

**Fairlington Citizens Association
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
March 13, 2024
7:00 pm**

Board Members Present

- Guy Land
- Jennifer Davies
- Paulin Leonida
- Jennifer Clardy Chalmers
- Dianna Bentley
- Sarah Hazlett
- Lydia Redway
- Scudder Wagg

Board Members Absent

- Julie Butler

Quorum Present?

Yes

Residents or other Attendees Present?

1

Speaker Presentation and Resident Q&A

- No speaker presentation

Regular FCA Meeting

Welcome - 7:07 PM

- President Land welcomes

Resident Comments - none

Call to Order - 7:06 PM

- President Land presides

Approval of Agenda

- A unanimous consent to approve the agenda (with adjustments as needed) as distributed by President Land - Approved

Approval of Minutes

- January minutes Approved

Officer Reports

- President: Note that activities are beginning: Farmer's Market and Home & Garden Tour
- Vice President: No report
- Treasurer: Submitted electronically (circulated by PL)
- Secretary: No report

Unfinished Business

Arlington Zoning/ Permitting Issue

- Director Bentley reports that new contact at county planning section is Kellie Brown
- Until the budget passed, no resolution or updates are expected. However the topic is in the work plan for the year.
- Next starts the beginning of the data collection for the report and suggestion for solution.

Diversity, Equity, and Inclusion

- Director Redway reports looking for items and topics for what can be shared out as monthly meetings no longer happen, including events such as library programs

MLK, Jr. Day of Service

- Abingdon PTA appreciated the outreach from FCA and the event was well attended. All invasive plants that in planned area and now ahead of schedule.

New Business

All Fairlington Bulletin Editor

- President Land reports that Dianna Heights is the new editor. Resume previously shared with FCA board members.

All Fairlington Bulletin Ad Manager

- President Land reports AFB Ad Manager needed. Rita needs to step down for personal reasons. A candidate for AFB was asked and other candidates will be sought.

Accountant Contract Renewal

- President Land and Treasurer Leonida point out communication issues with the accountant and would like to get on path to have options next year if this continues.
- Among the biggest problems was the failure to send 1099 to the AFB carriers.

King Street Improvements

- Options and community engagement for reconfiguration and redevelopment of King Street were put out by Alexandria.
- Fairlington Arbor concerns continue with the drainage issue. This was raised 5+ years ago without a solution.
- Director Wagg is engaged in the issue and followed up with the city as none of the proposals take that side of King Street and the drainage into account. Alexandria is looking for special funding from the state for the project and to keep costs down with the focus on safety and transit.
- Director Redway attended the open house when 3 options were presented to the community. There were a number of questions about the access road and the answer given was that traffic flows well on King Street, so the city was not looking to change it. The start of construction is still several years away, but the city will look for safety improvements on a short term basis in the interim (ie. light timing, dashed lines, etc.).
- Director Wagg sent around a draft letter to Alexandria with Fairlington goals and encouraged the city to think about concepts for that corridor that includes both sides of the street, as well as the overall picture.
- Letter from FCA to go to city - drafted by Director Wagg with info from open house, circulated to and approved by board, signed by President Land - prior to March
- Suggestion to ask the city to come again to present at FCA meeting in the future as the plan evolves or at least write something for the AFB.

Alexandria West Planning Recommendations

- President Land circulated an email from Melanie about FV Ward 6 concerns with the planning. The ward would like FCA to write a letter on their behalf.
- There are traffic pattern questions about the possibility of added density. Traffic did not get the same study, but the old plan was not implemented as priority was given to the issue of access.
- FCA board decision that FCA will only broadly speak about the plan and let the board of Fairlington Villages talk specifics.
- President Land will talk to Melanie and draft a letter as appropriate

Park Shirlington Food Security

- Vice President Davies reports that Capital Area Food Bank identified Park Shirlington as high need area outside of reach of current locations. Food distribution is done monthly by CAFB, but now the staffing is going back to Abingdon. It will be hard to staff through the school and PTA.
- Distribution takes place the first Wednesday of every month with a new time (1-3pm).
- FCA through Vice President Davies was approached by the food security coordinator to help solve the staffing issue.
- There was a meeting today with Abingdon ES and FSC, however Vice President Davies was unable to attend.
- About the site: anyone can access the site for food. There is no Park Shirlington residential requirement.
- The current ask is to assist in raising awareness and respond to other asks, such as

volunteers to help with bagging or food collection. The current workaround for this is a sign up genius. It is unknown if the Abingdon PTA will be able to take on after summer

- FCA keep an eye on it. Vice President Davies baby!
- Distribution will be stopping in June because Abingdon is unable to staff the event, but CAFB will do it year round if it can get volunteers.

Farmer's Market Contribution

- President Land reports that FFM has not asked for support, but expects the ask to come. He warned FFM last year that FCA may have financial constraints this year.
- Treasurer Leonida suggests, if possible, to continue the \$1000 contribution.
- Other suggestions: offer 7 point out the in-kind AFB space provided to the market.
- FCA Board approves \$1000 for FFM.
- SWAG sales will need to be a future topic.
- May 5 is the opening market day for this year.

Home and Garden Tour Contribution

- President Land reports funding needed and requested. FCA can be a sponsor if desired. The May 11 tour is a fundraising vehicle for the Fairlington Historical Society.
- FCA Board discusses impact of contribution and agrees to do an in-kind donation of AFB ad space.

Civic Federation Banquet

- President Land reports annual county civic federation banquet is coming back after covid. FCA historically paid for 1 person and all plus ones must pay their own way. FCA is reimbursed if the attendee cancels.
- The event is April 12 and costs \$70 for early bird tickets. Then the price rises to \$75.
- If any FCA board member would like to attend, they must commit by March 25.

Spring Family Movie Night

- Director Butler previously offered to coordinate a Spring Family Movie Night
- FCA Board questions: are we on the hook for it? Is there a timeline? 1.5 years on contract and then what? Director Butler to receive questions and give answers.
- May 4 and May 18 suggested as a date with May 4 and Star Wars as a theme being the preference of the board.

Emergency Response Training

- Director Butler got response and will follow up.

Budget Update

- President Land reports no update and asks if questions remain. No questions.

Adjourn

- President Land adjourns the meeting with no objections. Meeting is adjourned at 8:47pm

Submitted by Jennifer Clardy Chalmers