

## Membership Meeting Minutes

Thursday, June 16, 2011

Approved September 15, 2011

The June 2011 meeting of the Membership of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations began with the annual picnic. Due to inclement weather, the venue was changed from the Annandale Community Park picnic shelter to the Packard Center. The food at this potluck was delicious, the room was full of energetic people, and the sharing and comradeship was invigorating.

Approximately three dozen people participated in the picnic and meeting; attendance was not taken. Non-Federation participants included Sharon Bulova, Chairman, Board of Supervisors; George Lamb, Director of the Northern Virginia Soil and Water Conservation District; and Charisse Espy Glassman, candidate for FCPS School Board. (Your secretary apologizes if anyone else was not cited.)

This picnic meeting included none of the normal business or reports, only the two events below.

**Installation of Officers:** Chairman Bulova swore in the 2011-2012 officers:

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| <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• President: Tania Hossain</li><li>• First Vice President: Donald Hinman</li><li>• Second Vice President: Joe Gibson</li></ul> | <ul style="list-style-type: none"><li>• Treasurer: Scott Schlegel</li><li>• Recording Secretary: Ed Wyse</li><li>• Corresponding Secretary: Fred Costello</li></ul> |
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### **State of Fairfax**

Chairman Bulova addressed the state of the county and answered questions. These minutes do not attempt to summarize the address in detail, but rather to report key points.

The first topic was how the Board of Supervisors and the non-elected employees of the county have sought to mitigate the effects of the economic downturn of the past three years. The Board of Supervisors sought to lessen the cost of government by engaging the help of non-profit organizations to provide services and by enabling and encouraging county employees to innovate productivity increases. The board also engaged the business community to encourage its participation in development and redevelopment projects.

The second topic was planning for the future, with the Tysons long-range development plan being the prime example. Other extensive redevelopments are coming, such as Reston, Merrifield, the Springfield Mall area, and the Richmond Highway corridor. Chairman Bulova expressed satisfaction with the plans for these areas. The county is planning future mass transit expansion along I-66, either bus rapid transit or rail.

The third topic was the county response, in association with the Federal and Commonwealth governments, to mitigate the traffic increase that will be caused by new workplaces established by the Base Realignment and Closure (BRAC) decisions. Plans include widening Route 1 near Fort Belvoir Main Post and expanding the county bus system to support new BRAC-created employment centers. The county is also deeply concerned about the planned opening of new military offices at the Mark Center (near I-395 and Seminary Road in the City of Alexandria but close to the boundary with Fairfax County) before transportation improvements are implemented. Connector bus service has already been expanded in South County and around the Mark Center.

The fourth topic was Metrorail expansion to Dulles, with phase one (construction west to Wiehle Avenue in Reston) under budget and, despite weather delays, expected to complete on schedule. The chairman described the financing and governance arrangements for phase two (construction from Wiehle Avenue to Dulles Airport and into Loudoun County) and described the current controversy over rising construction cost estimates, especially the Washington Metropolitan Airport Authority board's decision to build the more expensive option for the station at Dulles Airport. She thanked U.S. Secretary of Transportation LaHood for undertaking the role of facilitator to find a way to bring parties together. She had little doubt that the rail system would be built at least to the airport, saying that rail only to Wiehle Avenue is unacceptable.

Chairman Bulova saluted those who volunteer through civic associations and homeowner associations, saying that grass roots activism is an effective channel to tackle the problems that affect our residents.

Chairman Bulova distributed copies of the June 2011 *Bulova Byline*, her newsletter, and encouraged people to subscribe to receive it, either by e-mail or U.S. Post.

**Next Meetings**

The next board meeting is June 23, 7 p.m., in the Packard Center, Annandale

The next membership meeting is September 15, 7:30 p.m., in the Packard Center, Annandale.

**Adjournment**

The meeting adjourned at 9:30 p.m.

*Minutes written by Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary*