

Board Meeting Minutes

February 28, 2013

Approved March 21, 2013

The February meeting of the Board of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations was called to order by First Vice President Rob Jackson at 7:30 p.m. at Braddock Hall, Burke.

Present: Linda Boone, Daniela Cockayne (prospective co-chair, Public Safety Committee), John Cockayne (guest), Charlie Dane (member, Education Committee), Bill Hanks, Morgan Jameson, Rob Jackson, Jeff Parnes, Ed Saperstein, Tim Thompson, Art Wells, and Ed Wyse.

Administrative and Organizational Topics

Appointments: Linda Boone—The board approved the re-appointment of John Jennison as representative to the Community Revitalization and Reinvestment Advisory Group. We are recruiting representatives to the Criminal Justice Advisory Board and the Citizens Corp Council; both positions are currently open.

The Bulletin (newsletter): Fred Costello, Editor—The deadline for articles for the March newsletter is today, February 28.

Approval of Board Meeting Minutes: Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary—The board approved the minutes of the January 2013 board meeting with the addition of a complete reports from Braddock District Council, which had been truncated in the draft minutes.

Treasurer's Report: Scott Schlegel, Treasurer —The report is unchanged from the report presented to the membership last week. The board voted to receive and file the treasurer's report.

Citizen of the Year (COY) Awards and Banquet: Jeff Parnes, Chair—The banquet is the premier event of the Federation that exposes us to key people in the community. Board members should attend; ideally we can seat a Federation member at each table to expose the Federation to our attendees. Jeff distributed a banquet task list and seeks volunteers for the few unassigned tasks. He also seeks a photographer (as those who have done this in the past are already otherwise booked); ideally, he seeks a team of two, for whom dinners would be complimentary.

Membership: Tania Hossain— Welcome to the Sleepy Hollow Citizens' Association and the Glen Haven Farms Homeowners Association.

Website: Jeff Parnes—The Human Services and Environmental Committees pages are updated. The frequency of refresh on the home page has been lengthened in response to complains that older browsers jump to the top of the page on each refresh. Don Hinman and Fred Costello have volunteered to help with website management. Jeff still seeks a more technically capable person to help; especially a person with database management skill to support the membership records.

New Business

Access4All: The Education Committee had initiated a resolution calling for the county to negotiate with Cox Cable for the company to offer a plan for low cost broadband access to families of students who qualify for free or low cost meals at school. As it has been learned that the county cannot regulate Internet access, the committee will instead ask Cox Cable via meetings and a letter to develop voluntarily a program to support Access4All and similar Internet-access programs to serve needy FCPS students. Such a policy will have two benefits for the county. First, it is a matter of fairness to the students whose families cannot afford broadband because schools are integrating Internet use into teaching operations. Second, FCPS cost savings that might be achieved through online instruction will only be possible with 100% student participation.

Anti-litter Resolution: Tania is coordinating an anti-littering resolution that will be offered at the March board meeting. She had distributed a draft via e-mail; please send your comments to Tania.

Board and Committee Reports

Budget: Rob Jackson and Linda Boone—While Linda is sending specific documents to those who are primary reviewers of specified sections of the budget, all budget documents are conveniently located on the county's website. **The deadline for reviewers to send their resolutions to the Budget Committee is March 15.** In particular, reviewers should submit their recommendations for increased or decreased spending to the committee as soon as possible so Linda and Rob can assemble the overall Federation position.

Linda and Rob will meet with Susan Datta on March 1; board members provided some questions to ask Susan. One major question was the assumptions made and mitigating actions proposed regarding undefined Federal budget cuts. Charlie Dane also explained key impacts of the \$62 million difference between the school's budget request to the county and the county executive's advertized budget school transfer.

Public meetings on the budget will be held throughout the county. Residents can learn about them via the county website, on both the budget department's page and the individual supervisors' pages.

Citizen Association Services: Don Hinman—no report.

Education: Leonard Bumbaca, Ed Saperstein, & Tim Thompson—see New Business.

Environment: Flint Webb—no report.

Human Services: Cherie Tripp Lejeune and Morgan Jameson—Morgan reported that he and Cherie are coordinating a class in mental health first aid and could schedule Saturday classes open to Federation membership. The cost would be about \$35 per attended for materials and instructors. The board supported this effort.

Land Use: Fred Costello—no report.

Legislation: Frank Anderson—The committee is coordinating the April program: Report from Richmond.

Public Safety: Melissa Smarr—no report.

Resolutions: Bill Hanks—no report

Transportation: Jeff Parnes—Virginia is now in a positive funding mode, although aspects of the recent legislation will no doubt be challenged on constitutional grounds. The governor has proposed new funds be applied to three Northern Virginia projects: Silver Line financing to reduce the amount of future tolls on the Dulles Toll Road; improvements to the I-66/Rt. 28 interchange; and construction of the Rt. 606 loop at Dulles International Airport.

Local governments are examining bus schedule modifications to harmonize with the opening of the Silver Line. The more thought and public input that is applied, the more sophisticated the revisions are becoming. In general, because busses will travel shorter distances to Metro stations, it is possible to increase bus frequency without increasing operational costs.

VDOT will hold public meetings in Manassas on March 13 and at Luther Jackson Middle School on March 14 regarding the **I-66 Tier 1 Environmental Impact Statement (EIS) and Related Studies** (Interstate 66 corridor from U.S. Route 15 in Prince William County to Interstate 495 in Fairfax County). The Tier 1 EIS focuses on broad issues such as purpose and need; travel modes (bus, carpool, rail transit, car, etc.); technology choices; and the general location of proposed improvements.

On December 18 and 19, Virginia's Office on Intermodal Planning and Investment held open house meetings in Ashburn and Manassas to receive public input on the **Northern Virginia North-South Corridor Master Plan**, one of 12 Corridors of Statewide Significance recently established by the Commonwealth Transportation Board. The 45-mile corridor is the area generally east and west of Route 234 /Prince William Parkway, the Tri-County Parkway alignment between I-95 and Route 50, and connections to the Dulles Greenway and Route 7. Some environmental groups are opposing this project.

District Council Reports

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

Braddock: Art Wells— The monthly Braddock District Council (BDC) Membership meeting on February 13th was the BDC's annual "Information Forum" program featuring the West Springfield Police District commanded by Captain Joe Hill. He and his officers addressed the overall timely topic of Community Security encompassing eight specific related services. Their presentations followed by discussion were well done.

The 2014 FCPS and Fairfax County Budgets will be featured at the March 13th meeting.

The BDC's "Aging in Place" Committee continues to meet twice monthly on the first and third Wednesdays with increasing interest and participation. At its February 20th meeting two presentations were given on the subjects of "Scams against Older Adults" and "Legal and Financial Documents." The committee's next meeting will be on March 6th at Braddock Hall.

Lee: Chris Soule—no report.

Mason: Roger Hoskin—no report

Mount Vernon: Karen Pohorylo—no report

Providence: Flint Webb—no report.

Springfield: Ed Wyse—no report.

Sully: Jeff Parnes—The SDC is developing co-sponsorships. On March 13, the SDC, Western Fairfax County Citizens Associations, Supervisor Frey, and the county budget office will hold an information meeting on the county budget. On September 25 the SDC and the League of Women Voters of the Fairfax Area will host a candidates' forum.

Upcoming meeting programs are: April, housing; May, legislation; and June, State of Sully.

Adjournment—The meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.

Next Meetings

The next board meeting will be March 21, 7:30 p.m., at the Mason Governmental Center, Annandale. The main meeting activity will be drafting our budget position.

The next membership meeting will be March 28, 7:30 p.m., at Braddock Hall, Burke. County Executive Ed Long will be our guest.

Minutes prepared by Ed Wyse, Recording Secretary