

FAIRLINGTON GENERATIONS COMMITTEE MEETING
FAIRLINGTON CITIZENS ASSOCIATION
Minutes of the March 26, 2015 Meeting

Attending the March 26 Meeting: Bob Bemben, Carol Dabbs, George Keller, Carol Rosen, Phillip Rosen, Sharon Webster, and Margaret Windus.

FCA Meeting. Carol Rosen stated that the Fairlington Citizens Association Board will feature the findings and recommendations of our committee at its May 13 meeting, when board members and attendees will have an opportunity to discuss our results and move toward implementing our suggestions. This will be the first community gathering to have such a conversation since the November 15 Forum. After that forum, our draft findings and recommendations were agreed to and shared with all the Fairlington condominium boards plus the Court.

Final Draft Report. The final draft for discussion at this meeting has a few changes from the one circulated in December, reflecting the experience we've had in the early months of this year meeting with some condo groups and with the FCA Board President, Guy Land, and our Board liaison, Carol Dabbs, to get their advice. Although some condo boards were supportive, others did not respond. Carol spoke before the Fairlington Villages Board and at its annual meeting last evening, and Margaret to the Fairlington Glen Board. We may meet with the Mews Board.

Guy and Carol emphasized that intergenerational initiatives would have to depend on active volunteers, given the wide array of community issues (e.g. Abingdon School restructuring, local development plans) that also command FCA attention. Given these realities, we have dropped the suggestion for the FCA immediately to launch a committee of condo leaders to discuss their intergenerational efforts. Such a forum for communication may grow as volunteer projects and community needs grow, but that effort seems premature at this point.

Nonetheless, we do still encourage the FCA to undertake at least one intergenerational project, and have heard from the Fairlington farmers market managers that they are receptive to having a meeting space allocated to intergenerational activities once the market is underway over the next few months. George Keller offered to participate in sharing information at such a venue.

Availability of Report and Materials. Attendees agreed with the report as presented, and discussed how materials gathered or prepared as part of our effort could be made available to interested parties—specifically:

- materials on services and activities already available in Arlington and Alexandria
- our background report “Research on Village Organizations”
- summary of survey results
- meeting minutes
- report to the FCA

Possible avenues for communication of the above include:

- Senior Navigator, a website that Arlington County plans to use for enhanced access to information about its many programs for seniors
- the FCA website
- the Fairlington Community Center lobby or room just to the left of the front desk
- Shirlington Library

Other Information. Phillip Rosen noted that a monthly coffee house is being established at the Walter Reed Community Center, with its first meeting on April 14 at 6:30 pm. Phillip will participate with music from time to time. Check the 55+ Guide for additional information.

Arlington County shares information about activities for seniors both in the 55+ Guide and via email. Margaret noted that the Glen's Board President shares many of those announcements with Glen residents through a Glen Yahoo site, similar to communication channels available in other Fairlington condominiums.

This is the final meeting of the Fairlington Generations Committee. Coordinators Carol Rosen, Phillip Rosen, and Margaret Windus thank all who have participated over the past year and hope to see everyone at the May 13 FCA meeting where our findings and recommendations will be discussed. Also, consider which of the many possible activities we have touched on during this effort you might be willing to take on as a volunteer effort to spearhead in your condominium or Fairlington-wide.