

Board of Directors Meeting Minutes

Thursday, January 28, 2010

Approved February 25, 2010

The January 2010 Meeting of the Executive Board of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order by President Jeff Parnes at 7:40 p.m. at the Packard Center in Annandale.

Present: Fred Costello, Charles Dane, Kahan Dhillon, Esther Ferington, Bill Hanks, Don Hinman, Roger Hoskin, Tania Hossain, Jeff Parnes, Scott Schlegel, Flint Webb, Art Wells, and Ed Wyse.

Calendar

Month	Membership	Board	Newsletter Deadline
Feb	18 – Presentation by Park Authority/Tysons Plan ¹	None (note early Mar meeting)	Jan 29
Mar	25 - County Budget Presentation ² (4 th Thursday)	4 – Budget (1 st Thursday) ³	Mar 12
Apr	15 – Report from Federation Appointees & Representatives (Kahan) ⁴	22	Apr 2
May	20– Report from Richmond (Selected Fairfax County legislators)	27	Apr 23
Jun	17 – Picnic: State of Fairfax by Sharon Bulova, Chairman, Board of Supervisors (BOS), and Installation of Officers	24	May 28

Administrative Topics

Officer and Board Vacancies and Appointments | Jeff Parnes

Human Services—Need Chair; this vacancy has continued too long.

Bulletin—Carol is planning to step down after the June 2010 bulletin. If interested in serving as Editor when she steps down please either contact her (FedBulletinEditor2009@fairfaxfederation.org) or Jeff (FedPres2009@fairfaxfederation.org).

Bulletin/Newsletter | Carol (absent)

Newsletter articles are due January 29.

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes

- Board—28 Jan 09—Carol Hawn, Secretary Pro Tem—still in progress
- Board—10 Dec 09—Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary—approved at this meeting

Future of Packard Center and Implications for Federation | Jeff

The January 2010 issue of The League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area Fairfax VOTER reports that the Packard Center might be renovated during the fourth quarter of 2010 rather than being closed permanently. We might explore meeting at a library that is equipped to allow late exits by groups meeting at their facility. These facilities, all somewhat centrally located, were mentioned as possible temporary meeting places: Oakton Library, Kings Park Library or collocated Braddock Government Center, Woods Center in the Burke Conservancy.

¹ Jeff is working with John to obtain a presenter for February.

² Tania will ensure the Budget Committee Co-chairs are securing a presenter for the March membership meeting.

³ Kahan will ensure the Packard Center is reserved for the March 4 meeting.

⁴ Kahan and Esther will choose who will report at the April 15 meeting. Guidance is not to select representatives that have recently reported and to select from one school committee and two other committees.

Members are to check their potential for use in late 2010 and pass initial availability information and contact information to Kahan.

Treasurer's Report | Scott

Scott provided the treasurer's report. The board received and filed the treasurer's report. The report may be viewed at <http://www.fcfa.org/minutes-agenda/TreasurersReport100121.pdf>.

Old Business

Citizen of the Year (COY) Award & Banquet | John Jennison (absent)

John has submitted an RFP for the banquet for 125 attendees at Tyson's Crown Plaza for April 25 or May 2 and will report to the board on the response as soon as he gets it. SAIC has agreed to be head liner sponsor; we are negotiating the level of donation. John is also meeting with the FireFighters for their sponsor interest. A representative of another potential sponsor, The Washington Post, is trying to get in touch with Jeff.

Members are urged to redouble efforts to solicit nominations, which are due January 31. [Note: In the days immediately following this meeting the due day was extended to February 7 and further extension was under consideration.]

The online nomination form on the Federation's web site is not working. Nominators should use the RTF nomination from the web site to prepare their nominations and then submit the nominations to John Jennison.

Scott distributed a one-page summary of the 2009 COY banquet expenses and led a discussion about expense factors and risks, such as contracting for more meals than are sold.

Signs to direct motorists to the VRE stations | Carey (absent)

At our August board meeting the board voted to pursue the strategy of a resolution that seeks to increase VRE ridership through a multi-faceted marketing campaign that would include electronic sign boards as one element. We await Carey's draft resolution for board vetting. In Cary's absence, this item was deferred.

Tyson's Corner Land Use Task Force | John Jennison (absent)

The Tyson's Corner Land Use Task Force meeting met January 25 to review the draft Plan Amendment.

Jeff will coordinate speakers for the Federation's February membership meeting on this subject.

Chairman's Photos | John

Last Wednesday, the 13th, just prior to Chairman Bulova's New Year's fest, the County dedicated the Chairmen's Portrait Gallery in the alcove in front of the conference rooms, with past president John Jennison, the driving force behind the portraits, and current president, Jeff Parnes, speaking on the occasion. See pictures taken at the event at <http://www.fcfa.org/PictureGallery/20100113ChairmanGallery>. The link to the county's announcement of the occasion is available the Picture Gallery.

