizen Associations) and Virginia Regional Planning Districts [Planning District Commissions \(PDCs\) | DHCD \(virginia.gov\)](#)

Action Item #2: Send FCFCA resolutions to media outlets: WUSA, WJLA, WTOP, Fairfax Now [FFXnow](#) and print media.

5. 2024 Legislative Agenda –

Committee: Process & Dates: Tim Thompson and Bill Barfield.

Discussion: 2024 Membership Survey of Issues. Board to send 2024 legislative survey to membership. Tim and Bill Barfield plan to write the survey. Include offering survey to District Supervisor for District newsletters. Jeffrey Parnes and Tim Thompson to verify passwords and coordinate survey distribution through Mailchimp [Mailchimp platform](#)

Tim advises Committee Chairs and Co-Chairs to begin working on legislative items. This is NOT for the County budget; this is for the State General Assembly.

Discussion: Immediate need to survey the FCFCA membership for legislative input. Bill and Tim to write the survey with distribution between September 10-12, 2024 Anticipate having survey available at the membership meeting September 26, 2024 Committee Chairs to receive tabulated survey input as soon as possible (ASAP). Committee Chairs to submit issues (1-page) by October 2024 (positives & negatives) Send Committee issues to membership in EARLY October Membership VOTES on legislation at the OCTOBER 24, 2024, meeting. Bills on State General Assembly docket by December 7, 2024, or December 8, 2024

Topics:

1. Data Centers: **NEW PUBLIC HEARING: SEPTEMBER 10, 2024 AT 4:30PM**
[Data Centers | Planning Development \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#)

Discussion: Explore opportunity to require reclamation bond for every data center
[Reclamation-Surety-Bonds](#)

2. Casino Tyson’s Corner [Casino-WTOP](#)

3. Meals Tax **Proposal expected at September 17, 2024 Budget Committee**
[Budget Committee Meetings | Management and Budget \(fairfaxcounty.gov\)](#)

Discussion: How will the county use the meals tax? Purpose: Diversify County revenue.

Motion to send FCFCA letter to Board of Supervisors to reiterate position in favor of the meals tax. Include original referendum as an attachment for reference. Motion from Nancy Trainer, 2nd by Patrick Smaldore. Vote: 11 approve, 0 negative, 1 abstain.

Action #3: Tim Thompson to send FCFCA survey to membership for legislative input.

Action #4: Jeffrey Parnes to forward prior FCFCA letter to Supervisors from the website archives to Tim Thompson. *completed during meeting.

Action #5: Jeffrey Parnes, Tim Thompson to coordinate survey distribution on Mailchimp

District Council Reports –

Braddock – Mike Perel

Dranesville -

Franconia -

Hunter Mill -

Mason - Mark Crawford

Mount Vernon - Marty Sanchez-Lowery

Providence -

Springfield - Jim Kirkpatrick

Sully – Lewis Grimm

Committee Reports:

Finance –

Jeffery Parnes: Membership drive has not yet started. The Membership Committee is a responsibility of First Vice President, Morgan Jameson. Mark Crawford is also a member of the Committee. Letters TO JOIN FCFCA and for RENEWAL are ready to send. [Federation Membership \(fcfca.org\)](http://Federation Membership (fcfca.org)) Payment accepted though website, PayPal, or by mail. Form is available on the website.

Discussion: Form location on website, access to membership info and ease of use. Included discussion of WIX Inc. services with 3-year retroactive reimbursement and future 3-year commitment. WIX is a website builder.

Wix.com - Wikipedia

Education –

Nancy Trainer: Nancy and Annemarie Swope meet with the Fairfax County Public School (FCPS) Superintendent, Dr. Michelle Reid [Dr. Reid](#) quarterly and serve on the Advanced Economic Program Advisory Committee. Megan McLaughlin, former FCPS Board member, agrees to serve as FCFCA representative to the FCPS Human Resources Advisory Committee. An education representative is needed for the 1) Student Achievement Oversight

Committee and 2) Advisory Committee on Students with Disabilities. These FCPS positions are dedicated to FCFCA representatives.

FCPS Issue #1: Board policy decisions are regularly made without the use of an evidence-based methodology and without responding to community voiced concerns procedurally and substantively raised.

FCPS Issue #2: Changes in secondary (middle and high school) grading and reporting. Shifts in grading in some schools 'ad hoc' since CoVID and grading inconsistencies between schools. Some tests may be taken indefinitely. No consistent grading and reporting policy yet from the Board or Department of Instructional Services. At Herdon High School, 200 parents in-person voiced concerns including to the FCPS Regional Superintendent. No action. Concerns persist about parent and student retaliation.

