

**CITIZENS FOR FAUQUIER COUNTY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Meeting Minutes

Piedmont Environmental Council Board Room

January 15, 2018

Present: Kevin Ramundo, Dave Mailler, Sally Semple, Doug Larson, Julie Broaddus, Les Cheek, Jim Stone, Chris Bonner, David Norden, Yak Lubowsky, Mary Root, Ginna Wilson, Hope Porter, Rick Carr, Jim Rich, Sue Scheer, Susan Russell, Feroline Higginson, Amy Trotto and Planning Commissioner Ken Alm. Absent: Mimi Abel Smith, Harry Atherton, Mary Page and Jessica Swan.

LAND USE – Rick Carr

Planning Commission Public Hearing Cases: 1.) A Subdivision Ordinance Text Amendment related to hydrogeological testing. - Hydrogeological testing has been through a major review. This ordinance section focuses on the process and requirements for establishing public and private water supplies provided through wells tapping our valuable ground water resources for new development. This update is needed and is one of the steps the PC and BOS need to achieve for more effective understanding, management and protection of our critical and limited groundwater resources in the County. However, due to the complexity of this overall proposal, CFFC is interested in hearing what the County WSA, the Virginia Department of Health, local hydrologists and other experts in this field might recommend from a more technical perspective. Therefore, CFFC recommends that action be postponed and the Public Hearing left open. 2.) Special Exception – Catlett/Calverton Sewer Project – An application by the BOS asking for a Special Exception to allow a sewage treatment facility. The intention of the BOS is to move forward with the construction of a waste water management facility for Calverton and Catlett. It also needs to be noted that Calverton will be converted to from a “Village Service District” to a “Village” designation, and included in the Comp Plan Chapter 7 on Villages in the next few months. As a result of that pending change, there will be a notation included that the sewer services are to be provided within the designated boundaries of Calverton for remediation purposes only in the interest of public health, safety and welfare. CFFC recommends that the PC forward this to the BOS for approval subject to the staff recommended conditions or as revised. 3.) Comp Plan Amendment to update plans for Catlett, Calverton and Midland. – CFFC analyzed and provided recommendations regarding the proposed amendment in last month’s Land Use Report to the PC. The County proposed to eliminate Calverton’s designation as a Service District and to designate it as a Village. Catlett and Midland are proposed to be converted from being Service Districts to Village Service Districts. CFFC recommends that the PC forward this Comp Plan amendment to the BOS for adoption.

Overgrazing - Commissioner Alm said that there had been a closed hearing on the subject of overgrazing. The impetus for this is concern over water quality. Last month, CFFC recommended that the PC postpone action on this until they heard from the agricultural community. It has been noted that the agricultural community is concerned about too many regulations controlling their farms. The discussion segued into the need for zoning ordinance enforcement officers. CFFC feels it needs to put pressure on the BOS to hire an official for this purpose. Mr. Rich said that he would lead a coalition that would include people from other conservation organizations to work on this.

BOS – Mr. Cheek said that a study had been done by the WSA to look into what they could do to improve the organization. After reading the study, the BOS said that the WSA was “totally dysfunctional.” Supervisor Gerhardt applauded the WSA members for recognizing that there were internal problems and as a result, had a study done.

REGULAR MEETING

Mr. Cheek opened the regular session of the Board meeting at 1:00 P.M. The minutes were approved as written and the finance report was accepted. Mr. Cheek asked Ms. Broaddus to reactivate her Task Force on protocol on CFFC protocols for charitable giving.

Annual Meeting

Mr. Cheek opened the Annual Meeting. Mr. Bonner, chairman of the nominating committee, listed the slate of nominated officers; Les Cheek for president, Amy Trotto for vice-president and Susan Russell for secretary. All were unanimously approved. The position for treasurer will be determined at a later date. Mr. Cheek thanked Mr. Stone for his years of service as vice-president. The Annual Meeting was adjourned.

Social Media - A committee was appointed to explore the possibility of the organization using social media resources to advance its mission. The committee consists of Ms. Broaddus, Ms. Swan, Mr. Ramundo and Mr. Bonner. They will meet at the Bistro on January 22nd at 2:00 P.M.

50th Anniversary – Mr. Lubowsky stated that the group, that has been working on this has a number of great ideas, but many of these ideas cannot come to fruition without the help of other Board members. Ideas on the table are: a photo exhibit of people and places in the County, lectures, or a pro/anti-development debate. Ms. Higginson suggested creating a plaque naming all the people who have put their land under easement. Mr. Ramundo said that he would call Board members to get their perspective vision on the County's future, then use it as messaging.

Bylaws – Mr. Lubowsky said that he and Ms. Trotto have modernized and updated the CFFC bylaws by adding mechanisms that will give the organization more flexibility while still keeping it conservative. Mr. Cheek asked for a vote of approval of the revised bylaws. Mr. Bonner asked that under Article III, Section 4 the word “publications” be used in place of “a newspaper.” The bylaws were approved as amended. Mr. Cheek asked Ms. Russell to include on the Board of Directors' contact list the year that each Board member is up for reelection after an initial one-year term. After that, each Board member serves a three-year term.

HISTORIC RESOURCES – Mary Root

Ms. Root said that the ARB is undertaking three projects: 1.) redoing Chapter seven of the Comp Plan that deals with villages, 2.) hiring interns to inventory 25 cemeteries in out- of- the- way places and, 3.) with the Planning Commission, rehiring Maral Kalbian to gather historic information on Midland so that the village can apply for placement on the State and National Registers of Historic Places. She announced that Midland is having a Midland History Day on April 14th. Ms. Root, along with Mr. Carr, is still working on the future of the Piney Ridge School.

COMMUNICATIONS – Chris Bonner

Mr. Bonner reported that he plans to have the Monitor ready by the first week of February. He asked Ms. Root to do a story for the publication on the cemetery research. She agreed.

TRANSPORTATION – Jim Stone

Mr. Stone announced that the County Transportation Committee is meeting on Wednesday, January 31st at 7:00 P.M. at the Warren Green Building.

The meeting was adjourned at 2:25 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Russell
Secretary