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## Membership Meeting Minutes

February 16, 2017

Approved March 23,  
2017

The February Membership meeting of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations (FCFCA) was called to order on February 16, 2017, by President Tim Thompson at 7:36 p.m. at the Providence Community Center, Classroom #2, 3001 Vaden Drive, Fairfax 22031.

### **Present:**

#### **BOARD:**

Officers: Tim Thompson (President/Colvin's Glen-Colvin's Forest Citizens Association), Ed Wyse (First Vice President/Springfield/Membership/Civic Association of West Springfield Village), and George Becerra (Recording Secretary).

District Council Representatives: Art Wells (Braddock/Truro Homes Association), John Birch (Mason/Bel Air Civic Association), Flint Webb (Providence/Environment), and Jeff Parnes (Sully/Transportation/Website/Resolutions/Chantilly Highlands Homes Association).

Committee Chairs: Daniela Cockayne (Co-Chair, Public Safety/Sleepy Hollow Citizens Association) and Ed Saperstein (Co-Chair, Budget; Co-Chair, Education/Glen Haven Farms Homeowners Association).

### **MEMBERSHIP:**

Members: Jacke Zeiher (Holmes Run Valley Citizens Association), Andy Novins (Holmes Run Valley Citizens Association), Clyde Miller (Holmes Run Valley Citizens Association), Amanda Sansbury (Lafayette Village Community Association), Greg Doherty (Mason Hill Citizens Association), John Cockayne (Sleepy Hollow Citizens Association), Suzie Wells (Sleepy Hollow Manor Civic Association), Julie Hirka (Stonewall Manor Community Association), Gabriel Goldberg (Walnut Hill Homeowners Association), and Ed Alzona (Wellington Civic Association).

Others: None

**Invited Guests:** Joe Mondoro, Director, Department of Management and Budget for Fairfax County, and Kristen Michael, Assistant Superintendent, Department of Financial Services for FCPS (Presenters of our topic).

**Presentation:** Fairfax County and FCPS Budgets for FY18.

President Thompson introduced both presenters with Mr. Mondoro presenting first. Both presenters did a thorough job and answered questions from the membership until 9:08pm. Both links to both of the presentations will be posted on the FCFCA website.

**Audit Committee Report:**

The Chair of the Audit Committee, Ms. Karin Fendrich, submitted an official report to the Membership (Attachment 1). She also made suggestions on how to maybe improve the Citizen of the Year Award costs. She also Thanked Ed Saperstein and Scott Schlegal for the help in the Audit analyzation.

**Meeting Minutes:** January's Membership meeting minutes was passed unanimously, with no corrections or edits.

**Treasurer's Report:** No report.

**Membership Report:** See Membership Committee report.

**Unfinished Business:** None.

**New Business:**

1. Flint Webb, Environment Co-Chair, introduced Ms. Reba Elliott from the Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions. Ms. Elliott presented a letter (Attachment 2) she wanted the Federation's support on, which would go to the Board of Supervisors. Motion was made to support the letter from the Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions.  
Seconded. Discussion held.  
Motion Passed – 18 For, 2 Against, and 2 Abstentions.
2. Ed Saperstein, Budget & Education Co-Chair, presented a resolution supporting meaningful citizen participation in the FY2018 process (Attachment 3).
  - a) Motion to support the resolution as is.  
Discussion Held. Question Called.  
Motion Failed – 7 For, 15 Against, and 0 Abstentions.
  - b) Motion to Amend Main Motion (remove "in the FY 2018" in the resolve clause and add "every year"  
Question called.  
Motion Failed – 9 For, 11 Against, and 2 Abstentions.

**Board & Committee Reports**

1. Budget – Ed Saperstein – See New Business.
2. Citizens Association Services –No report.
3. Education – Ed Saperstein – See New Business.
4. Environment – Flint Webb - See New Business.
5. Human Services – No report.
6. Land Use – No report.
7. Legislation – No report.
8. Library – No report.
9. Membership – Ed Wyse – Provided membership sign-in sheets and vote cards for the meeting.
10. Public Safety – No report.

11. Resolutions – No report.
12. Revenue – No report.
13. Transportation – No report.
14. Website – No report.

**District Council Reports & Membership – Open Floor**

(Dranesville & Hunter Mill - N/A)

1. Braddock – Art Wells - Submitted report. (Attachment 1)
2. Lee – No report.
3. Mason – No report.
4. Mt. Vernon – No report.
5. Providence – No report.
6. Sully – No report.
7. Membership – Open Floor – None.

**Announcements:** None

**Adjournment** - The meeting adjourned at 9:51 p.m.

**Next Meetings:**

**Membership Meeting** – March 23, 2017 at 7:30pm at the George Mason Regional Library (Meeting Room), 7001 Little River Turnpike, Annandale 22003.

**Board Meetings** – 1) February 23, 2017 at 7:30pm at the Dunn Loring Center (Room 108) 2) March 16, 2017 at 7:30pm at the Mason Governmental Center, 6507 Columbia Pike, Annandale 22003

Minutes prepared by George Becerra, Recording Secretary


REPORT OF THE FEDERATION AUDIT COMMITTEE

FEBRUARY 16, 2017

We have reviewed the financial records of the Federation for the period July 1, 2015 through June 30, 2016, and summarize our findings as follows:

	Full-Year Treasurer's <u>Reports</u>	Audit Committee <u>Findings</u>
Balance: July 1, 2015	\$14,509.83	<u>14,509.83</u>
Income:		
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016	\$	
7,455.03	<u>7,455.03</u>	
Expenditures:		
July 1, 2015 – June 30, 2016	\$ 7,163.23	<u>7,163.23</u>
Balance: June 30, 2016	\$15,301.63	<u>14,801.63*</u>

\*This amount varies from actual by \$500.00 due to an accrued expense that was not paid in cash by 6/30/16. It was subsequently paid.

  
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Karin Fendrich, Chairman



Selected supporting documents were examined  
and accuracy verified including reconciliation of  
June 30, 2016 bank statement with Treasurer's

End of Year report. In our opinion, the End of

Car Supersting

the Federation.

Dear Board of Supervisors,

Climate change and the energy policies that contribute to it are affecting our community. We already see the consequences of those policies right here in Fairfax County:

- we are stretching our budgets with excessive energy costs, when energy efficiency would protect both our wallets and our planet;
- we are putting our residents at risk, both because we may be experiencing the increased respiratory diseases that are associated with milder winters and longer, hotter summers, and because eastern sections of the county face the flooding that is associated with sea-level rise;
- we are growing more slowly than neighboring jurisdictions that have robust environmental policies, we are falling short of the sustainability guidelines for federal commercial leases, and we are embodying less rigorous environmental visions than those held by leading businesses like Amazon Web Services and Google, all of which jeopardizes our lease revenue and property tax dollars; and
- we are endangering our children's health, the welfare of our most vulnerable residents, and our community's future by contributing to climate change.

Thankfully, you have recognized and acknowledged these dangers. You have pledged to act on climate change and address our critical need for solutions.

In 2007, the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors approved a climate stabilization declaration, which is referred to as Cool Counties. The declaration noted that civic life and climate change are intertwined, and, in its own words, declared the following:

- "there is a consensus among the world's leading scientists that global warming caused by human emission of greenhouse gases is among the most significant problems facing the world today;"
- "the economic arguments for implementing climate solutions are compelling;" and
- "counties have a unique role to play in reducing greenhouse gas emissions and preparing for the impacts of climate change."

The declaration was approved by the Board of Supervisors in 2007. It was announced with great fanfare in the Washington Post and at an annual meeting of county governments. It continues to be featured prominently on the Fairfax County website and in the county's Environmental Vision statement. Its goals align with those of the Metropolitan Washington Council of Governments.

We congratulate the Board of Supervisors for its repeated, firm, public commitment to this policy.

We urge you to act on it.

We, the undersigned, recognize that climate change poses a vital threat to residents, businesses, and vulnerable people in Fairfax County. We recognize that Fairfax County's policies can make a difference, and that transparent, accountable leadership is urgently needed.

We strongly encourage you to achieve the following, with implementation beginning in 2018.

- Develop and implement a comprehensive plan to meet your stated goal of a minimum 2% annual reduction in greenhouse gas emissions within the county geographic area, leading to an 80% reduction by 2050.
- Establish a staffed Sustainability Office with a mandate for meeting the county's goals, funded permanently by the county budget, and having a director reporting directly to the County Manager. The office's activities could include proposing and implementing such programs as those related to energy efficiency, transportation, renewable energy adoption, public outreach and education, and engaging the business community.
- Issue annual reports on your progress toward the goals, with the municipal energy dashboard as a good first step, to ensure that the county's work is transparent and accountable.

We are asking for nothing more than your fulfillment of the public commitment you made to solve this critical issue.

We call on you to finish the work you started a decade ago. The problem is real, and solutions are within our grasp. Your leadership is needed now.