The Federation membership expressed its thanks to John Jennison for leading this project at last week's meeting.

REGION FORWARD—Greater Washington 2050: Council of Government's (COG) Vision for the National Capital Region in the Twenty-First Century | Jeff

COG Board of Directors approved the signature product of the Greater Washington 2050 Coalition—Region Forward: COG's Comprehensive Guide for Regional Planning and Measuring Progress in the 21st Century—on January 13, 2010.

Fairfax County Chairman Sharon Bulova was the coalition's chair during this almost two-year effort and made the presentation to the COG Board. There was lively and positive discussion on the report, including proposed local government action on the voluntary regional compact that is the immediate next step.

The report and compact will be sent to elected officials from COG's 21 local governments requesting that each jurisdiction endorse or take other appropriate action to support Region Forward and the compact. COG is targeting March to complete the local endorsement process and will follow up shortly to seek counsel on strategies to secure endorsement from area local governments.

COG will also send the report and compact to key state and federal officials, requesting similar support, as well as to many leading regional organizations and stakeholders.

COG will shortly “open” its website to invite a wide-range of organizations, stakeholders and individuals to voice their support for Region Forward. COG anticipates a further round of outreach to engage stakeholders and build awareness and support for Region Forward.

Printed copies will be available shortly. In the meantime, the final report is available on the website, www.greaterwashington2050.org

Legislation Presentation | Jeff

Jeff was the third speaker at the public hearing on January 10, 2010.

- Video of presentation by Jeff to Fairfax County’s General Assembly delegation of the Federation 2010 Legislative Program (9 Jan 10) may be viewed at <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/testimony/Testimony2010LegislationProgram100109.mov>
- Written testimony to Fairfax County’s General Assembly delegation presenting the Federation 2010 Legislative Program (9 Jan 10) may be viewed at <http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/testimony/Testimony2010LegislationProgram100109.pdf>

The testimony has subsequently been revised to add the Local Composite Index section; the revised version has been distributed to our legislative delegation.

Recent Resolutions

Resolution on Daytime Noise Limits (17 Dec 09)

<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/resolutions/ResolutionDaytimeNoiseLimits20091217Approved.pdf>

Resolution on Operation of Farm Wineries (17 Dec 09)

<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/resolutions/ResolutionOperationofFarmWineries20091217Approved.pdf>

Both resolutions have been distributed and the Federation has received a letter of acknowledgement from Chairman Bulova. This letter will be posted on the Federation’s web site.

New Business and Miscellaneous Business

Empanelling a Nomination Committee | Jeff

Per Federation standard practices the nomination committee is chaired by the Past President (John Jennison) and has at least four members: a committee chair, a district representative, and two non-board representatives from member associations. At this meeting Charlie Dane was selected as the committee chair member and Roger Hoskin as the district representative member. Jeff and John will solicit volunteers for the additional slots.

Nominations will be announced in April, elections will be held in May, and installation of new officers will occur in June at the Federation’s annual picnic.

Federation Positions on Two Tax Ideas | Charlie

Charlie noted that the Federation has not taken a position on sales tax for Internet purchases. Discussion revealed that the Federation has considered this idea before but not endorsed the tax. The idea may be worth revisiting.

Some area jurisdictions have a meals tax; Fairfax County does not. State law allows only one method to impose the tax: referendum. The Board of Supervisors has been reluctant to call for a referendum on a meals tax. The Federation has not taken a position on the meals tax itself, but does support allowing Virginia’s counties’ governing bodies to establish taxes without subjecting the issue to an election.

Board & Committee Reports

Association Services | Don Hinman

Don reported that he is supporting Ann Neuman in her effort to start a civic association for the Waverly neighborhood near Vienna. Ann had contacted the Federation requesting assistance.

He also reported, as he had at the recent membership meeting, that he has been appointed to the Virginia Legislative Action Committee (VALAC) of the Community Associations Institute.

Don reported that VALAC is supporting legislation introduced by Delegate Mark Sickles. H.B. 1100 would grant immunity from civil liability to associations that have stormwater management facilities that are within the association boundaries but for which maintenance is undertaken by the county or other units of government. This situation applies to the Kingstowne association, which is a strong supporter of the legislation.

Budget | Carey Campbell (absent) and Charlie Hall (absent)

The agenda indicated a report on committee progress for March board meeting, however due to the co-chairmen's absences, this item was not addressed.

Participants noted that possible sources of information for the Federation's budget review could be obtained from:

- District council budget committee reports
- Issue-oriented groups who demonstrate complete understanding of their functional areas
- The County Budget Advisory Committee (if one exists)

Tania will query Carey and Charlie on their finding a speaker for the March membership meeting.

