

**Alexandria Federation of Civic Associations (AFCA)**  
**Meeting Minutes**  
**October 30, 2018**

**Call to Order**

Jeff Lipsky convened the Business Meeting at 7:01 p.m. Judy Cooper asserted that we had a quorum and the **business meeting** began. Jeff quickly reviewed the pre-designated issues the Federation is engaging on this year:

- Transparency: Independent Ombudsmen, Potomac Yard Metro, TC Williams Lights
- City Planning: Chatham Square Parking, Seminary Rd Lanes, Transportation Master Plan
- Fiduciary Responsibility: Debt Service

**Treasurer's Report**

Ms. Cooper reported that there were 2 memberships added during the month. There were no expenses in October and the total checking amount contains \$8194.94. There are 16 Memberships through October 30, 2018.

**Minutes Approved**

Jeff asked for corrections to the minutes from June, September and October 2018. Since there were no corrections, he asked for a motion to approve the minutes. They were approved by all.

**AFCA Committee Reports**

**Engagement Committee (Van Fleet)**

Van Fleet reported that the committee arranged for a speaker for tonight's meeting. Steve Sindiong, a City Planner from Transportation and Environmental Services, was asked to speak about the Alexandria Transit Plan. In November, the committee will arrange for a City guest to discuss the Metro shutdown south of Ronald Reagan airport that will occur next summer.

Jeff asked what was the Engagement Committee strategy for engaging the pre-designated issues for the next seven months.

- While Chatham Square Parking and TC Williams Lighting was already heard/approved by City it was generally agreed that the Federation should still monitor these issues for follow-up DSUPs. For instance, the Federation should coordinate with Planning & Zoning if there are other housing developments requesting parking amendments based on the Chatham Square precedent.
- Heidi asked what are the underlying themes to the pre-designated issues that we as a Federation should tackle. Jeff suggested the committee could reframe the issue to the underlying policy/procedure theme that makes the issue a "Federation issue".

From earlier in the summer, Jeff asked the Engagement Committee to identify other Commissions/Councils the Federation could have a representative.

### **Communications Committee (Roy Byrd)**

Roy Byrd is working on some technical issues with the website provider.

### **Membership Committee (Pete Benavage)**

The committee, now manned by only Pete, is working toward getting the marketing flyer out, but needs more support. Jeff Lipsky will assist until other volunteers come forward.

### **Governance**

Nothing significant to report (other than teaching Jeff how to perform motions).

### **City Committee Reports**

#### **Emergency Medical Services Council (Rebecca Hierholzer)**

First Responder's Medical Director's progressive approach allows for more advanced training thus more advanced applications being administered on site in the ambulance prior to arrival to the hospital – a lifesaving advantage over neighboring jurisdictions. Although First Responders received a recent pay raise, Alexandria is still at the bottom of the payscale compared to neighboring jurisdictions. It has been difficult to recover from the 7 straight years of no pay increase in the 1990's, and high turnover remains an ongoing problem. There is a new program being successfully rolled out which is presently administered by one paramedic, who is also a nurse. It provides one-on-one outreach for underserved populations connecting them and educating them to the best matched support services offered by the City, so they no longer rely on dialing 911 for those non-emergency needs.

#### **Other Committee Reports**

While the Beauregard Development and Anti-Gang Task Force representatives provided updates, these are not Federation allotted positions. Steve Milone noted that he was a member of the Environmental Commission and his seat is up at the end of November, suggesting others can apply for the open seat.

The next Federation meeting is November 28. The "December" meeting will be January 7, 2019. The Federation will have a regular January meeting on January 30, 2019.

#### **Guest Speaker**

Steven Sindiong, an urban planner for the City, discussed the VISION Study, a review by the City to re-work DASH and Metro buses based on commuters' needs. The city held Stakeholder meetings and surveyed the public about their desires in transportation schedules. The transit presentation is found here: <https://www.alexandriava.gov/tes/default.aspx?id=104193>

#### **Planning and Zoning Review**

Rob Kearns and Tony La Colla, Planning and Zoning Department, reported on project plans for the next two months in the City. Only the highest priority items are covered below.

A briefing was provided on the South Patrick Street Housing Affordability Strategy at Route 1 South. This is a residential opportunity that preserves affordable housing, increases bonus

density up to 3.0, and prioritizes safety and accessibility. Since the terms of affordability were expiring, the City is implementing some of the strategies by rezoning the affordable plan area. The city is working with property owners to maintain their funding and transitioning residents to new places while the re-zoning is taking place and then working with them to get back to their residences. This is part of what was outlined on their Small Area Plan. There is a public meeting in November and will go to Planning Commission in December.

**November (Planning Commission: Nov. 1; City Council Nov. 17)**

- Life Care is being deferred. Technical issue due to the naming of things, but has been deferred until mid-next year. Silverstone is going to go ahead in Potomac Yard.
- The surface parking lot at the Fairlington Presbyterian Church on upper King Street and 395 will be used for building Wesley Housing Affordable Housing. There will be 81 units and they will be separated from the church and school parking. The building colors are a red and white pallet which fits in with the church context/aesthetics. There will be street frontage and a lot of mature trees will be saved and planted.

**December (Planning Commission: Dec. 4; City Council: Dec. 15)**

- Morgan Properties' Coordinated Sign SUP is near Beauregard and is primarily concerned with upgrading their marketing signs.
- The Greenhill Project is a Coordinated Development District (CDD) for seven parcels within the Eisenhower West/Landmark/Van Dorn Small Area Plans. The plan calls for a new network of streets with a mix of commercial, residential and retail uses.
- Potomac Yard Metro is concerned with the well publicized amendments to the south entrance.

**January**

- Block Phase and Front Yard Set Back requirements will be discussed. The requirements will add additional height setback requirements. There will be a meeting on Nov 14, 7 p.m. at Charles Houston Recreation Center.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:02 p.m.

**Minutes submitted by Anne White-Olson (Secretary) and Jeff Lipsky (Co-Chair)**

**Attendees:** Pete Benevage (SWCA), Roy Byrd (CCPCA), Judy Cooper (BSVCA), Heidi Ford (WOTCA), Bob Gronenberg (Park Fairfax), Rebecca Hierholzer (SWCA), Bryan Kirkes (OTCA), Joanne Lepanto, (SHSA), Jeff Lipsky (FPCA), Judy Miller (Rosemont), Steve Milone (OTCA), Judy Noritake (BMCC), David Olinger (OTCA), Townsend Van Fleet (OTCA), Tom Walczykowski (CCPCA), Anne White-Olson (NOTICE).