Sincerely yours,



Fairfax County Public Schools

- Assistant Superintendent,  
Department of Financial Services

Kristen Michael

## 2. Letter Urging Board of Supervisors to Meet Carbon Reduction Goals

The Federation's board recommends that members approve the Federation co-signing a Faith Alliance for Climate Solutions letter to Board of Supervisors urging the board to act to accomplish previously agreed carbon reduction goals.

*[The actual letter and background information was provided in our Feb 4 email to you. We had asked that you address any questions to the Environment Committee chairs prior to the meeting, so we can limit discussion time and move rapidly to vote to preserve time for the meeting's main program. Thanks.]*

The letter:

Rationale:

## 3. Resolution Supporting Meaningful Citizen Participation in the FY2018 Budget Process

*The Federation board on January 26, 2017, recommended the membership approve the following resolution on February 16, 2017..*

WHEREAS Fairfax County's Fiscal Year 2018 Advertised Budget Plan (FY2018 County Advertised Budget) was released by the County Executive on February 14, 2017, and includes expectations, presumptions and

recommendations with respect to revenue sources (Revenue), funding levels for county services (County Funding Levels), and the proposed amount of support to be provided to Fairfax County Public Schools (School Transfer); and

WHEREAS on January 12, 2017, the Superintendent of Fairfax County Public Schools (FCPS) released a Proposed School Budget for FY2018 which included a request for funding from Fairfax County (Requested FCPS Transfer); and

WHEREAS, on February 28, 2017, without formal public input the Board of Supervisors (BOS) will advertise the maximum residential and commercial real property tax rate (Maximum Rate) which the BOS may legally and actually adopt in April 2017, for application in FY2018 (Actual Rate) to generate the major portion of Revenue; and

*Handwritten notes:*  
Can reduce  
Rate  
2017  
2018

WHEREAS it is anticipated that Revenue may not be adequate, based on FY2017 actual tax rates, to support County Funding Levels and/or satisfy the Requested FCPS Transfer, potentially requiring cuts which could denigrate county services and infrastructure and/or dilute the asset value of FCPS as an economic driver of the county economy; and

WHEREAS the Actual Rate, County Funding Levels, School Transfer and related matters in the FY2018 County Advertised Budget will be the subject of public hearings beginning April 4, 2017 (Public Hearings) to elicit citizen input on budgetary priorities and the proper balance of services and taxes; and

WHEREAS meaningful citizen participation in the budget process at the Public Hearings in April and the flexibility of the BOS to respond to demonstrated needs in adopting the County's FY2018 Budget in May should not be unnecessarily chilled and circumscribed by the arbitrary ceiling of the Maximum Rate set in February ; and

WHEREAS meaningful citizen participation in the budget process specifically requires that the Maximum Rate be advertised at a level which would in theory fully fund both the Requested FCPS Transfer and County Funding Levels in order to promote positive discussion on budgetary priorities and the proper balance of taxes and services, and to preserve BOS flexibility to respond; and

WHEREAS the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations (FCFCA) encourages meaningful citizen participation in the budget process but expresses no opinion at this time as to Actual Tax Rate, County Funding Levels or School Transfer appropriate for implementation in FY2018;

NOW THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED that the FCFCA in order to promote meaningful citizen participation in the FY2018 Fairfax County Budget process, enhance public discourse on budgetary priorities and the proper balance of public services and tax burden, and provide flexibility to the Fairfax County BOS, requests the BOS to advertise a Maximum Tax Rate which would fully fund both County Funding Levels and the Requested FCPS Transfer for FY2018.



February 17, 2017

#### Braddock District

The Braddock District Council's February 8<sup>th</sup> meeting featured discussion of the proposed FY 2018 budget for the Fairfax County Public School system. Kristen Michael, Assistant Superintendent, Financial Services, presented an overview of the budget which prompted considerable questions and comments from those in attendance.

The March 8th BDC meeting will focus on the Advertized FY 2018 County Budget

The BDC's special committee on Aging in Place met on February 15<sup>th</sup>. The featured presentation was "Fairfax Park Programs and Opportunities" by Barbara Nugent, Director, Parks Services Division, Fairfax County Park Authority

Supervisor Cook sponsored Community Meeting No. 3 on February 6<sup>th</sup> which featured an update of the Braddock Road Multimodal Study by the special Braddock Road Task Force. The study addresses the prospective widening of Braddock Road from Guinea Road to I-495. Attendance numbered about 300 which asked many questions as well as offering comments.