

Membership Meeting Minutes

March 28, 2019

Final

Approved: April, 18, 2019

This monthly Membership meeting of the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations is 7:38 PM at the Fairfax County Government Center, Conference Room 7, 12000 Government Center Pkwy, 22035

Welcome and Announcements – President

7:38 pm

Minutes of Federation board and membership meetings are available.

Meeting Minutes – Recording Secretary:

Vote approval of last Membership Meeting (February 2019). Minutes approved by voice vote pending additional comments from Don Hinman. There were some discussion about the legislative priorities and the fact that the Governor has revised the legislation prohibiting cell phone use while driving.

Program – Budget Committee Co-Chairmen

Discussion and vote: Federation Resolution on the Fairfax Advertised FY2020 Budget

The Fairfax Advertised Budget is at:

<https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/budget/fy-2020-advertised-budget-plan>

The Federation Budget Resolution is at:

<http://www.fairfaxfederation.org/committees/Budget/ResolutionFY2020BudgetBoardApprovedDraft20190321.pdf>

The total voting members is 28.

Revenue sections:

Whereas statements were accepted without objection

Resolved statements were accepted by voice vote with 2 votes opposed.

Compensation and Benefits section:

The name was changed to “Employee Compensation” by voice vote. The Whereas section was approved by voice vote. The Resolved statements were also approved by voice vote.

Public Safety sections:

The whereas statements were accepted by voice vote. The resolved statements changed by adding “recommended” in the second resolved statement. The section was accepted as amended by voice vote.

Education sections:

The whereas statements. After some discussion of the use of the word “compelling” in the third whereas statement and other FCPS staff compensation, the whereas

statements were approved by voice vote with two votes opposed. The resolved statements were approved by voice vote with two votes opposed.

Public Works and Environment:

The whereas statements were approved by voice vote. Resolved statement 13 needed an "and" after item b. The resolved statements were approved by voice vote with two votes opposed.

Final Resolved statements:

The first resolved statement was approved by voice vote with two votes opposed. There was a motion from the floor to revise the final resolved statement. The issue about the county should listen to public comments before they set the advertised rate or advertise a higher rate than is required by the budget to allow citizens input. Text was modified to encourage citizen input before adopting and advertised tax rate. The motion was made to accept the edits was adopted by voice vote with two votes opposed. Then the second be it further resolved resolution was adopted by voice vote with two votes opposed. Mike proposed a third be it further resolved statement requesting the county to consider an alternatives analysis for any capital expenditures. The third be it further resolved was passed by voice vote with two votes opposed. Then there was a final motion to place the third be it further resolved to be the second resolved.

Finally the entire resolution was approved by voice vote with two votes opposed.

New Business:

Human Services Committee: Introduction of draft Federation Resolution on Robocalls. Mike Perel put together a resolution. This resolution will be taken up at the next Board meeting and will be voted on at the next Membership meeting. The draft resolution is in **Attachment #1**.

Old Business:

COY Co-Chairs: Citizen of the Year Awards & Banquet status

Member's Announcements:

Drones policy: See **Attachment #2** from Gabe Goldberg.

Tim Thompson called for nominations for officers

Adjournment

9:47

Next Meetings (all meetings are open to the public):

April 7 - **Citizen of the Year Banquet** - DoubleTree by Hilton, McLean Tysons

April 18 - The next **Membership** meetings, 7:30 PM at the Fairfax County Government Center. Topic is Storm Water Management and Green Electricity Projects, presented by GMU Professor Jennifer Sklarew and her environmental sciences research students.

April 25 - The next **Board** meeting, 7:30 PM, Dunn Loring Center.

Attachment 1: Draft Resolution:

Support for Federal Legislation to Stop Unwanted and Criminal Robocalls

Background

Unwanted Robocalls are a nuisance as well as a source of criminal efforts to scam vulnerable older adults.

In 2018, Congresswoman Jackie Speier (D-CA) and Senator Richard Blumenthal (D-CT) introduced the ROBOCOP (Repeated Objectionable Bothering of Consumers on Phones) Act, a bill that would require phone companies to provide customers with free tools to block robocalls.

