

**Fairlington Citizens Association
Executive Board Meeting Minutes**

Fairlington Community Center
3308 South Stafford Street
Arlington, Virginia
April 9, 2014, as approved

Board Members Present:

President Guy Land
Vice President Kent Duffy
Secretary Carol Dabbs
Treasurer Ed Hilz
Director Joe Hartman
Director Mark Jones
Director Bill Russell
Director Lisa Schwanger
Director Carrie Street

Public Presentation:

Kathy VonBredow of the Parks Development Division of the Department of Parks and Recreation, Arlington County government, made a presentation regarding the first project from our 2013 update of the Neighborhood Conservation Plan to receive enough points to be considered for funding. It would remove and replace invasive species along Lucky Run/Allie Freed Park and Four Mile run. She included discussion of the definition and examples of invasive species. After discussion and questions from the audience, only one person voiced opposition, out of concern for follow-up financing.

Public Comments:

Jim Huryz commented on the Park Shirlington Committee, the possible Fairlington Farmers' Market, Arlington Neighborhood Villages, and potential changes in Arlington Public Schools.

New Business to be handled before rest of meeting:

Request for Donation, TC Williams Graduation program, discussion deferred

Abingdon ES, Arlington County Capital Investment Plan

Jen Davies and Traci Gravelle, representatives of a committee of concerned parents that has been formed to respond to both the learning and safety risks posed by the current physical plant, explained the Arlington Public Schools Capital

Improvement Plan process for 2015–2024. The AES PTA is likely to endorse their positions, but can't lobby the school board or county board about this because they are a 501c3 organization.

Reasons to consider Abingdon ES for renovation and expansion include capacity—it is the second most crowded school in the system, with four mobile classrooms already on site—and multiple major maintenance problems in last few years—it is among the oldest schools without an overall renovation. Enrollment has increased 30% in last 5 years. They are working with the Abingdon ES PTA and Principal, who is very supportive, and are in touch with APS facilities and maintenance department and Board. Abingdon is one of 11 schools being considered for significant funding for renovation or new construction. APS wants to know that community is behind the changes. If this plan is passed over, it would be bad for neighborhood overall. Timeline for decisions is very tight, with a feasibility study by 3/22, cost estimates due 3/27, but all proposals are in same situation. The APS Board CIP session is tomorrow, and one last community forum will occur on 4/23. There will be a vote on a bond referendum to fund the selected projects in November.

A plan to renovate and add space for 150 students is under consideration; they provided us with very preliminary drawings of what it could be like. The idea is to bring AES up to today's standards. There are currently 580 students at AES. It takes a 1.5–2 year planning process which consults with community and school interested parties to develop such plans.

Treasurer Hilz asked who they've met with—most of School Board, but not the Superintendent yet. They indicated that they very much want FCA participation. Their handouts are all available on line; the website is on the handout that President Land sent to us earlier this week. He recommends that we take a look at those handouts.

He's personally in favor, but wants to flag the issue for the Fairlington community before the FCA takes an official position. Vice President Duffy indicated that he had previously been unaware of the urgency of the crowding issue, or the physical plant problems. He sees this as a two-part issue—first getting this funding prioritized, and then the planning for facility upgrades.

President Land urged that FCA weigh in on each stage, but not tonight without opportunity for the community to weigh in. His idea would be to include an article in the May AFB on this, and then, after an opportunity for community comments, for the FCA to take a position at our May meeting. This would not deal with design issues now, which are irrelevant until this gets prioritized for funding. We could, in the interim, let the APS Board know we're trending positive. Director Jones asked what such a motion be? President Land suggested that it could be that the FCA calls on APS and AC to prioritize renovation and addition to Abingdon.

We discussed how to form an FCA position earlier than the May FCA meeting. Vice President indicated that the point now is not to resolve design issues; instead it is to be sure that we get to phase two when they can be dealt with. President Land is happy to communicate to Noah Simon that we're all favorable based on our informal discussion, but that we want to allow an opportunity for the whole community to let us know if there are concerns that we don't appreciate at this time.

Call to Order

The Board of Directors meeting was called to order at 7:55 pm. President Land noted that a quorum was present.

Approval of Agenda

The Agenda distributed by President Land by email on April 6th was approved by consensus.

Approval of Minutes

Minutes of our March meeting distributed on April 8th were approved unanimously with one edit from Ed to the attachment to them.

Officer Reports

President--pass

Vice President --pass

Treasurer

Treasurer Hilz had circulated three budget documents to the board by email prior to the meeting:

- the General Ledger, January 1- March 31, 2014;
- the FCA Profit and Loss Statement as of March 31, 2014; and
- FCA Bank Accounts, including Certificates of Deposit and our Checking Account.

The April AFB P&L was not included because we had not received an invoice from Global for the April AFB, which was held up because there were more pages (36 pages) than is on the normal AFB pricing grid and because there was also a higher design price. Mili Parra is working with the estimating staff to provide this new pricing. (Treasurer Hilz provided this information on April 15 to the FCA Board. It includes a column showing a 12-month rolling average of profit or loss.)

Treasurer Hilz indicated that our tax return is being reviewed by the Audit Committee. Discussion of the final printed version of NCP was deferred due to lack of time.

Secretary

Electronic Votes—There have been none since the March meeting.

Voicemails—We received 4 voicemails this month, which were referred to the appropriate Board member (President Land re: requests to address FCA about CIP and an individual request, Director Hartman re: road closures during 5K, and Noemi Rivera re: delivery of AFB to apartment buildings).

Other—none

Unfinished Business

Fairlington 5K

Director Hartman is still waiting for final numbers, which he will distribute to the FCA Board once they are in hand. He expects a gross income of about \$20,000, maybe more. More than 800 registered; it was a scramble at the end to be ready for the event. He received only two complaints, both because folks didn't read AFB and therefore missed the advance notice of street closings. In retrospect, we should have also done sandwich board notices of the road closings. There was also a problem with the moon bounce after the run/walk. AES is definitely planning on doing again next year; Director Hartman will recommend that FCA again be a sponsor. Many of the volunteers for the event were generated from AES. He and AES staff would prefer to hire a different company to handle arrangements next year. They are actively seeking ideas about what else needs improvement.

Fairlington Day, 2014

Director Jones reported that the bad news is that we currently have no griller, and need other volunteers. FCA board members were deputized to seek volunteers, and send information on to Director Jones. The good news is that sponsors are coming in very well; our exposure for funding is only \$450 at this point. Sponsors of specific items will have a sign adjacent announcing their support; sponsors will also be listed in brochures, and with their logo on a thank you page in the June AFB. The physical layout will likely be very much like in 2012. Tables will include the Cooperative extension's 100th anniversary, 4H, and Master Gardeners. We discussed whether we want a pet adoption event? Consensus

was yes, and our preference to use the Animal Welfare League. Director Schwanger will contact pet-related orgs about participation—President Land cautions that most of the pet folks are present at the Fairlington Villages pet happy hour. President Land will talk to Fairlington Dental about sponsorship. Director Street will contact the Fairlington Village usual grillers, in hopes of having enough. We must have 2 volunteers per moon bounce as chaperones. Hours of the event are 11–2 pm.

New Business—discussion of these items was deferred, due to lack of time.

Summer Intern

Policy on Candidate Appearances

June Program

Vacant Board Seat status

Paper Shred/Electronics Recycling—11/9 or 11/16 will be proposed.

Spring Grounds Walk

Fairlington SWAG items

Adjourn

A motion to adjourn the meeting was made, seconded, and passed at 9:00 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Carol J. Dabbs
FCA Secretary