

**CITIZENS FOR FAUQUIER COUNTY
BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

Meeting Minutes

Piedmont Environmental Council Board Room

September 17, 2018

Present: Jonathon Nuckles, Les Cheek, Ken Alm, Hope Porter, Rick Carr, Sally Semple, Harry Atherton, David Norden, Doug Larson, Mimi Abel Smith, Julie Broaddus, Jim Rich, Ginna Wilson, Mary Page, Julie Bolthouse, Susan Russell, Planning Commissioner Bob Lee, Yak Lubowsky and Benjamin Shoemaker, Executive Director of the Fauquier County Water and Sanitation Authority (WSA). Absent: Chris Bonner, Kevin Ramundo, Mary Root, Sue Scheer, Jim Stone, Jessica Swan, Amy Trotto, and Advisors, Feroline Higginson and Dave Mailler.

Special Presentation – Mr. Cheek opened the meeting at 12:05 P.M. by introducing our guest speaker, Mr. Benjamin Shoemaker. Mr. Shoemaker gave a power point presentation on the role the WSA plays in the County and their relationship with the Board of Supervisors (BOS). He said the authority's Board is made up of five members who are appointed by the BOS. The WSA's job is to provide water and waste water services in parts of the County. They have sixteen water systems made up of ground water and three waste water systems. The WSA's goal is to keep financially separate from the County by billing customers who use their services. At present, they have 7000 customer accounts which pay 90% of funds needed. The vision of the WSA is: 1.) a strategic planning initiative, 2.) align authority to implement strategic planning, 3.) Technical Master Planning/Service District Planning and, 4.) community engagement. Mr. Cheek asked Mr. Shoemaker if he would be willing to come back to our Board meeting at a later time to give us an update. Mr. Shoemaker graciously agreed.

LAND USE – Rick Carr

Mr. Carr reported that his Task Force was still preparing comment on the draft of the Rural Land chapter of the Comp Plan and hopes to have a report for the Board at next month's meeting.

BOS – cell towers - Mr. Cheek said the BOS is working on a master plan for telecommunications. One of the problems they are faced with is due to the terrain of the County. It is much more difficult to provide cell service in hilly areas where more cell towers are needed. Their goal is to minimize impact as much as possible. Non-farm soil and rocks – Much to the dismay of CFFC and PEC, the BOS approved the allowance of non-agricultural fill operations with the approval of an SE while also adopting standards and definitions. The use may only be allowed in conjunction with an agricultural operation on the property. Some of the suggested improvements of the ordinance by CFFC and PEC were not taken into consideration. Mr. Alm said by approving this ordinance, the County did not take into account the health and welfare of the people who live in the County. If anyone is harmed by contaminants, the farmer will be responsible. Again, we run into the problem of having no inspectors to make sure the fill is safe.

REGULAR MEETING

Mr. Cheek opened the regular session of the Board meeting at 1:25 P.M. The August minutes were approved and the September finance report was accepted. Board Advisor Jonathon Nuckles was unanimously voted into a position on the Board of Directors. Mr. Nuckles said his interests were in evaluating policy and historic preservation.

Mr. Rich agreed to organize a Task Force to put more pressure on the County to hire more part-time inspectors to police County ordinance infractions.

Mr. Alm suggested that we keep a score card on County officials' voting records on specific agenda items.

FINANCE – Julie Broaddus

Ms. Broaddus handed out an accounting of approved expenses, payments, funds remaining to be paid, donations offset A/R and net outstanding and explained the chart. She pointed out that we have spent over our 20% for initiatives for this year.

Ride Fauquier - Mary Page asked for a donation to “Ride Fauquier,” an organization that has been working to expand bridle paths and to have a public riding arena at the trail head. Funds are needed for site work in preparation for a large riding ring and for trailer parking. Ms. Page said she has applied to the PATH Foundation for a grant and asked that Board members to write letters of support to the PATH Foundation for this initiative. Mr. Cheek asked Ms. Page to be more specific at the next Board meeting as to needs.

Walker Drive – Ms. Semple said she was hoping to come forward next month with a request for funds for hiring a lawyer.

MEMBERSHIP

Mr. Cheek said a membership chair was needed. Ms. Russell explained her role in keeping track of membership. Unceremoniously, Ms. Russell was appointed membership chair by Mr. Cheek.

50th Anniversary – Mr. Lubowsky reported that copies of the history magazine had been distributed to the 50th Anniversary committee for editing and comment. Some of the committee members were concerned about the abrasiveness of the cover photo and did have additions and corrections to the text. A new draft with corrections will be produced in the near future.

Kitty Smith Conservation Award

The reception for Georgia H. Herbert as the recipient of the award will take place on December 5th, 2018 at Hopefield. Ms. Russell will order the crystal vase that will be presented to Ms. Herbert at the event.

The meeting was adjourned at 1:55 P.M.

Respectfully Submitted,

Susan Russell
Secretary