In 2019, House Energy and Commerce Chairman Frank Pallone, Jr. (D-NJ) introduced the Stopping Bad Robocalls Act (HR 946) to stop abusive robocall practices.

<https://bit.ly/2Sx11yK>

In 2019, Sens. John Thune (R-SD) and Ed Markey (D-Mass.), members of the Senate Commerce Committee, introduced the Telephone Robocall Abuse Criminal Enforcement and Deterrence (TRACED) Act (S 151). The bill would require service providers to adopt technology to authenticate phone calls before they reach consumers' phones and would charge the FCC with implementing more rules around consumer protection. <https://bit.ly/2EmPTQe>

Several telecommunication companies are now offering customers various approaches to blocking robocalls, but the options may not apply to all types of robocalls and phone types, may cost consumers money, or may have limited effectiveness.

WHEREAS, financial scams are a common problem, affecting approximately 1 of every 18 cognitively intact, community-dwelling older adults each year. Many of these crimes are perpetrated through robocalls. Virginia has the 11th highest complaint rate to the National Do Not Call Registry; and

WHEREAS, Fairfax County has implemented an education effort to help reduce scams targeting older adults called Silver Shield; and

WHEREAS, the Fairfax County Police Department is seeking to expand their efforts to catch and prosecute local perpetrators of elder scams but have little recourse against most phone related scams; and

WHEREAS, the Commonwealth of Virginia has a law against illegal robocalls but does not enforce the law because many of the criminals reside outside the state; and

WHEREAS, the National Do Not Call Registry has not been effective in protecting consumers from law-breakers and overseas scammers; and

WHEREAS, several technological solutions that block robocalls could be implemented by telecommunications companies; and

WHEREAS, many older adults are unaware of the various methods and technologies they can employ to block robocalls; and

WHEREAS, telecommunications companies are charging consumers for services (such as caller ID) that could help block suspected scam robocalls.

THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Fairfax County Federation of Citizens Associations requests the Fairfax County Board of Supervisors:

1. Urge our U.S. Senate and Congressional Legislators support introduced bills requiring service providers to implement countermeasures that block robocalls and thereby prevent a major source of scams against the elderly.
2. Supplement the Silver Shield anti-scam campaign to initiate efforts that proactively assist vulnerable older adults in implementing available robocall blocking technology.
3. Continue to support Fairfax Police Silver Shield anti-scam efforts that inform and assist vulnerable older adults.
4. Urge Fairfax and the Commonwealth General Assembly legislators to require telecommunication companies operating in Virginia to implement as quickly as possible call blocking technologies at no cost to consumers.

Attachment #2: Fairfax County Proposal: Drones for Public Safety Missions

Initial group began meeting May 2017 to explore program and develop concept for using drones (unmanned aircraft systems) for public safety missions, to present to Deputy County Administrator for Public Safety Dave Rohrer.

Buy-in was received and topic on agenda for Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee January 2018 meeting.

Came before board July 2018 with further direction.

Towards year-end a Task Force was organized with representatives from diverse stakeholders: Police Department, Fire & EMS, Parks Authority, FAA, industry organizations, community groups (including Fairfax Federation), Audubon Society, ACLU, and others.

Over multiple meetings via extensive public comments, and six public presentations, a draft Program Manual went through several revisions.

Most recently, the Program Manual was presented to Board of Supervisors Public Safety Committee. After largely positive response, the Manual will be revised and presented to Board for approval. Full information on the Program is on <https://www.fairfaxcounty.gov/uas/> including:

What the Program Would Do:

The draft program is designed to support a variety of government mission types including:

- Search and rescue
- Flooding assessments
- Pre- and post-disaster damage assessments
- Crash reconstruction
- Fire incident/scene management and investigations
- Hazardous materials responses
- Situational awareness for wildlife management

And:

What the Program Would NOT Do:

The draft UAS program would not be used:

- To conduct random surveillance activities
- To target a person based solely on individual characteristics, such as, but not limited to race, ethnicity, gender, national origin, religion or disability
- To harass, intimidate or discriminate against any individual or group
- To conduct personal business or any other unauthorized use