

The Fairfax County
FEDERATION
of Citizens Associations *Established 1940*

December 2010

THE BULLETIN

Volume 60, Number 5

Federation Membership Meeting

Thursday, December 16, 2010

7:30 p.m.

Note New (Temporary) Location

Sulley District Community Room

Sully Governmental Center
4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly 20151

Topic: An Urban Conservation Ethic
(see Page 6 of this bulletin)

Presented by: George Lamb
**Director of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water
Conservation District**



Next Federation Board Meeting

January 27, 2011

Superintendent's Conference Room

FCPS Administrative Offices

8115 Gatehouse Road
Falls Church, VA 22042

7:30 p.m.

Note: The Gatehouse garage is located on the east side of the building, and entry closes at 8 p.m. Anyone arriving after that time will need to call someone at the meeting to be let in at the front door on the west side of the building.

New on the Federation Web Site

The Federation's Legislative Program as passed at the October 21, 2010 Membership Meeting and can be reviewed at:

<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/resolutions/ResolutionLegislativeProgram2011App101021.pdf>

Federation president Tania Hossain's presentation of the Federation's Legislative Program to the Fairfax County legislative delegation (delegates and senators):

<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/testimony/Testimony2011LegislationProgram110108.pdf>

The Tysons Corner Bicycle Master Plan, as given at the recent Membership meeting, in the form of presentation charts: <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/transportation1.htm>. The Transportation page also contains several other new entries, including recent presentations on transportation, many of which pertain to traffic.

President's Message

Greetings Friends and Neighbors:

The Federation Board had an annual dinner at the Marco Polo Restaurant in Vienna with the bulk of the meeting focused on membership retention and recruitment. One of the suggestions that percolated to the top was to get feedback from the citizens associations as to what is going on in the community and how we can take our programming into the community. We discussed an open house event for citizens associations to gather to exchange information about our diverse communities. We are very excited to take our discussions and act on them in the near future. Personally, I strongly believe that when people connect with each other, they can accomplish a lot of good things to benefit our communities. I hope you will take the moment to connect with the Federation.

On a community note, I am pleased to inform you that I have appointed Rob Jackson of McLean, Virginia as the Federation's representative to the Fairfax County Board of Supervisor's 2011 Redistricting Citizens Advisory Committee. I am confident that Rob's background and experience as the President of the McLean Citizens Association and with the Iowa redistricting commission will bring to the committee cohesive and collegial work and is in the best interest of the citizens of Fairfax County. The Federation is appreciative to the Board of Supervisors for this opportunity to serve.

On a programming note, we are looking forward to an excellent presentation by George Lamb, Director of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation Board. We have additional notes about his talk and bio in this newsletter edition.

On behalf of the Federation Board, I wish you, your families and community good health, prosperity and joy. Together we can accomplish our goals for the New Year. We look forward to staying connected.

Happy New Year!

Tania Hossain

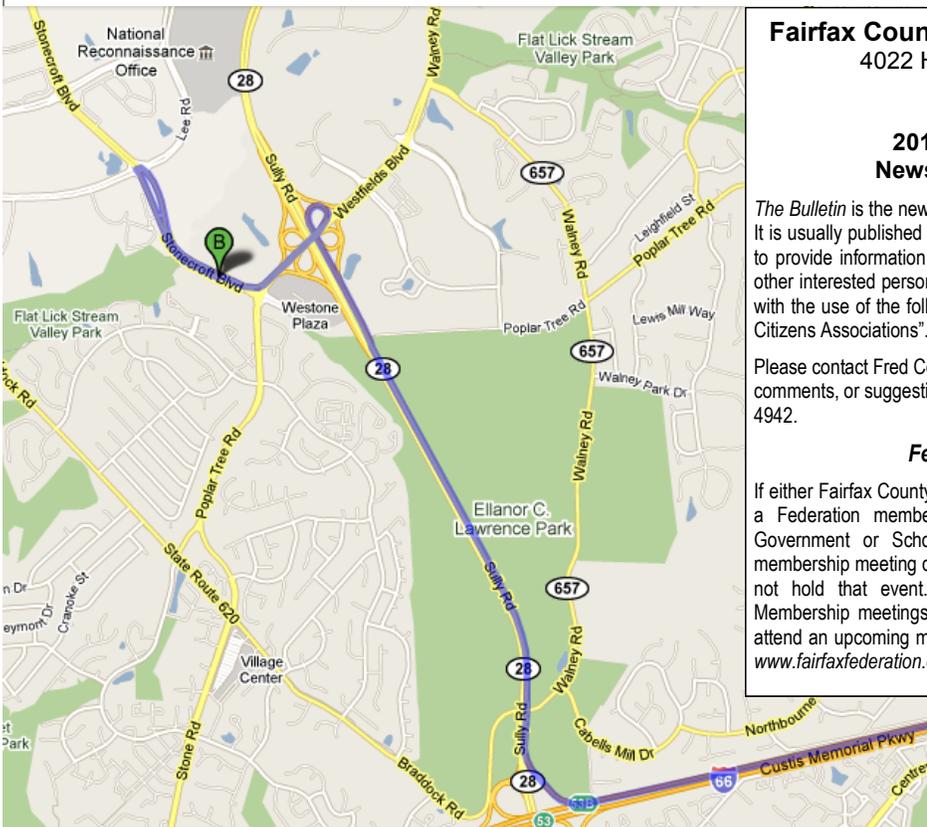
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Directions to Sulley District Community Room

Take I-495 (Capital Beltway) to I-66. Go west 11.3 miles toward Front Royal. Take exit 53B for VA-28 N. Go 0.1 miles. Keep right at the fork to continue toward VA-28 N/Sully Rd and merge onto VA-28 N/Sully Rd. Go 1.6 miles. Take the **Westfields Blvd** exit toward **Co Rd 662**. Go 0.2 miles. Keep left at the fork to continue toward Westfields Blvd. Go 0.2 miles. Keep right at the fork to continue toward Westfields Blvd and merge onto Westfields Blvd. Go 0.4 miles. Turn right at **Stonecroft Blvd**. Go 0.6 miles. Make a **U-turn at Co Rd 661/Lee Rd**. Go 0.5 miles to 4900 Stonecroft Blvd.



Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations

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www.fairfaxfederation.org

2010-2011 President: Tania Hossain
Newsletter Editor: Frederick A. Costello

The Bulletin is the newsletter of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations. It is usually published monthly, with the exception of July and August. The purpose is to provide information to member communities, federal, state, and local officials, and other interested persons. Articles reflect the view of their author and may be reprinted with the use of the following citation: "The Bulletin of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations".

Please contact Fred Costello with newsletter name and email address changes, comments, or suggestions at FedBulletinEditor2010@fairfaxfederation.org or 703-620-4942.

Federation Meeting Cancellation Policy

If either Fairfax County Government or Schools are closed after 12:00 noon the day of a Federation membership meeting, or if it is announced that Fairfax County Government or Schools will be closed the day after a scheduled Federation membership meeting due to inclement weather or other emergency, the Federation will not hold that event. This does not pertain to regularly scheduled closures. Membership meetings will not be rescheduled, although speakers may be asked to attend an upcoming meeting. We will make every attempt to post the cancellation on www.fairfaxfederation.org or, for more information, you can call 703-620-4942.

