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## **Board Meeting Minutes**

February 23, 2017

Approved March 16, 2017

Meeting Called to Order 0745pm

Attendees: Tim, Pete, Monica, Web, Ed, Judy, Karen, Jeff, Patrick

### **FCFCA Presidents Report:**

- HOA Air BnB Passed
- FCFCA has 1 of 4 slots for County Equalization Study
- Meetings with BOS Chairman and Supervisors on Budget
  - Interest rate might go up if so it would affect the County Bond Payments
  - No wiggle room on the 2018 County Budget
- FCPS has 65 teacher openings that need to be filled
- No FCFCA Treasurers Report

### **FCFCA Committee Reports:**

#### **Environmental Committee Report [Attachment 1]**

- Letter to BOS based on a previously passed FCFCA Resolution
  - Board Approved
- County revising Environmental Vision
  - On Line Questionnaire
- Congressional Review Act
- 30 EPA Regulations have been stopped
- Feb 2<sup>nd</sup> met with aides to Senator Warner and Kaine
- Re Visioning your Property in support of Wildlife
- March 18<sup>th</sup> Regional Advocacy Work Shop

#### **Budget Committee Report**

- The Budget Committee will meet at 7:30pm, March 7, 2017, in Room 1610 of the FCPS Gatehouse Administrative Center to work on the Federation's position on the FY2018 Fairfax County budget.
- The Budget Chairs invite each of you participate as members in the process and to provide your expertise on matters of specific interest to your committees and/or your constituent organizations.
- If you want to provide specific input in the form of separate resolutions, or have language to suggest, please provide that information to the Chairs no later than noon (12pm) on March 7. Similarly, if you are unable to attend but wish to communicate a concern for consideration by the Committee, please email the Chairs by noon (12pm) on March 7

- [Sharbeck@aol.com](mailto:Sharbeck@aol.com)
- [edsaperstein11@gmail.com](mailto:edsaperstein11@gmail.com)
- The Chairs expect to have a preliminary draft and template for the Budget resolution available at the meeting which, "fleshed-out" and informed by your participation, will be the base for a proposed resolution for Board consideration on March 16.

#### **Public Safety Committee Report**

- Passed out Flyer and announced about Wednesday March 29<sup>th</sup> Public Safety Preparedness Program
  - FCFCA will be a Co-Sponsor of this program

#### **Transportation Committee Report**

- Link to a Commonwealth Transportation Survey
- I66 Outside the Beltway
  - Large International Firm got the contract that will need additional funding to be completed by 2022
- Build a Park and Ride in Gainesville by 2019
- 2018-2019 Eliminate 4 lights on Route 28 to I66
- BOS Parking Ordinance being developed about Residential Parking of Commercial Vehicles
  - Developing a definition of Fleet Vehicles

#### **Education Committee**

- No Report

#### **FCFCA Council Reports:**

##### **Mount Vernon Council**

- Town Hall Meeting on the 2018 Advertised Budget
- Transportation Committee passed a resolution for the County to define what is a Commercial Vehicle

##### **Sully Council**

- Met with the Westfield Business Owners Association
  - Discussed Multi Use Facilities; Sidewalks; Coming of Wegmans; Coming of a Movie Theater Complex
- March 8<sup>th</sup> 2018 Budget Town Hall Meeting

##### **Providence Council [Bottom of Attachment 1]**

- OEM Presentation by Sulayman Brown on February 8<sup>th</sup>
- Meeting March 8<sup>th</sup> in Class Room 2 to discuss 2018 County Budget

## **FCFCA Citizen of the Year Awards Dinner**

For over 65 years the Fairfax Federation has sponsored the Fairfax County Volunteer Citizen of the Year Awards Dinner. A selection committee comprised of members of volunteer county organizations meets to review nominations received. Each of you have been selected to receive an honor at the dinner:

Nominee	Honor	Nominator
Cheryl Ellsworth	Citation of Merit	Candice Bennett
Emily McCoy	Citation of Merit	Michelle Mueller
Joseph Chudzik	Citizen of the Year	Dave Albo
Ken Balbuena	Citation of Merit	John Simonet

This year the dinner will be held on Sunday 2 April at the Tysons Corner Crowne Plaza. Cocktails will be served starting at 5:30, with the program starting about 6:30.