Education | Charlie Dane

Charlie thanked other board members for their feedback on the testimony the Federation's Education Committee had prepared on the school system budget. Charlie gave the committee's position on the proposed FCPS budget to the school board yesterday; the testimony is on the Federation web site.

Charlie and Walt Carlson attended the school board's retreat as observers. At the retreat, Charlie learned of the role of assistant principals in implementing a planned team approach in schools. Budget cuts that reduce assistant principals could be expected to hinder success of the team approach.

Environment | Flint Webb

Ana Prados desires to continue representing the Federation on the MWAQ Technical Advisory Committee (TAC) and the Federation is pleased with her service there. Jeff has sent the letter re-nominating her to the TAC.

The Environment Committee of the Fairfax County Planning Commission held a public workshop on January 6, 2010, on a draft Policy Plan Amendment proposal addressing disturbances to Environmental Quality Corridors (EQC). The EQC system is an open space system in Fairfax County that is designed to link and preserve natural resource areas; by doing so, it also provides significant opportunities for passive recreation. A background document containing the "Strawman" draft Plan Amendment is available at <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/planning/eqcdisturbancesstrawman.pdf>.

On the topic of reducing greenhouse gas emissions, Flint noted that the county does not plan to establish an actual baseline of its 2005 inventory. Without a baseline, the county could claim post-2005 credit for actions taken before 2005 to reduce greenhouse gas reductions. Flint will draft a resolution that the Federation supports conducting a 2005 inventory of greenhouse gas emissions. This inventory will enable a more accurate and honest accounting of emission reductions that have occurred—or that do occur in the future—since the baseline date of 2005.

Human Services | Position vacant

A Partnership for a Healthier Fairfax is a coalition of community leaders committed to assessing Fairfax County's most pressing health needs and developing a strategic plan that will improve the overall health of our community. The coalition will utilize the Mobilizing for Action through Planning and Partnerships (MAPP) strategic process developed by the CDC and NACCHO to guide them through this effort.

The Fairfax County Health Department is sponsoring MAPP—A Partnership for a Healthier Fairfax—inaugural community coalition dinner meeting on Thursday, February 4, 2010 at the Fairfax County Government Center from 6:30 p.m. to 9:00 p.m. Tania has agreed to attend as the Federation representative.

Land Use | Fred Costello

With the help of the county's Kevin Sneed, Fred developed a rationale for the amount of proffers that should be offered by developers to cover the cost of school construction.

Fred has attended meetings of the Reston Master Plan Special Study Task Force. The first meetings consisted of county presentations and discussion of how the task force should be organized. The task force awaits the existing conditions report from the Department of Planning and Zoning (DPZ). The task force's current focus is on the

Dulles Corridor. Work on Town Centers will not start until next year. The task force heard from three citizens groups at its January 26 meeting. The citizen groups offered planning principles with some specific numbers, such as providing 33% open space (although there was disagreement on what constitutes open space).

Two Reston developments that are under study by the DPZ, Fairway Apartments and the Wiehle Station, have helped educate Fred on the details. Fred advocates mandating the inclusion of computer-generated 3D computer models in Area Plans Reviews. These models would permit virtual walk-through and drive-through capability. To demonstrate the capability, Fred developed a 3D model of the Wiehle Avenue Station Project using Google SketchUp.

Fred reported a January 20 forum from the Cato Institute on the book Gridlock: Why We're Stuck in Traffic and What to Do about It, by Randall O'Toole. The presenters were:

- Randall O'Toole (author), Senior Fellow, Cato Institute
- Anthony Downs, Senior Fellow, Brookings Institute
- Michael Replogle, Global Policy Director and Founder, Institute for Transportation and Development Policy

Fred posted a one-page summary on the Federation's web site. The video of the complete forum is available for viewing at <http://www.cato.org/event.php?eventid=6666>.

Legislation | Tania Hossain

Merrily Pierce (past Federation President) of the Hunter Mill District staff alerted us to a bill that would require the Commonwealth Transportation Board to establish a corridor for a western bypass. She stated that the Federation has long opposed the bypass and wondered if we would take any action.

On this particular issue, long time members of the board recall that the Federation some years ago hosted a forum on the western bypass, but believe the Federation never took a position. Regardless, given the passage of time since then, the Federation would have to re-examine the issue before establishing a position.

Jeff suggested that if Federation members are aware of proposed bills on which the Federation has taken a recent position, then we ought to reiterate our position to our legislative delegation. He suggested that our legislation chair, Tania, be the clearing house for generating such position papers. She would restate the position and forward the particulars to our Corresponding Secretary Esther, who would then prepare a letter (email) for the President to sign. Tania and Esther agreed with this suggestion.

Jeff asked Bill Hanks, who agreed, to create an index of positions of the Federation that could be examined for reference when issues arise for current consideration starting as of this date. Jeff thought that an index of past positions would be worthwhile, but there was no consensus as to whether this would be a feasible effort.

Membership | Tania Hossain

Tania will follow up with Janet Hedetniemi about a replacement check for the membership check that was not received.

Tania will contact former member associations that are not current members and to ask them to return to the Federation.

Tania will prepare letters to send to libraries asking them to make Federation brochures available to their patrons.

Public Safety | Gail Parker (absent)

Resolutions | Bill Hanks—No report

Transportation | Roger Hoskin and Carey Campbell (absent)

The board discussed the issue of Fairfax County assuming road maintenance responsibility from VDOT. As background, the only Virginia counties that maintain their own roads are Arlington and Henrico. This arrangement was created statutorily when paved highways were relatively new, VDOT was being created, and Arlington and Henrico were the most urban areas in the commonwealth. This concept was studied by Fairfax County in 1990 and 1992 and may be under consideration again. The Board of Supervisors looks to the Transportation Advisory Committee (TAC) for the citizen review portion of the decision process. Both Roger and Jeff are members of both TAC and the Federation, which means the Federation will be kept informed of the study's progress.

Website | Jeff Parnes

Jeff announced he will post pictures of board members that he took this evening on the web site's contact page—<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/contactus1.htm>. Members not at this meeting (and those present who do not like the photo taken) should send Jeff a photo for posting.

District Council Reports

Braddock | Art Wells

The main topic of the January 12 district council meeting was mowing of highway medians, with four options considered.

On January 23 Supervisor Cook, the district council, and the county staff put on a neighborhood Leadership Institute.

February 3 is the date for the Braddock - George Mason Forum, including Fairfax City residents.

In its February 9 meeting, the council will vote on mowing options and have a program on how to run community associations.

February 17 is the date for the Wakefield Chapel Northern Virginia Community College Forum

The first of two Neighborhood Colleges begins March 24 and runs six weeks on Wednesday evenings.

Dranesville—N/A

Hunter Mill—N/A

Lee | Don Hinman

Delegate Mark Sickles will host a town hall meeting for constituents on January 30, 10 a.m. to noon, at Kingstowne's Snyder Center, Also attending will be Senator George Barker and Supervisor Jeff McKay.

Supervisor Jeff McKay will host the annual Lee District Open House, also on January 30, starting at 1 p.m. at the Franconia Government Center,

Mason | Roger Hoskins

Mason District will hold a special election to fill its school board position.

Mount Vernon | Karen Pohorylo (Absent)

Kahan reported that Mount Vernon District Supervisor Gerry Hyland will again host a district "bus tour," which is an overview of what is happening in the district, at the Mount Vernon High School, in March. For a list of all planned meetings in the district, see the web site <http://mvcca.org>, Council Documents table, Calendar link.

The council has begun long-range strategic planning in three stages: laying groundwork, presentation/branding, and outreach to stakeholders, including Lee District.

Providence | Charles Hall (Absent)

Tania will attend the next Province District Council meeting.

Springfield | Mike Thompson (Absent)

Sully | Jeff Parnes

The council's January 27 meeting featured a presentation by the Park Authority.

The council's February meeting will be on School Budget with Kathy Smith, Chairman of FCPS.

The March meeting topic is county budget and the April meeting topic is human services.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10:00 p.m.

Next Meetings

The next membership meeting is scheduled February 18, 2010, at 7:30 p.m.

The next board meeting is scheduled March 4, 2010, at 7:30 p.m.

Summary of Action Items from This Meeting

Action	Who
Jeff Parnes	Work with John to obtain presenter(s) for February membership meeting
Kahan Dhillon	Ensure the Packard Center is reserved for the March 4 meeting
Jeff Parnes	Coordinate with the Washington Post regarding sponsorship for the Citizen of the Year
Tania Hossain	Ensure the Budget Committee Co-chairs are securing a presenter for the March membership meeting.
All	Explore temporary meeting facilities and report options to Kahan.
Kahan Dhillon & Esther Ferington	Choose which representatives will report at the April 15 meeting.
Esther Ferington & Kosmo Tatalais	Post Chairman Bulova's resolution acknowledgement letter to the web site.
Bill Hanks	Create an index of past positions of the Federation.
Tania Hossain	Contact former member associations that are not current members and ask them to return to the Federation.
Tania Hossain	Prepare letters to send to libraries asking them to make Federation brochures available to their patrons.
Members for whom Jeff does not yet have a photo or who don't like the photo Jeff posted	Send picture of self to Jeff for posting on the Federation's web site's contact page
Tania Hossain	Follow up with Janet Hedetniemi about a replacement check for the membership check that was not received.
Tania Hossain	Attend the Providence District Council meeting.

Minutes prepared by Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary