

Membership Meeting Minutes

Packard Center, 4022 Hummer Road, Annandale 22003-2403
Thursday, September 16, 2010

Approved November 18, 2010

The September 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 the file copy of the minutes.

Program: Discussion with Dr. Dale on Back to School

Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) Superintendent Dr. Jack Dale discussed issues facing FCPS. Dr. Dale began, supported by a four-page handout, by explaining the status of the Priority Schools commitment to close the achievement gap in elementary and middle schools.

Dr. Dale reported that FCPS will receive \$21.3 M from the federal jobs bill for instructional-related positions; he had just learned the amount on September 7. Because of the mismatch between Federal and county fiscal years, there is some leeway on when to spend these funds.

Noteworthy: Nationally, Thomas Jefferson is the top ranked high school and all FCPS high schools rank in the top 3 to 4%.

Other topics that arose during the discussion included:

- Possible uses of stimulus/job bill funds within guidelines
- School lunch policies and issues, including local food procurement
- Anonymous student protection program
- Vending machine policies
- Outlook for employment levels and employee raises
- Expected future county funds transfers
- Teacher evaluations
- Determining which schools have all-day kindergarten
- Fees for sports participation, advanced placement and international baccalaureate tests, and parking
- Support by business partners, citing specifically Capital One and Junior Achievement
- Possible high school financial literacy program.

President Hossain expressed the Federation's gratitude for this update on our schools and presented Dr. Dale a Federation coffee cup.

Administrative Topics

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

Minutes—The membership approved the minutes of the June 17, 2010, membership meeting.

Approval of Operating Budget

Scott Schlegel presented the draft 2010-2011 operating budget. This draft budget had been reviewed by the board at its last meeting and Scott has since incorporated the few minor changes proposed by the board. The budget assumes that membership increases by five over the prior year and Citizen of the Year Banquet paid attendance increases to 95 persons. Income is forecast to be \$10,818; expenses, \$9,747. The membership voted to adopt the operating budget.

Treasurer's Report—Scott Schlegel

Scott presented the treasurer's report for the period July 1 through September 15. One anomaly is that the sponsor's donation of \$3000 for the Spring 2010 Citizen of the Year Banquet was received during the Federation's fiscal year that began July 1, which makes current income larger than forecast. The membership voted to receive and file the treasurer's report.

Old Business

Internship Opportunity

The Federation seeks to develop an internship position to assist with the management and display of Federation information. The intent is for a permanent position that will be staffed by interns, serving one after another for short terms. Kosmo Tatalias is leading this initiative. Please send him your suggestions, including leads for candidates, to fedwebmaster2010@fairfaxfederation.org.

2011 Citizen of the Year (COY) Award—Chair, Jeff Parnes

Information about nominations for the COY 2011 award—including the application—is on the Federation web site. Think who should be nominated; start early.

New and Miscellaneous Business

General

Tania noted that the Federation exists to look out for the interests of the membership. Toward this end, members are invited to introduce new business on issues of significance to member organizations.

Calendar

Don Hinman proposed that the program for the April 2011 membership meeting be on homeowner association (HOA) governance issues. See the Association Services committee report below.

New Chair of the Transportation Advisory Commission (TAC)

Former Federation President Jeff Parnes has been appointed chair of the county's Transportation Advisory Committee.

Board & Committee Reports

Association Services—Don Hinman

Proposed Meeting Topic on Homeowner Association (HOA) and Condo Association Governance Problems. The Association Services Committee (ASC) is proposing to the Federation board that the topic for a future Federation membership meeting be a discussion of governance issues of HOAs and Condominium Associations that could be similar to what Lee District is planning for their October 27, 2010, meeting (see Lee District report). Don Hinman, Association Services Committee chair, requests Federation member feedback on what specific issues and concerns people would like to see addressed in a future membership meeting. Please email Don your topic suggestions at: FedAssociationServicesChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org.

County May Develop GIS Database on Associations. County staff is considering the possibility of adding information about associations to the county's Geographic Information System (GIS). Databases on particular geographic features are called "layers" and the county currently has a "subdivision layer" which identifies the location of every residential subdivision. An "association layer" could be added which indicates which subdivisions have HOAs, condominium associations, or civic/citizens associations, and may include other characteristics. The Federation's Association Services Committee will serve as a resource to county staff if they decide to proceed.

Budget—Carey Campbell and Charlie Hall—both absent

Charlie Dane reported that the Board of Supervisors and the Fairfax County School Board will hold a joint meeting on October 26 to compare budget forecasts.

Education—Leonard Bumbaca (absent), Ed Saperstein, & Tim Thompson (absent)

Ed said that he had no further budget comments beyond what was brought up during Dr. Dale's presentation. Charlie Dane reported that Leonard will review the education portion of the current Federation legislative package and make recommendations for its update.

Environment—Flint Webb—absent

The Virginia Department of Environmental Quality is on the calendar for a presentation at a membership meeting this membership year. Flint is coordinating closer collaboration between the Federation and the Green Breakfast group.

Human Services—position vacant—The Federation seeks a candidate for this position.

Land Use—Fred Costello

Most of Fred's work has been as a member of the Reston development Task Force where he raised the issue of balance between residential and non-residential development. The Task Force formed a subcommittee to examine this issue. To aid in the balance analysis, a summer intern generated guideline development parameters for Reston based on the successful Ballston-Rosslyn development. The reluctance of developers to build residential units and the desire of developers to build more commercial units will exacerbate the imbalance forecast by GMU. Many road improvements will be needed to bring the additional workers to the new jobs.

Fred developed a model of traffic vs. imbalance to see the impact on infrastructure. He developed some spot solutions to traffic problems at the Herndon-Monroe station and at the Wiehle Avenue and Hunter Mill Road crossings of the Dulles Toll Road; however, the Fairfax County Department of Transportation is still studying the traffic issues associated with the planned Reston development.

Another of Fred's analyses, as presented to the Task Force, shows that current zoning along Reston's Dulles corridor allows as much commercial development as GMU forecast as needed, but not as much residential development.

Legislation—Frank Anderson—absent

Please submit revisions and additions to the Legislative agenda to the Legislative Chair at fedlegislationchr2010@fairfaxfederation.org

Membership - Kahan Dhillon—absent, no report

Public Safety – G. Gail Parker—absent

The Federation seeks an interested person to serve as co-chair with Gail.

Resolutions—Bill Hanks—no report

Audit Committee—Bill Hanks

The Audit Committee—Bill, Charlie Dane, and Art Wells—reviewed the Federation's financial records on August 17, 2010, and found no irregularities. Audit Committee Chairman Bill Hanks then moved that the annual Audit Committee report be approved. The motion was seconded by Audit Committee Member Charles Dane and was carried unanimously.

Transportation - Jeff Parnes, Carey Campbell and Roger Hoskins —all absent

Jeff sent this report. The expected cost of phase two of Dulles Rail is over the earlier estimate. The Washington Metropolitan Airports Authority (MWAA) has posted the latest report on the web at http://www.dullesmetro.com/phase_2_updates/index.cfm. MWAA will accept comments up to 1 October. Jeff will query the Federation Transportation Committee and see if we have a committee position that we can recommend to the board next week. Anyone interested in joining the committee should contact the chairs at FedTransportationChr2010@fairfaxfederation.org so that their views can be considered.

Website—Jeff Parnes—absent, no report

District Council Reports

Braddock - Art Wells

The topic of the Braddock District Council September 14 meeting was BRAC 2005 as it pertains to Fairfax County and Fort Belvoir. Supervisor Cook and five officials in various BRAC-related positions spoke and responded to questions. The speakers were:

- Col Mark Moffatt, Deputy Garrison Commander for Transformation and BRAC, Fort Belvoir
- Tom Fahrney, BRAC Coordinator, VDOT

- Mark Canale, BRAC Coordinator, Fairfax County
- Dominic Bonaiuto, Legislative Director, Congressman Connelly's Office
- Chris Gasbar, BRAC Coordinator, Congressman Moran's Office

It is clear that much has been accomplished with much remaining to be completed by September 15, 2011, the BRAC implementation deadline. The major concern expressed by many in attendance was whether sufficient infrastructure will be in place, especially at the Mark Center (near Seminary Road & Shirley Highway).

The Oak Hill History Day on October 16 was announced as was a call for volunteers to help clean up Oak Hill the Saturday prior.

Lee—Don Hinman

The September meeting of the Lee District Association of Civic Organizations (LDACO) is scheduled September 22 at the Franconia Government Center, covering two topics.

Topic #1: What's Under Construction at Lee District Park? Tim Scott of the Fairfax County Park Authority will brief LDACO on the handicapped -accessible family recreation area being built at Lee District Park.

Topic #2: Pedestrian and Bicycle Safety in Lee District. The speaker is Chris Wells, Pedestrian Program Manager for the Fairfax County Department of Transportation. LDACO wants to hear about particular pedestrian and bicycle danger spots in Lee District, and attendees will discuss what can be done to make things safer, especially for our kids; a nine-year-old cyclist was killed in August on Franconia Rd.

The October 27 LDACO meeting will focus on HOA and Condo Association governance issues. Speakers will include Michele Thompson of Fairfax County and Don Hinman, Chair of the Federation's Association Services Committee and Lee District representative to the Federation Board. Issues to be addressed at the meeting include non-payment of HOA/Condo assessments, road maintenance and snow removal costs, determining sufficient capital replacement reserves, lack of familiarity with new state regulations for HOAs, how to deal with non-compliance with covenants, and rules on the placement of fences, trash dumpsters, etc.

Mason—Keith Taggart

Mason District Council is attacking the problem of littering in their district.

Mount Vernon—Karen Pohorylo—absent, no report

Providence—Charles Hall—absent, no report

Springfield—Mike Thompson—absent, no report

Sully—Jeff Parnes—absent, no report

Dranesville & Hunter Mill districts do not have councils.

Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 10 p.m.

Next Meetings

The next board meeting is scheduled September 23, 2010 at 7:30 p.m., at Braddock Hall, Burke.

The next membership meeting is scheduled October 21, 2010, at 7:00 p.m., at Braddock Hall, Burke.

Minutes written and published by Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary