

**Fairlington Citizens Association
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Fairlington Community Center
3308 S Stafford St
04-12-17, as drafted v1**

Board Members Present

President Guy Land
Vice President Jonathan Ansley
Treasurer Ed Hilz
Director Kent Duffy
Director Evan Harvey
Director Hugh Baumgardner
Director Chris Weathers

Board Members Absent

Secretary Lindsay Willmann
Director Jen Davies

Resident Comments

Shelley, a resident, experienced problems with an FCA Bulletin advertiser. She accuses the contractor (Nova Installations), of causing window & house damage. She argued for stronger vetting of advertisers. President Land responded that the Board doesn't have oversight, and advised reporting the situation to the AFB ad manager. He noted that in the past, we have given contractor the chance to remedy issue.

Call to Order

The Executive Board meeting was called to order at 8:15 pm. 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 March 8, distributed by email June 5.

Officer Reports

President

President Land mentioned the need for a permanent editor for the AFB. He noted the primary source of a budget windfall, a savings of \$800 a month. He mentioned the need to address the sustainability of this budget item. President Land also raised Director Duffy's previous proposal of an FCA-sponsored meal for the FCC staff. He also brought up the idea of the Board meeting for a social occasion (like dinner)

sometime this summer. He reminded Board members of upcoming meetings that include presentations from VDOT, Four Mile Run, and ACE.

Vice President

Vice President Ansley noted there are some issues being experienced with the website update, and noted that he is experiencing a slower learning curve than expected.

Treasurer

Absent (Director Evans substituting)

Secretary

Treasurer Hilz distributed copies of the budget documents electronically. He noted that the 2016 taxes were successfully filed, and that the audit committee was unanimous in its approval of the returns. FCA's cash balance of \$61,000 is the highest it's been since last year. Total revenues from the Home Improvement Showcase were also discussed.

Unfinished Business

Fios

Director Duffy will contact Verizon to get an update on Fios progress.

New Business

Fairlington 5K

Joe Hartman spoke to the Board on the final details for the 5K. He noted there were 440 registrants (similar to 2016) and that progress is looking good. They've completed the appropriate outreach to Courtbridge and have secured necessary permits. AWL is responsible for water stations, though he still needs help with recycling containers and course monitors for less-marked areas. He is coordinating with the construction crew at Abingdon, and wants to leverage the condo association mailing lists to get the word out. He is still unsure of whether or not APD will provide an electronic sign.

Fourth of July Parade

President Land reported that Fairlington Villages is facing increased food and beverage costs. The Board approved the expense generally, though members posed a few questions, including: Is the money going toward the Fife and Drum corps? Are they using a food truck as a delivery device or caterer? Can increases in cost be estimated?

Webpage Update

Director Duffy gave an update on the webpage transition process. He noted that the transition will take place next month. Board members expressed some concern over email transitions.

Adjourn

President Land motioned to adjourn, which was seconded and passed unanimously at 8:55 pm.

Respectfully submitted,

Lindsay Willmann, Secretary & Director Evan Harvey

Appendix I to 05/11/16 FCA Executive Board Meeting Minutes

Notes

Fairlington Citizens' Association Presentation by

Katie Cristol, Chair, Arlington County Board

04/12/17

Fairlington Community Center 3308 S Stafford St

The somber climes of late March deliver scintillating breezes and surreptitious frost, as winter's last stalwart does its best to hold the spring at bay. But the season eventually and inevitably turns, bringing with it the spring-like dew and phosphorescent cloudscapes of sweet April. The low rolling hills of northern Virginia make this seasonal turn quite suddenly, as if eager to tether the ascending sun, and its warmer air, to the needs of dormant flora and fauna. The lush and verdant grasses are suddenly nascent. The intoxicating warble of the bluebird and the sparrow are not just audible, but jubilant.

The April FCA meeting was held, per usual, in the Fairlington Community Center. Turnout was lighter than usual, perhaps due to the lovely spring weather, but a dozen residents were treated to candid remarks from a local celebrity: Arlington County Board member Katie Cristol.

Cristol was elected to the 5-member Board in 2015 and currently serves as its Vice Chair. She is prominent in local Democratic party politics and helps to lead a wide array of initiatives, including the APS Joint Subcommittee on Facilities, the Northern Virginia Transportation Commission, and Project PEACE.

FCA president Guy Land, who has worked with Cristol on previous county projects, introduced her as “an exceptionally engaged, informed, and committed advocate.” Land related the story of Cristol and her husband happily participating in the 2016 Fourth of July parade—albeit without much pomp or circumstance. “I am a fan of Fairlington,” Cristol said, smiling.

Over the course of an informal 20-minute talk, Cristol offered both policy updates and personal anecdotes, often emphasizing the importance of political and social engagement to life in Arlington. She started with the state of the current county budget, which she described as “status quo” with two notable exceptions: Metro and public education. Both of these areas are experiencing major growth pains, and will likely require increased funding.

FCA board member Ed Hiltz capitalized on the Metro discussion to ask if the county board could influence improved bus service in Fairlington. A number of routes have been scaled back, or even cancelled, due to budget concerns or low ridership. “We try to work across jurisdictions on issues like this,” Cristol said, relating her experience with the Columbia Pike redevelopment project. But even board interest cannot guarantee any changes in a multilateral service resource like WMATA.

Cristol next addressed the Joint Facilities Advisory Commission (JFAC) project, specifically the redistribution (and reclamation) of public and private lands, and land use rules in general. Now these rules are getting a fresh look from Cristol and other board members, and in some interesting ways.

“This is something that we have been working on,” Cristol said, “at many levels.” Citing a lack of quality child-care options, she suggested alleviating or adjusting land use rules in the county. This would, presumably, allow for future development or expansion of child care facilities. A review certainly seems to be overdue: Arlington’s child care ordinance was last updated in 1981, according to ARLNow.

A few residents raised concerns about immigration; specifically, the respect, protection and safety afforded to immigrants in Arlington. “We have spent a lot of time,” Cristol said, “trying to figure out what protections we can offer to immigrants here in the county.” In March, Cristol demonstrated her concern on this topic by joining U.S. Representative Don Beyer and others in public protest of new immigration restrictions. “We want to be a community that is safe and welcoming to everyone,” she concluded.

One attendee asked Cristol about the everpresence of helicopters (and the resulting tumult) in the skies over South Arlington. “It’s such a quality-of-life issue,” Cristol said. She touted the efforts of Representative Beyer in this regard, but confessed a certain amount of impotence in changing Department of Defense policies. The discussion ended with Cristol’s promise to raise the issue with the county’s federal liaison.

Other residents engaged the board member in topics ranging from the smarter use of shared facilities to school expansion and siting, from law enforcement approaches to gang activity to community approaches to dog park planning.

Guy Land concluded the public portion of the meeting by thanking Cristol and presenting her with a Fairlington tee-shirt. “You’re now an honorary Fairlingtonian,” Land said, smiling. Cristol posed for photographs and spent a few more minutes discussing concerns with residents before departing.