Meeting Adjourned at 0905pm

FCFCA Board Minutes Prepared by Patrick Smaldore

## Environmental Report – Flint Webb, P.E. Environment Committee Co-Chair

- **Trash Day of Action: Battle of the Bottle:** The Fiends of Accotink Creek along with several other groups is planning a protest in front of the International Bottled Water Association (IBWA), 1700 Diagonal Road, Alexandria, VA on May 8, 7 – 10 AM. The goal is to get the IBWA to endorse legislation to establish a deposit on plastic bottles. In addition to protests they plan to meet with the IBWA. I have signed on to be in the group that meets with the IBWA. The web site for the Day of Action is <http://www.accotink.org/2017/BattleoftheBottle2017.htm>.
- Friends of Accotink Creek will be issuing their own letter regarding the Fall Cankerworm spraying endorsing our position opposing the spraying.
- **Fairfax County Environmental Vision:** The County is in the process of revising their Environmental Vision document. For further information see <http://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/living/environment/environmentalvision.htm>.
- **State Legislation:**
  - ***Renewable Power – Enable solar companies to compete fairly and lower the cost of electricity for all: SB1393 “Electric utilities; community solar pilot programs”:*** The bill Requires Dominion Virginia Power and Appalachian Power to conduct a community solar pilot program for retail customers. A pilot program will authorize the participating utility to sell electric power to subscribing customers under a voluntary companion rate schedule, and the utility will generate or purchase the electric power from eligible generation facilities selected for inclusion in the pilot program. Pilot programs will have a three-year duration unless renewed or made permanent. The bill passed in the Senate on February 3<sup>rd</sup> and was amended by the House and passed the House on February 21<sup>st</sup> and the amended bill passed the Senate on February 22<sup>nd</sup>.
  - ***Stormwater Controls – Grand local jurisdictions authority to require developers to demonstrate that new projects will neither increase the stormwater runoff volume nor decrease water quality: HB1774 “Stormwater management; work group to examine ways to improve”.*** The bill Directs the Commonwealth Center for Recurrent Flooding Resiliency (the Center) to convene a work group to consider alternative methods of stormwater management in rural Tidewater localities. Since the bill specifies “rural” communities it is not clear it affects Fairfax but it may lead to future legislation that could affect Fairfax. The bill passed the House on February 6<sup>th</sup> and passed the Senate on February 21<sup>st</sup>.
- **Federal Legislation and Regulations:**
  - The Republican Legislature has been using the Congressional Review Act (CRA) to repeal regulations finalized within 60 legislative days. Besides repealing the regulation, the CRA bans any future similar regulations. So far the House has used the CRA to repeal the following environmental regulations:
    - ***HJ RES 44:*** Bureau of Land Management (BLM) regulation that establish the procedures used to prepare, revise or amend land use plans. These regulations establishes procedures for developing land use plans for BLM lands. Without this regulation there is not clear how to develop land use plans or how to amend them. Without this regulation it is likely that it will take longer to develop

land use plans and to approve land use plans. The regulations being repealed are located at

<https://www.federalregister.gov/documents/2016/12/12/2016-28724/resource-management-planning>.

The repeal was approved by the House February 7<sup>th</sup> 234 to 186. 4 Republicans voted against the repeal, Fitzpatrick (Northern Philadelphia), Lance (Newark NJ West), LoBiondo (Southern NJ) and Smith (Trenton NJ East). Comstock voted for the repeal, Connolly and Beyer voted against the repeal. The Senate has not voted.

- **HJ RES 36:** BLM regulation on Waste Prevention, Production Subject and Royalties, and Resource Conservation. The regulation requires that owners or operators of oil and gas leases on BLM land adopt methane leak detection and repair programs. To see a summary of the regulation see <https://www.ehs.com/2016/12/blm-methane-waste-prevention-rule/>. The repeal passed the House on February 3<sup>rd</sup> 221 to 191. 11 Republicans voted against the repeal. Comstock voted for the repeal; Beyer and Connolly voted against the repeal. The Senate has not voted.
- **HJ RES 38:** Department of Interior Stream Protection Rule. The regulation required mining operations of mines not damage the “hydrologic balance” outside their permit area, establishes a 100-foot buffer around streams to preserve native species and called for restoration of streams that had been damaged. To see more about the regulation see <http://www.sierraclub.org/sierra/green-life/goodbye-stream-protection-rule>. The final repeal vote passed the House on February 1<sup>st</sup> 228 to 194. 9 Republicans voted against the repeal. Comstock voted for the repeal; Beyer and Connolly voted against it. The bill passed the Senate 54 to 45. Both Kaine and Warner voted against repeal.
- **HJ RES 41:** Securities and Exchange Commission regulations to require disclosure of payments to foreign countries for resource extractions. For more about this see <https://www.sec.gov/news/pressrelease/2016-132.html>. The resolution passed the House on February 1<sup>st</sup> 231 to 191. No Republicans voted against the repeal and no Democrats voted for it. The Senate approved the resolution 52 to 47. Both Kaine and Warner voted against the resolution.
- There are 30 EPA regulations that have been stopped in their tracks including:
  - Incorporation of State regulations into the State Implementation Plan (SIP). State regulations are routinely incorporated into the SIP. Incorporation into the SIP makes the regulation federally enforceable and is required for any area that is not in attainment of a National Ambient Air Quality Standard (NAAQS). There was a case in San Diego when a major facility was being found not in compliance with federally enforceable regulations that had been

repealed locally. The fines were on the order of several million dollars – just because the EPA had not kept up to date with the local regulatory changes. It took the EPA Months to figure out exactly what regulations were in the SIP and once they did this they discovered a number of regulations that were contradictory when the enforceable local regulations were internally consistent.

