

**Fairlington Citizens Association
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Fairlington Community Center
3308 S Stafford St
April 13, 2016, as approved**

Board Members Present

President Guy Land
Vice President Jonathan Ansley
Treasurer Ed Hilz
Secretary Lindsay Willmann
Director Kent Duffy
Director Hugh Baumgardner
Director Chris Weathers

Board Members Absent

Director Evan Harvey

Call to Order

The Executive Board meeting was called to order at 8:13. President Land presided and noted the presence of a quorum.

Approval of Agenda

There was unanimous consent to approve the agenda distributed by President Land by email and hard copy.

Approval of Minutes

There was unanimous consent to approve the minutes of the meeting of April 3, 2016.

Officer Reports

President

President Land received an email resignation from Vernola Schlegel. According to bylaws, this vacancy will be filled. An alert has been submitted so the vacancy can be filled.

Vice President

Defers

Treasurer

Treasurer Hilz highlighted some of the items in the documents shared over email the week before. The bank accounts statement reflects a cash balance of \$59,000. FCA continues to increase its cash balance. On the April AFB there was a production profit of \$3,776 which netted out \$1,038, \$200 more than for the March AFB. On the January to March first quarter Profit and Loss Statement, FCA had a net income

of \$4,264. The next report will be for the second quarter to end June 30. The budget update highlights some of the categories in the regular Profit and Loss statement. The Home Improvement Expo showed a profit of \$995, which will actually be over \$1,000 when the final check is added. T-Shirts Jonathan sold for \$45 was the only transaction in the t-shirt category. When the Board completed the 2016 budget, Board members expected to spend \$600 in this category. The cost of the next t-shirt order will be subtracted from the income of sale. Other fees included accounting fees (\$900), office supplies (\$58), Virginia Corporations Fee (\$25), and the Arlington County Civic Federation Gala. So far FCA is significantly below the projected expenditure for Board meetings (having spent only \$196). Donations reflects the \$1000 donation to the Fairlington Farmers Market and \$170 to ACCF.

Expenses on the General Ledger reflect these first quarter payments. Treasure Hilz also asked if the Board would like to order any additional FCA 5x8 cards. He will get a price for 100 and will bring it back to the board just in case. After the Audit Committee reviewed the tax returns they were filed by FCA's accountant. President Land asked Director Ansley to put together order of t-shirts for May to ensure we have them for the Fourth of July. President Land also shared that the May edition of AFB will be 32 pager, and will have additional pages as inserts. There will be a front and back advertisement for Kay Houghton and one page for the Farmers Market (they are buying the full page insert).

Secretary

Defers

Unfinished Business

None

New Business

Fairlington 5K

The Fairlington 5K is on track, there have been 400 registrations. Arlington County has asked that the Board be more aggressive with notifying the community of street closures. The Joe's are planning on flyer units along the way, and we will use the signs to put out notices about the race. They have a commitment from Channel 5 to provide a crew.

Home Remodeling

President Land asked the Board to reflect on the Expo to decide what worked and what should be done differently next year. President Land recognized Director Weathers for putting the superb event together. President Land asked Cindy Kunz to talk to one of the vendors that helped remodel her unit to get feedback from him. He had all positives, concerns for the future included space arrangement (more space possibly needed), and more access to outlets. Overall, vendors were very pleased with the experience.

Director Weathers passed along the finance report to everyone via email. Director Weathers reported the challenges were based on it being the first time. In the future, recruitment, community advertising, and space for remodeling presentations should be addressed. President Land heard from individuals who suggested holding a session on aging in place. Director Weathers does not see inviting more than 12 vendors due to space. In terms of timing, a better time for the vendors would be January or February

because these are their slower months. Treasurer Hilz requested that the Board keep a list of references to refer to in the future. President Land brought up the possibility of developing linkages with Fairlington Home and Garden tour. President Land suggested the Board begin discussing the next Expo in early fall.

Fios Updates

Director Duffy attended the joint-HOA meeting regarding Fios in Fairlington. The main hub for Fios is located on King Street near the Taco Bell, and the main branch will come down King Street and into Fairlington in multiple locations. Verizon is not interested in serving the Alexandria portion of Fairlington Villages. At the time of the meeting, two HOA's had signed POAs, which allows Verizon to do site surveys. The basic design for Fairlington connections is a fairly small red brick conduit that attaches to the building. There will also be a green box at ground level for each unit. As of right now, the copper system will not be removed, but maintained. The installation will be done in three phases: conduit installation, core service (bringing connections down King Street), and connecting smaller hubs in the community to that of the King Street branch. Verizon is hiring one contractor to ensure uniformity throughout Fairlington. Fairlington Arbor has a demo building so residents can see what the conduit will look like.

President Land noted that the joint-HOA meeting was a great example of the role FCA plays in the Fairlington community, as a neutral forum for residents and individual HOAs. Director Baumgardner asked if there will be a conflict with Comcast structure. Director Duffy said it will go on existing Verizon easement, and they will avoid Comcast pedestals.

Farmers Market Tote Bags

Secretary Willmann has been working with Jeff Kost of the Fairlington Farmer's Market to secure an agreement to begin selling FCA/Farmer's Market joint tote bags. After some deliberation, Board members agreed upon splitting the profit with the Farmer's Market. The bag will be quality canvas with both the FCA and Farmer's Market logos on the side. Totes will be sold for no more than \$5 at the market. President Land motioned for the funds to be approved so FCA can move forward to order the tote bags. The motion passed 7-0.

Adjourn

President Land motioned to adjourn, which passed unanimously at 9:00 PM.

