

**Fairlington Citizens Association
Executive Board Meeting Minutes
Fairlington Community Center
3308 S Stafford St
December 13, 2017 as approved**

Board Members Present

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

Board Members Absent

None

Citizen Comments

Jim Huryz

Mr. Huryz expressed his concerns about Park Shirlington developments. He shared that the county is lending the developer \$6 million for the project, which will temporarily house low income tenants. He noted that according to the files he received through a FOIA request, the income bracket of tenants in the area may increase, which would force out the lower income residents which concerns him. He noted that on Saturday, the County Board is approving \$2.1 million for a regional park adjacent to the FCC.

Call to Order

The Executive Board meeting was called to order at 7:14 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 November 8, distributed by email December 9.

Election of Officers and Directors for 2018

Vice President Ansley gave an overview of the work of the nominating committee. Candidates were presented to those in attendance, and each gave a brief presentation outlining their interest in serving on the Board.

Officers Nominated:

Guy Land, President

Chris Weathers, Vice President

Ed Hilz, Treasurer

Evan Harvey, Secretary

Directors Nominated:

Jen Davies

Hugh Baumgardner

Kent Duffy

Rebecca Sayers

Lindsay Willmann

Two residents were in attendance (including nominee Rebecca Sayers) in addition to eight board members. Eleven ballots were cast and counted by Secretary Willmann and Vice President Ansley. Each board member received eleven votes, leading to the re-election of current members (excluding former Vice President Ansley), the promotion of Directors Harvey and Weathers to officer positions, and the addition of Rebecca Sayers as director.

Officer Reports

President

After the ballots were cast, President Land gave a recap of some of the activities sponsored by the board throughout the year. He noted the Home Renovation Expo, the Fourth of July parade (co-sponsored with Fairlington Villages), Movie Night, and the Santa Ride as popular examples. The farmer's market and 5k were also cited as popular FCA sponsored events. He noted that the only income FCA receives is through the All Fairlington Bulletin, and mentioned the amount of money put into events and activities that strengthen the life of the community. Furthermore, he called attention to the fact that FCA is the only civic association in Arlington that does not charge members a fee. In closing, he acknowledged the work of Vice President Ansley, who is leaving the board in 2018. He noted the Board's appreciation for his service, and his enjoyment in working with the current board.

Vice President

Deferred

Treasurer

Treasurer Hilz began his report with noting the current \$60,000 cash balance divided between the checking account and five CDs. He too took note of the fact that FCA's sole revenue source is the AFB, which began a number of years ago with a newsletter makeover. Along with the commercial ads that appear in the bulletin, he noted that FCA maintains a paid bulletin staff that manages AFB operations. As of the end of November, the AFB netted around \$19,000. Throughout the year, some of the key funded

activities were the Home Renovation Expo (producing a profit of \$584), the Fourth of July parade (contribution of \$1100), the Movie Night (contributed a bit over \$900), and the Hometown Habitat movie (contribution of \$100). FCA donated \$1,000 to the farmer's market as sponsors. Currently, FCA's profit is a little over \$9,000 (which may shift slightly by the end of December). This is an improvement as we ran a small deficit last year.

Secretary

Deferred

Unfinished Business

Santa Ride

Director Weathers reported that everything should be ready for Saturday, and confirmed that President Land will be there to take pictures. Secretary Willmann let him know that a hard copy of the route is available in the FCA institutional files.

New Business

Home Renovation Seminar

Director Weathers said nothing is currently needed, and has already secured three commitments from contractors. He believes February 3rd as the new date is a benefit given the typical timing of contractor workload. He can shorten sessions if there is more contractor interest than expected. The Board unanimously approved the expense of \$950 for the reservation of the rooms.

Fairlington's 75th Anniversary

Director Davies thanked Director Duffy for the breakdown of neighborhood survey results. She shared that we received 102 responses, which she will use for planning purposes. She will meet with Terry Placek, during which time they can decide whether to make it a commemorative year or a more concentrated series of events. Director Davies mentioned running a monthly segment in the AFB, and tapping into long-time residents for stories from Fairlington's past. Another possibility is getting County staff to attend a few of the events. She also spoke to the principal of Abingdon to discuss how the kids can also get involved. She is open to ideas and suggestions, and believes we can use the AFB as a communication tool as we make decisions about how to move forward. The most well-received ideas included a reception, a Fairlington then and now, and a walking tour. There is usually a walking tour in October that we could potentially build on. Director Duffy is emailing the Fairlington Historical Society the survey results. Director Davies also mentioned a scavenger hunt for kids in addition to the walking tour. Treasurer Hilz asked about timing, and Director Davies said that is one of the big questions. Do we do a big weekend or an ongoing season of events? It sounds like at the very least, we hold a reception with old pictures, a few speakers, and time to share stories of living in Fairlington. If Fairlington Villages will lend us the space, that would be an ideal location. Patty shared the Historical Society has a cd slideshow with music that includes sections of the history book that we can put on display. Treasurer Hilz noted that one of the other Arlington neighborhoods contracted with a videographer, but expense is a concern. Tom Team has stepped forward as a sponsor, as well as Shell in Shirlington. We could also pull on a few other local businesses for sponsorship to assist. President Land mentioned the local dentist as a possible sponsor as well. Director Davies is going to coordinate a working group of residents who noted interest in supporting the anniversary effort. Another interesting suggestion was the creation of a time

capsule. Patty shared that the Historical Society has already committed to an article a month in the AFB, and can provide any of the files from the book or other historical resources to support.

President Land then noted there seems to be general interest in a reception or similar convening event with speakers, props and refreshments. He then noted he sensed support for an expanded history walk and family or children's version (i.e. scavenger hunt). Board members agreed that these three ideas are in the mix at this point. It was decided that the Fairlington Villages facility would be the preferred event center, with a summer or fall date so guests can spill out into the parking lot as needed. Spring may be too quick of a turnaround. Director Sayers noted her cousin may be able to volunteer her time for videography/slideshow work. Patty will also see if she can locate an old video by the County on Fairlington. President Land is skeptical of the video approach given the significant amount of time and money needed to produce quality work. Patty noted perhaps we could convince WETA to make Fairlington one of their neighborhoods. Director Duffy noted we need a board member to commit to each event, and that the WETA idea is a really interesting idea. Perhaps they could take footage at events throughout the year, and put together a video to be shown at the next annual meeting in December. The Board settled on the reception coordinated by Director Davies and the working group she formed, the scavenger hunt coordinated by the Moms Club, and the history walk coordinated by the Historical Society as in the past. In terms of swag, historical prints seem to be of the most interest. The quality of pictures in the digital files from the book is inconsistent, and we do not have the original pictures. This may be an area where we can tap into resident holdings to see if we can collect vintage prints that way. The prints of the neighborhood wards can be obtained online. We could have an order form for prints to ensure we don't have to purchase an inventory.

Housing Conservation District

President Land mentioned there is a public hearing before the county board on Saturday. He further noted there is no evidence of county plans to convert Shirlington House to anything other than affordable housing at the end of a three year period. There's no specified percentage of affordable units under the current plan, which could impact the current residents' ability to stay there. Phase two of the plan is still unclear, though President Land is more concerned about the ability in phase one to add density. He does think this is a better guarantee of what the property will look like in ten years than frer plans formerly proffered. President Land believes the public testimony should emphasize that the general idea of Shirlington House being an affordable housing establishment is good for the community. We are concerned about the idea of increasing density, for fear of overcrowding of local schools and facilities.

Adjourn

President Land motioned to adjourn at 8:59 pm, which was unanimously approved.

Respectfully submitted,
Lindsay Willmann, Secretary