FCPS Issue #3: Pilot program for cell phones in schools known as "Away For The Day" for middle schools and high schools has not yet been adopted by FCPA. Over the summer, the Education Committee sent a letter supporting the program. A pilot is being conducted to allow FCPS students to store cell phones in pouches **during class**. Arlington County schools is conducting a pilot program to put phones 'Away For The Day' in high school and middle school. The FCPS Students Rights and Responsibilities (SR&R) document does not require high school students to remove cell phones and the SR&R Committee to recently "declined to change" the rights and responsibilities document for a cell phone use in high school.

FCPS Issue #4: Family Life Education (FLE) proposed 4th grade student sex education with boys and girls in the same class. A public survey found 85% of students, teachers, parents AGAINST combined classes yet FPCS is proceeding with combined 4th grade class pilot with a FLE program default to conduct combined classes. On gender identity, the FLE Advisory Committee has requested to discuss whether gender identity studies should be taught. During the public comment period, FCPS received 2,500 comments AGAINST the proposal. Understood FCPS panned comments. FLE review is proceeding.

Discussion: Cass Review (National Health Service, United Kingdom). Information only.

7. Summary of Action Items –

Item #1: Jeffrey Parnes, Tim Thompson to coordinate survey distribution on Mailchimp

Item #2 Sue Kovach Shuman to send email for Jeff Agnew: Providence District Council

Item #3: Send FCFCA resolutions to media outlets: WUSA, WJLA, WTOP, print.

Item #4: Membership Survey of Issues (Tim Thompson). **Timeline: Sept. 10-12, 2024**

Item #5: Jeffrey Parnes to forward prior FCFCA letter to Supervisors from the website archives to Tim Thompson. *completed during meeting.

Next Meetings –

Next membership meeting: Thursday, September 26, 2024, 7pm at the Mason Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Main Community Room.
Program: "Easy Composting at Home" by Meridien Ehrlich as part of requirements for the Girl Scout Gold Award, the highest Girl Scout achievement award earned by Senior and Ambassador Girl Scouts, grades 9-12. The award requires an innovative and sustainable solution with measurable impact linked to a national and/or global issue [Fairfax Federation Home Page \(fcfca.org\)](http://Fairfax Federation Home Page (fcfca.org))

Board Meeting: 3rd Thursday every month

Membership meeting: 4th Thursday every month

Board: **September 19, 2024**, (location pending)

Board: **October 17, 2024**

Board: **November 14, 2024**

Board: Christmas dinner meeting: **December 12, 2024, or December 19, 2024.**

Board: **January 16, 2025.**

Membership: **September 26, 2024**, Mason Government Ctr, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale, Main Community Room

Membership: **October 24, 2024**, Location pending

Membership: **November 21, 2024**, Braddock Government Ctr, 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke, VA. Program: Public Safety by Patrick Smaldore

Membership: **December 19, 2024**, Tentative determined by legislative agenda

Membership: **January 23, 2025**

Adjourn: 9:09 PM

Recorded by: Corresponding Secretary, L. Whittenburg

Attachments:

1. List of Board Members, as of Aug 2024
2. Treasurer's Report

Attachment 1 - Board Members, as of Aug 29, 2024

Board Member	12 Attend	District Council Rep.	Standing or Support Committee Position	Elected Position
(vacant)			Citizen Association Services	
(vacant)				
(vacant)				
Alejandro Mattiuzzo			Audit (PENDING)	
Alex Vassalotti			Environment (PENDING)	
Annmarie Swope			Education, SBAAP Adv Cmty	
Bill Barfield			Legislation, COY, Nominating	Recording Sec, Past President
Cary Campbell			Transportation	
Catherine Mortensen			Audit (PENDING)	
Charlotte Hannagan	X		Webmaster	
Dave Fitzgerald	X		Environmental	
David Edelman			Budget	
Dennis Hays			Library (PENDING)	
Doug Birnie	X		Human Services	
Gabe Goldberg	X		Public Safety	
Jeff Parnes	X		Transportation, Resolutions, Finance, Webmaster	Treasurer
Jim Kirkpatrick		Springfield		
John Jennison			Representative to SCC	Past President
Kathy Kaplan			Library (PENDING)	
Lewis Grimm	X	Sully		
Luann Whittenburg	X			Corresponding Sec.
Mark Crawford	X	Mason		
Marty Sanchez-Lowery		Mt. Vernon		
Matt Bell			Land Use	
Mike Fuard			CitizenAssocSvcs (PENDING)	
Mike Perel		Braddock	Human Services	
Morgan Jameson				1 st Vice President
Nancy Trainer	X		Education	
Patrick Smaldore	X		Public Safety	
Sridhar Ganesan			COY, Nominating	Past President
Sue Kovach Shuman	X		Mantua CA	2 nd Vice President
Tim Thompson	X		Budget, Legislation, Membership	President, Past Pres.

Attachment 2. Treasurer's Report

Income Report

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