Respectfully submitted,
Lindsay Willmann, Secretary

Appendix I to 04/13/16 FCA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Notes

**Fairlington Citizens' Association Presentation by
Christian Dorsey, Arlington County Board Member**

April 13, 2016

Fairlington Community Center 3308 S Stafford St

President Land opened the meeting by introducing FCA Board members and highlighting upcoming events in the community. He followed this by introducing Arlington County Board member Christian Dorsey.

Mr. Dorsey explained he is in his fourth month on the Board and is currently participating in budget work sessions. There are about two dozen work sessions leading to the budget mark-up, reviewing county manager's proposals and make decisions based on revenue projections, etc. Scheduled to be adopted next Tuesday, April 19th.

Budget Highlights

Arlington is in a "very fortunate" place as the County is not looking at raising taxes (which have not changed for a couple of years). The tax rate will not go up to meet budget priorities. There is some desire in the community to see tax relief, given the increase of real estate tax evaluations.

Mr. Dorsey outlined a few budget needs and explained that the County should be able to meet them this year. Needs included increased funding for schools because of increased enrollment and human services for people on the margins of average incomes. Specifically, Arlington County food pantries are in need of additional support. As soon as budget work concludes, the Board will begin looking at capital program for the next couple of years.

Mr. Dorsey explained how it's been an interesting year for Arlington. A lot of the issues residents hear about have been imposed on the County (i.e. the I-66 deal by Governor McAuliffe and outside legislators, similar to 395 HOT improvements). The Board doesn't have the ability to say "no" or impact what those projects look like. They can only see that Arlington is protected as far as is possible. The Board provides the ability to ensure the toll income goes to County needs for things like transit investments.

Mr. Dorsey concluded by opening the floor for questions and discussion.

Q: Residents near Abingdon Elementary are concerned about tree removal, storm water and problems with flash floods. They are also concerned about vibration and how it will impact masonry walls. How does the County plan to address this?

A: Mr. Dorsey explained he was not sure whether those concerns were valid or not (as he is not a technical expert), but the County has no interest in having citizen's homes destroyed. The best expertise we have are being used to assess for potential risk to ensure no unforeseen consequences occur. If you

think a promise is not being kept, please let the Board know as this is our first duty. We as a community will continue to deal with these challenges because of retrofitting of development and other necessary improvements, but we must trust that leaders are going to do their best for the public.

Q: There is a lot of development going on, there is a lot of encouragement to build schools in more densely populated areas but there doesn't seem to be a disconnect to where buildings are being allocated. How do you marry projections with student growth?

A: How we manage future growth is a big issue, not just in the future, but also the present. Some things could have been anticipated but weren't. Teardowns of older Arlington single family homes and replacing those with larger homes happened before considering who would occupy these units. The normal routine course of normal real estate transactions have a huge impact on enrollment and school growth. The County needs to work on improving our projections of the impact of these kinds of events. Additionally, there is a growing movement for alternative education (i.e. work study and distance learning) and minimizing school footprints by building vertically.

Q: Who is doing the TDM study regarding the 395 HOT lanes? The process seems to leave Arlington with very little ability for feedback? Is changing the traffic pattern of the people (i.e. hours people are traveling) a possibility?

A: A consulting group is completing the study, though Mr. Dorsey was not sure of who exactly it is. The current solution of increasing HOT dues does not necessarily solve the problem we have. Governor McAuliffe and other state leaders do not share this idea, and have a broader vision of connecting HOT lanes. Arlington Board did not really have much of a say in the process, as the Governor is the leader of this vision. We see the impact on traffic and congestion when we see people make alternate plans (i.e. teleworking) for special events (i.e. Papal visit).

Q: Why is the County Board spending money on small things (like poles for ART bus signs)? In Arlington where new houses are being put in, there is a trend of putting trees in median strip. Who is caring for the trees and ensuring they are not blocking signage? Are the trees a County issue or Dominion issue?

A: Mr. Dorsey explained that, regarding trees and signage, if you ever see something that is truly a hazard, please report it. We have a website and phone and online app for this purpose. Tagging it as a safety issue will ensure it is dealt with. Please give the Board a chance to correct it before becoming disillusioned. Infrastructure issues can be complex, because sometimes they are owned by County and sometimes by private companies (i.e. Dominion). The County needs to do a better job of connecting concerned citizens and organizations with groups who can handle it if not the County.

Q: Regarding the maintenance of street trees, it's been recommended by Urban Forestry that more money is allocated for this purpose. Though in the Neighborhood Complete Streets addition, there wasn't any money in the budget to staff the program. Why is this?

A: Urban Forestry has expanded the expertise of how and where to plant. We have to marry the ideas of pruning and preserving trees as an investment. We're probably not going to add staff to Complete Streets during the budget process, but probably will be adding it during the Capital Improvement process.

Q: Real estate signs seem to be on every corner every weekend here in Fairlington. There are County rules dictating this, but what can be done about this ongoing issue?

A: I'm familiar with the sign ordinance, as a political candidate we have our own separate sign ordinance. What we've found is there are all manner of sign violations (willful or not), but there is virtually no enforcement mechanism. Calling up and complaining will probably not result in anything, because it doesn't seem there is a way to enforce the law. We may be able to deal with repeat offenders, but do we want to invest dollars in FTEs going around and looking at signs? If not, is it worth having the ordinance on it? We have a couple of systemic zoning compliance issues that are not due to willful lawbreaking, but ignorance of the laws themselves. When there are real, larger code issues that need to be corrected and remediated, we don't have the number of staff or flexibility to make sure we can enforce the code seamlessly. We would be open to feedback and guidance on this. Excessive noise and overcrowding are two examples of issues that can only be enforced by County officials on site to document the issue.