- Approval of implementation plans: The implementation plan is an outline for getting an area that is not in attainment of a NAAQS to come into attainment of the NAAQS. When the EPA fails to adopt the implementation plan it makes it difficult for the State to put the regulations into effect that are necessary to reach the NAAQS. Normally these actions are fairly routine.
  - Attainment determinations: There are some attainment determinations that are being postponed. Once an area is determined in attainment it makes it releases them from some regulatory pressure so stopping attainment determinations actually hinders growth.
  - Air dispersion modeling guidance: This is something the consulting industry has been anxiously awaiting for many years. It codifies a number of guidance memos providing greater certainty that an analysis will be determined acceptable and establishes nation-wide standards.
- On February 2<sup>nd</sup> I met with aids to both Senators Kaine and Warner as part of a delegation put together by the Virginia Conservation Network to discuss the health impacts of climate change. The impacts include: increased heat stroke, increased populations of disease-carrying pests, increased mold, increased concentrations of ozone and fine particulate matter, and even increased virulence of poison ivy. The Center for Disease Control (CDC) has a very good web site for determining the health effects see <https://www.cdc.gov/climateandhealth/>. We also requested that Senator Warner vote against Scott Pruitt as EPA administrator. Scott Pruitt was approved by the Senate 52 to 46. 2 Democrats voted for Scott Pruitt (Manchin, WV and Heitkamp, ND) and 1 Republican voted against (Susan Collins of ME). Both Warner and Kaine voted against approval.

### Upcoming Events:

- **Presentation: Secretive Marsh Birds:** February 26<sup>th</sup>, Sherwood Regional Library, 2501 Sherwood Hall Lane, Alexandria. Patrice Neilsen, PhD candidate, will report on her research on secretive bird species of our area--including the king rail, Virginia rail, sora, least bittern, and American bittern. She surveyed at 51 points in 25 marshes in the Washington, DC, area in 2013, 2014, and 2015. Sponsored by Friends of Dyke Marsh, Audubon Society of Northern Virginia, Northern Virginia Bird Club, and Virginia Society of Ornithology.
- **Faith Alliance Public Testimony to the Board of Supervisors:** The Faith Alliance and their allies (including the Federation) will be present en masse at the

February 28<sup>th</sup> BOS meeting at 4:45 PM. The purpose is to urge the supervisors to establish an office dedicated to transition to clean energy. Your presence can make a difference. Please [register here](#).

- **Green Breakfast: Virginia's Renewable Energy Future:** March 11, 8:30 – 10 AM. Brion's Grille, 10621 Braddock Road, Fairfax, VA 22032. Speaker Kelsey Crane and Susan Stillman, Sierra Club Virginia. Cost: \$10 for Breakfast Buffet.
- **Re-visioning Your Property in Support of Wildlife:** Want to know more about the benefits of using native plants on your property? Would you like to know how to bring pollinators into your garden? Join neighbors, friends, naturalists, expert gardeners, native plant vendors and others on Saturday, March 25 9 AM to 1 PM on the Unitarian Universalist Church of Fairfax Campus at 2709 Hunter Mill Road, Oakton, VA 22124 for presentations on enhancing native habitats. Learn more about the interrelationship of plants, birds and butterflies in our local ecosystem. For more information see [https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Lp0D6KmlcUZF0F\\_53xbRZdIBVAqsXhsEw-y3tKLdvcs/edit#heading=h.uwi9fygw6hjy](https://docs.google.com/document/d/1Lp0D6KmlcUZF0F_53xbRZdIBVAqsXhsEw-y3tKLdvcs/edit#heading=h.uwi9fygw6hjy)

#### **Providence District Council Report – Flint Webb, Providence District Council Representative**

- On February 8<sup>th</sup> the Providence District Council held meeting on Emergency Preparedness with Sulayman Brown, Assistant Coordinator, Operations & Outreach Manager, Fairfax County Office of Emergency Management.
- The next PDC meeting will be March 8<sup>th</sup> 7:30-9 PM at the Providence Community Center at 3001 Vaden Drive, Classroom 2. The subject is the School and County Budgets.