FCFCA Program Calendar 2010-2011					
Month	Membership Meetings		Board Meetings		Newsletter Deadline
	Date	Program	Date	Program	
2010					
Sep	16	Back to School Issues by Schools Superintendent Dr. Dale, @ Braddock Hall	23	Legislative Program @ Braddock Hall	1-Oct
Oct	21	Legislative Program @ Braddock Hall	28	@ South County Center, Alexandria	1-Nov
Nov	18	County Bicycle Paths @ Braddock Hall		No meeting	22-Nov
Dec	16	An Urban Conservation Ethic @ Sully District Office	2 ^a	@ Marco Polo Restaurant, Vienna, VA	20-Dec
2011					
Jan	20	FC Public School Budget @ Braddock Hall	27	@ FCPS Administrative Offices, 8115 Gatehouse Road	24-Jan
Feb	17	Reston Metro Station - An Example of Good Re-Development Planning @ Braddock Hall Robert Goudie of the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force	24	@ Braddock Hall	21-Feb
Mar	17 ^b	County Budget @ Braddock Hall	24 ^b	@ Braddock Hall	21-Mar
Apr	14 ^c	HOA Governance	28		18-Apr
May	19	Report from Richmond; Election of Federation Officers	26		23-May
Jun	16	Picnic, State of Fairfax by Sharon Bulova, Board of Supervisors Chair; Installation of Officers	23		20-Jun

- a. Dec 2 Board Meeting has been set to avoid scheduling conflicts during the Christmas holiday week. It serves as the December and November meetings combined.
- b. Dates of the March meetings will be interchanged if necessary to enable members to vote on final Federation budget recommendations.
- c. April 14 membership meeting is the second Thursday in April due to FCPS spring break the third week.

Do you want to have an impact?

The Federation is only as strong as its voice, and the Federation's many committees make up its collective voice. If you are interested in serving one any of the ten committees that make up the backbone of the Federation please contact the committee chairs using the following email addresses:

Budget: Carey Campbell and Charles Hall	FedBudgetChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Citizen Association Services: Don Hinman	FedAssociationServicesChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Education: Leonard Bumbaca, Ed Saperstein and Tim Thompson	FedEducationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Environment: Roger Diedrich and Flint Webb	FedEnvironmentChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Human Services: No chair	FedHumanServicesChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Land Use: Fred Costello	FedLandUseChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Legislation: Frank Anderson	FedLegislationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Public Safety: Gail Parker	FedPublicSafetyChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Resolutions: Bill Hanks	FedResolutionsChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org
Transportation: Carey Campbell, Roger Hoskin and Jeff Parnes ..	FedTransportationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org

The committees conduct the bulk of their business by email, and formulate positions and suggest actions for consideration by the membership at large. They also provide inputs to the Federation's legislation and budget presentations. Here's a chance to make a mark in an area of your interest. Join us in making our County a better place to live!

Membership Meeting Minutes

Meeting held at: Braddock Hall, 9002 Burke Lake Road, Burke, VA on Thursday, November 18, 2010, 7:30 p.m.

Draft submitted for approval at Dec16, 2010 meeting

The November 2010 Meeting of the Membership of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order by President Tania Hossain at 7:35 p.m. in Braddock Hall, Burke. The attendance list is attached to file copy of the minutes.

PROGRAM: TYSON'S CORNER BICYCLE MASTER PLAN

Jeffrey Hermann, Fairfax County Bicycle and Pedestrian Planner, and Charles Strunk, Fairfax County Bicycle Program Coordinator talked with participants regarding the county's bicycle program. Jeff and Charles explained and discussed the county's bicycle program and related issues; some of the points covered follow.

The county bicycle program was created by the Board of Supervisors four years ago; a mandate is to network the county by bicycle. Products include publishing the county-wide bicycle map in 2008, adding bike racks to Connector buses, and the recently published Tyson's Corner Bicycle Plan. (See <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/pdf/TysonCornerBicycleMasterPlan111118.pdf>) Development of a county-wide bicycle master plan will begin in the spring of 2011.

Other bicycle concepts covered included: considerations required for new developments, the goal of accommodating bicyclists ages "8 to 80," bicycle street lanes versus sidewalk use, bicycle lane standards, safety issues, related public education, connecting existing trails and building new ones, coordination among agencies, how the county gets citizen input on bicycle requirements, the difficulty connecting McLean pedestrians and bicyclists to Tyson's Corner, insuring safe routes to schools, autonomy of school principals regarding school bicycle policy, and ensuring bike lanes on the new beltway bridges built for the HOT lanes project.

President Hossain expressed the Federation's gratitude for this update on the bicycle program and presented Jeff and Charles with Federation mugs.

ADMINISTRATIVE TOPICS

Minutes: The membership approved the minutes of the September 16 and October 21, 2010, membership meetings.

Treasurer's Report: Scott Schlegel presented the treasurer's report, which the membership voted to receive and file.

The Bulletin (newsletter): Newsletter articles are due to the editor by December 1. Committee chairs and Federation representatives to other organizations are urged to share information via *The Bulletin*.

OLD BUSINESS

2011 Citizen of the Year (COY) Award: Chair Jeff Parnes, requests that all members please spread the word about the next Citizen of the Year Award. More information is available on our website at <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/coy1.htm>. Jeff will send announcements to *The Washington Post*, local newspapers, the planning commission, supervisors, and legislators.

NEW AND MISCELLANEOUS BUSINESS

Citizens Police Academy Fund Raising Effort

Fairfax County Police: Following up on a fundraising effort described at the October membership meeting by Gabe Goldberg, representative of the Walnut Hill Association, Esther Ferington made the same coupon books available on his behalf for a second and final time. As described in the October minutes, the project is conducted by graduates of the Fairfax County Citizens Police Academy and the funds raised will be used to supply a Police Department mobile canteen that supplies food and rest areas for police at major incident scenes where police may be on-site for many hours or days.

Redistricting of the Election Districts of the Board of Supervisors

The board of supervisors on November 16 approved the process and schedule for reapportionment of supervisor districts. Earlier Chairman Bulova stated that the Federation would be one of the countywide organizations included on the Advisory Citizen Committee to participate in the process with County staff. The Federation must choose its representative; those who wish to represent the Federation on this committee should contact President Tania Hossain.

Board & Committee Reports

Budget: Chairs Carey Campbell and Charlie Hall. Charlie Dane reported that by December he and Kosmo Tatalias will prepare a schedule for the Federation's budget committee activities.

Citizen Association Services: Don Hinman. No report

Education: Chairs Leonard Bumbaca, Ed Saperstein, & Tim Thompson. Tim reported that the Education Committee met with the FCPS Assistant Superintendent for Human Resources Kevin North and Chief Financial Officer Susan Quinn to review plans for employee pay raises and funding of retirement accounts.

Environment: Chair Flint Webb. The Federation's December 16 meeting program topic is water quality. The presenter will be George Lamb, member of the board of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District. The NVSWD will provide informational brochures at the meeting.

Human Services: Chair vacant

Land Use: Chair Fred Costello, in support of the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force, developed several analytical models related to traffic. The County has more sophisticated models, such as VISSIM, but the time required to look at one alternative road change is several months—far too long to be useful given the Task Force's schedule. Fred's models are simpler.

His gridded-streets model shows that grids do not improve traffic flow significantly, except for the last 0.2 mile for a destination away from the artery.

His model of mode shares shows that walking and bicycling are faster for distances less than ½ mile. A single-occupant private automobile is less costly than a bus for distances less than eight miles, if time is evaluated at \$20 per hour and the time to walk to and from the bus is included. The bus is cheaper for longer distances because the Metro bus fare structure does not depend on distance. Fred is still working on a model to estimate the percent of people who would prefer the bus, despite its higher cost.

Fred has compared the George Mason University (GMU) and

Minutes (continued)

Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments (MWCOC) jobs and housing projections for the Reston area. These differ by as much as 32%. Fred's traffic model uses the higher GMU estimates and shows which intersections fail and how to make them acceptable.

Fred and the County finally agree on the land areas for the land along the Dulles Toll Road. They are still trying to resolve differences in the limits on the Floor-Area-Ratios as allowed by zoning and as described in the current Comprehensive Plan. It appears that the current Comprehensive Plan allows for sufficient office floor area but not sufficient residential floor area. Nevertheless, the developers want to be allowed to build more of the more profitable office space. Traffic will become a greater problem if insufficient residential space is built.

Legislation: Chair Frank Anderson. The Federation's *Legislative Package* is undergoing proofreading. It will soon be posted on the Federation's web site.

Membership: Chair Kahan Dhillon. Letters have been sent to former member organizations that have not renewed membership. Tania is following up by telephone.

Public Safety: G. Gail Parker. The committee provided safety tips for this month's *The Bulletin*. The Federation seeks additional members for this committee including a co-chair; Tania has a lead for co-chair.

Resolutions: Chair Bill Hanks. No report

Transportation: Chairs Carey Campbell, Roger Hoskins, and Jeff Parnes. Mark Tipton, the Federation's representative on the county's Trails and Sidewalks Committee, requested recommendations from members.

Jeff, who is chair of the Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC), reported the TAC's November meeting featured a status update on the Dulles Corridor Metrorail Project, an update on the County's Study on Alternatives for Improving Roadway Services, and the Tysons Corner Bicycle Master Plan.

The TAC has been advising FCDOT staff and their consultants in their efforts to conduct the study that is exploring ways for the county to provide better transportation services, including taking it over from VDOT. In the 1930s the state took over full responsibility for road maintenance, development, and operation from the counties. Cities and both Arlington and Henrico counties maintained responsibility for their roads. The county has explored whether to assume the VDOT road multiple times over the past forty years, each time deciding to leave the situation as it stands.

The study itself has been renamed, it was previously titled "Transportation Funding and Improving Roadway Services Delivery Study," and now the more direct "Study on Alternatives for Improving Roadway Services".

Staff has found that it is hard to determine exactly what state costs are associated with servicing our county, as the state does certain services regionally (over, for say, Loudoun, Prince William, and Fairfax counties, without apportioning the costs per county). The advice the TAC has been providing is not intended to influence the study's results, but in the areas for the staff to explore, questions to answer, etc. Staff has also found that those counties with road responsibilities and cities expend more money to maintain their roads than the funds provided by the state.

The revised Transportation Committee webpage (<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/transportation1.htm>) holds recent presentations (including those mentioned above) that may be of interest to Federation members.

Website: Chair Jeff Parnes will add the Tysons Corner Bicycle Master Plan to the web site along with other transportation presentations.

District Council Reports

Seven supervisor districts have councils of citizens associations; Dranesville and Hunter Mill districts do not.

Braddock: Rep. Art Wells reported that future events of the Braddock District Council include:

- December 2—Taste of Braddock at Braddock Hall
- First half of December—2nd meeting of district budget advisory committee
- First half of December—Woodson Bus Lot public meeting

Lee: Rep. Don Hinman. No report

Mason: Rep. Keith Taggart. Tania reported that Mason District Council will hold a powwow at Mike's Pizza Place on December 9.

Mount Vernon: Rep. Karen Pohorylo. No report

Providence: Rep. Charles Hall. No report

Springfield: Rep. Mike Thompson. No report

Sully: Rep. Jeff Parnes reported that topics of the November 17 meeting were a presentation on plans for the National Air and Space Museum's Steven F. Udvar-Hazy Center and the Centreville Immigrant Foundation's plans to set up an immigrant assistance center.

The topic of the December 15 meeting is Watershed Management, to be presented by Joe Sanchirico, the project manager for the Sugarland Run/Horsepen Creek Watershed Plan.

ADJOURNMENT

The meeting adjourned at 9:45 p.m.

NEXT MEETINGS

The next board meeting is scheduled December 2, 2010 at 7:30 p.m., at the Marco Polo Restaurant, 245 Maple Ave. West, Vienna. All members of the Federation are invited to join in the evening's festivities and the excellent Thursday night buffet. Please RSVP to President Tania Hossain by November 28.

The next membership meeting is scheduled December 16, 2010, at 7:30 p.m., at the Sully District Community Room in the Sully Governmental Center, 4900 Stonecroft Boulevard, Chantilly.

Minutes written and published by

Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary

An Urban Conservation Ethic



Our December Speaker: George Lamb was appointed as a Director of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District to fill the seat of the late Sally Ormsby in 2009. Over the past two years he's learned much about practical conservation and realized that very few people have the opportunity or experience to practice conservation. He spends weekends fighting invasive plants in his backyard and chasing his two

daughters. He is also Vice Chair of the Fairfax County Environmental Quality Advisory Council (EQAC), which is appointed by the Board of Supervisors to advise them on environmental issues across the County. By training, George is a computer scientist and works for Cisco Systems in Herndon.

Here are some of the points George will cover:

Conservation in the United States has a long and proud tradition. One hundred and seven years ago, John Muir convinced Teddy Roosevelt to go camping in the Yosemite Valley. Over three days he lobbied the President to create a national park to preserve the valley and a stand of giant redwoods. In the 1930's great dust storms that ravaged the Midwest had moved east and "blotted out the sun over the nation's capital and drove grit between the teeth of New Yorkers." Thus was born the Soil Conservation Districts that restored conservation on our farm lands. Today we live and work in very different ways than John Muir and the 1930's farmers, yet we inhabit the same lands as they did. In this talk we'll discuss what it means to be a 21st century conservationist in Fairfax County, what is being done to advance the Fairfax County environmental agenda, and how to participate in an urban conservation ethic.

Redistricting Virginia

The Redistricting Subcommittee of the Virginia House Committee on Privileges and Elections seeks public comment on the redistricting process, criteria to be considered in preparing redistricting plans, and potential district changes to legislative and congressional districts. The remaining public hearings will be held according to the following schedule:

Fri, Dec 17 at 10 am 9th Floor Appropriations Room, General Assembly Building (time approximate, after Governor's remarks to the money committees)

The Subcommittee Members are The Honorable Mark Lo Cole, Chairman, the Honorable Robert B. Bell, the Honorable Rosalyn R. Dance, the Honorable Algie T. Howell, Jr, the Honorable S. Chris Jones, the Honorable Jackson H. Miller, the Honorable David B. Albo, and the Honorable Johnny S. Joannou. Questions may be directed to Jack Austin, Division of Legislative Services at (804) 786-3591 or: FJAustin@DLS.Virginia.gov Persons wishing to register in advance to speak at one of the September hearings may do so by contacting Scott Maddrea [SMaddrea@house.virginia.gov], House of Delegate Committee Operations at (804) 698-1540. Persons wishing to be notified of future meetings may also contact Scott Maddrea. More information is available on the Redistricting Virginia website at <http://dls.gis.state.va.us/Ref/NewsReleases/NewsRelease082310.pdf>

News Items

Citizen of the Year

The Federation is accepting nominations for the Fairfax County Citizen of the Year (COY) award, which honors those citizens whose voluntary contributions of time and talent have resulted in major accomplishments that have enhanced the quality of life for citizens of Fairfax. The criteria and nomination form is at <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/COY/COYApplication.html>.

Fairfax County Budget

How the budget is developed is described in the video: "Juggling in a Struggling Economy: The FY 2012 Budget Process" which can be found at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/>.

A Do-It-Yourself Budget Toolkit is available at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/dmb/fy2012/diy/>

Conservation

Charles K. Ebinger, Director, Energy Security Initiative at The Brookings Institution, has an interesting article on energy efficiency and the "Green Recovery," including recommended actions. See: http://www.brookings.edu/opinions/2009/0116_energy_ebinger.aspx

Christopher B. Leinberger of Brookings and Patrick C. Doherty, Director, Smart Strategy Initiative, New America Foundation describe the next real-estate boom as involving walkable communities of childless households. See http://www.brookings.edu/articles/2010/11_real_estate_leinberger.aspx The authors do not address the impact of the various ethnic groups that still foster large families.

Randal O'Toole, in his "The Myth of the Compact City: Why Compact Development Is Not the Way to Reduce Carbon Dioxide Emissions", differs from the Brookings articles. His article can be downloaded at http://www.cato.org/pub_display.php?pub_id=10977.

Wendell Cox introduces another contrarian view in "Hello Smart Growth, Goodbye Affordable Housing", which can be viewed at: <http://www.heritage.org/Research/Commentary/2010/07/Hello-Smart-Growth-Goodbye-Affordable-Housing>