

**FORT LINCOLN CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTOR'S MEETING**

MINUTES

Date: December 16, 2021
Time: 7:00 P.M.
Via: FreeConferenceCall.com

Roy Pearson opened the meeting at 7:01 P.M.

Roll call of Board Members:

PRESENT: Roy Pearson, Pineview Court; Felicia Brown (by proxy), The Jamison at Dakota Crossing; Emma James, Summit Village; Mardjon Hedayati, Reserves at Dakota Crossing; Linda Brooks, Vicksburg Senior Apts.; Parraize Butler (by proxy) Village at Dakota Crossing; Konyka Dunson, Cannon Village; Natalie Carey (by proxy) Dakota Crossing; Dana Johnson (by proxy) Wesley House Senior Apts.; Cynthia Cherry, Hillside II Condos; Lidell Smith (by proxy) Gettysburg Senior Apts.; Antoinette Bobo (by proxy) Petersburg Senior Apts.; Dr. Anita Jones (by proxy) Washington Overlook.

ABSENT: Anthony Hubbard, 35th Street; Curtis Townsend, Maple View Condos; Doris Foreman, Fort Lincoln Senior Building; Lymar Curry, Banneker Ridge.

A quorum was declared.

1. There were *no corrections to the Minutes of November 18, 2021. A motion was made, and seconded, to approve the Minutes.* By unanimous vote of the Board members present, the motion was passed.
2. **Report from the President** - Roy Pearson

Administrative Matter

FLCA ByLaws – On October 25, 2021, an email was widely distributed to Fort Lincoln residents to provide notice that the Fort Lincoln Board of Directors would be considering an Amendment to the ByLaws of the Fort Lincoln Civic Association, Inc. at tonight's Board Meeting. There was an explanation of the purpose of the proposed Amendment in the cover email.

A copy of the ByLaws, in its entirety, including the proposed Amendment, was also attached to a November 13, 2021, email that provided notice of our November 18, 2021, Board Meeting. And it too, was widely circulated to Fort Lincoln residents.

The purpose of the proposed Amendment to the FLCA ByLaws is to address the fact that our current ByLaws only authorize us to meet virtually through the end of January of 2022. Back in April of this year, when we amended the ByLaws to affirmatively authorize us to meet by email, and by video and audio conferencing, Roy Pearson, President thought we were all confident that by January of 2022, Covid-19 would be a thing of the past.

But that has not proven to be the case. And, so, the proposed Amendment is to Article V, Section I of the ByLaws. The first sentence of that section currently states: “Until January 31, 2022 or sooner if the Board decides, in-person meetings of the Fort Lincoln Civic Association shall be suspended.” The proposed Amendment changes that sentence to read: “Until the Board decides otherwise, in-person meetings of the Fort Lincoln Civic Association shall be suspended.”

That Amendment would give the Board the flexibility to, at any time, switch to in-person meetings when Covid-19 permits. And it will also permit us to discuss whether we want to continue the practice of having virtual meetings – even when Covid-19 is not a problem. Just like working from home, meeting by telephone and video has some advantages over having to find a place to meet, get dressed, and walking or driving there for an in-person meeting. And that is particularly true for Board members who are not mobile.

There were no objections to the Amendment. *A motion was made, and seconded, to approve the FLCA ByLaws Amendment.* By unanimous vote of the Board members present, in person and by proxy, the motion was passed.

3. **Report from the Treasurer** – Linda Brooks

The opening balance as November 18, 2021, was Two Thousand Forty-Three And 03/100 Dollars (\$2,543.03). There were no account payable or account receivable transactions during the month of November. **Eight hundred fifty dollars (\$850.00) is earmarked for the Appellate attorney for the Zoning Case.**

4. **Nomination of Chair for Redistricting Committee** – Ms. Konyka Dunson responded to Roy Pearson’s solicitation for members of this special Committee, and he would like to thank her for volunteering. Roy made a motion to nominate Ms. Dunson to chair the Redistricting Committee.

The motion was seconded to confirm Konyka Dunson as Chair of the Redistricting Committee. By unanimous vote of the Board members present, in person and by proxy, the motion was passed.

5. **FLCA Committee Reports** - Roy Pearson indicated that in the interest of time, he requested that all chairpersons submit written Monthly Reports, so they could quickly and orally summarize their reports so the meeting can be devoted to answering any questions or comments by Board Members. And we could also discuss and vote on any proposed Resolutions that the Committees may have submitted.
 - A. **Finance/Fundraising Committee** - The Committee has already prepared a budget that the Board acted on in September. And so, it has no current activities.
 - B. **Planning & Zoning Committee** – Roy Pearson chairs this committee and submitted a report on the progress they have made over the past 30 days in working on the priorities they set two (2) months ago.

One priority is the Board is the Board of Zoning adjustment case that is still pending. We believe that there may never be a decision in that case, for political reasons. Roy Pearson doesn't think that there is a way around the legal objections the FLCA has to the zoning application, so it appears (because it's been a year and a half) the Board of Zoning Adjustment is not going to issue a written decision because they don't want to offend Mayor Bowser.

The second priority involves the potential relocation of Fire Engine Company No. 26 to Fort Lincoln. We voted to adopt a resolution urging that a fire station not to be placed in Fort Lincoln but instead be placed at Bladensburg Road and V Street, N.E., which appears to be an ideal location for it. We also contacted the Woodbridge Civic Association and ANC Commissioner Pierre Hines and ANC Commissioner Jackie Manning asking that their organizations also adopt resolutions supporting the FLCA's resolution. It is difficult to take the prospect seriously because no fire engine company has been constructed in a residential neighborhood in the last 118 years. But FEMA has sent us emails saying that they have considered placing a fire engine station at 31st and Fort Lincoln Drive, next to the Hagans Cultural Center. So we must look into this issue and propose an alternative that makes a lot more sense. We also have emailed the FLCA's resolution to Kenyan McDuffie, to Mayor Bowser, to the Deputy Mayor of Public Safety and Justice, the D.C. Fire Chief, Chair of the D.C. Council Committee on Judiciary and Public Safety.

- C. **Communications Committee** – Roy Pearson submitted a Monthly Report on the activities on the committee which might as well be the Finance/Fundraising Committee because it is charged with using our website to raise funds from all the businesses at the Shops at Dakota Crossing and many of the businesses along

Bladensburg Road, Rhode Island Avenue, New York Avenue. This month we began reaching out to almost 100 businesses along those corridors and requesting anything from Two Hundred (\$200.00) up to Three Thousand Dollars (\$3,000.00) from businesses at the Shops at Dakota Crossing. For some it will be a charitable contribution and a \$3,000.00 contribution will reduce their adjustable gross income (AGI) by \$3,000.00. We will be following up for the remainder of this month. It's a lot of work having to send, and follow up, one hundred (100) letters to individual businesses.

We have nine (9) volunteers working on that tremendous task. We hope to get the letters out by the end of this month so by in January we hope that we are in position to determine how much funding we can expect from them. It takes a while to get a clearance from the Regional Director, then who has to get from this person and so sometimes it takes quite a while. We had hoped to begin this process in the Fall rather than in December.

We have received from one of our solicitations a charitable donation of Four Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$4,000.00). However, there are a lot of strings attached to that donation. We would basically have to turn our website over to the Menkiti Group and the CMPG Foundation and put their name on every page of our website. And we would have to permit them to supervise whoever we selected to construct the website. The Committee voted to not accepted all of those conditions, at least not until we have exhausted all of our efforts to obtain money that does not have crippling conditions attached to it. The CMPG Foundation agreed to wait until we decide whether or not to accept all of their conditions.

- D. Roads, Grounds and Recreation Committee** – This Committee submitted a three-and one-half page report about its four priorities. One priority involves lobbying for additional exits from the Shops at Dakota Crossing. The other involves monitoring of construction of this new building to replace the old elementary school and the improvement of Fort Lincoln Park and the Hagans Cultural Center. There has been a lot of activities in both of those regards and Roy Pearson refers you to the Committee report for the details about that. We think that the additional exits, by the way, are going to be made possible by all of the infrastructure money that was approved by Congress last month. Congress have approved One Trillion, Two Million and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,000,200,000,000.00). Three Billion and 00/100 Dollars (\$3,000,000,000.00) of that amount is coming to the District of Columbia, over the next five years, so Roy thinks it is a pretty good bet that additional exits will be funded and built.

Bus Routes – Additional money will also be coming for funding for Metro and the Committee will decide whether they want to support expanding bus service to improve the B8, B9 or expand the route of the H6.

- Bike Trail/Bike Connection** - For years a connection has been talked about between the Anacostia bike trail and a Fort Lincoln bike trail. And there should be some consideration from the Committee as to whether or not to continue to support that. Parraize Butler is on the Bicycle Advisory Committee for the District of Columbia, and he said there is money in the budget for it and construction should begin in early 2022. It will be a great recreation source for residents of Fort Lincoln.
- E. **Education and Youth Committee** – Ms. Cherry, who chairs the committee, said they identified a homeless child at Friendship Charter/Woodridge and purchased all the gifts on her Christmas list. Also, Ms. Cherry wants to reach out to persons who are interested in joining her committee. Please contact Ms. Cherry to help with the Committee endeavors.
- F. **Public Health Committee** – There were a number of health-related announcements. A number of senior buildings arranged to have a health clinic to come out to administer Covid and Covid booster shots at their buildings. Costco at 2441 Market Street, N.E, Washington, D.C. 20018, phone: (202) 269-8549, is conducting Covid testing and administering Covid vaccines and Covid booster shots. The Walgreens on Rhode Island Avenue, N.E. has drive-thru Covid testing and a pharmacy.
- G. **Public Safety & Emergency Management Services Committee** – The Committee submitted a report which focuses on criminal incidents specific to Fort Lincoln; something you cannot find online. In that way we can begin to track what kind of criminal incidents repeat themselves and also what areas they are concentrated in. So, Felicia Brown, Chair, of the Committee listed the incidents in her monthly report. She gets a report in writing from Sgt Grubbs of the 5th District of incidents that have occurred in the preceding 30 days and so she has listed them in her report for reference. She also includes other public safety related events citywide, and you can only find in her report only things specific to Fort Lincoln.
- H. **Redistricting Committee** – Roy Pearson actually compiled the Monthly Report of the first Redistricting Committee, and now Konyka Dunson will take over as newly appointed Chair of this Committee. There was a D.C. Council vote on Ward boundaries on December 7, 2021. If you look at the map attached to the report, the redistricting does change the proposed map of Ward 5 and the old Soldier's Home on North Capitol and Harewood. There is a question whether or not the Soldier's Home will remain in Ward 5 or go over to Ward 1. So that has been an issue, and Konyka said she needs to find out why. Kenyan McDuffie has actually voted against the proposed Ward redistricting because he wants the Soldier home to stay in Ward 5. The redistricting rules focus on balancing populations and demographics, but there is not actually any population in the Soldier's Home. And so there is concern over the motivations for wanting to move the Soldier's Home from Ward 5 to Ward 1. There

is some speculation that there is some developer interest in the Soldier's Home. Konyka said that she is going to have to follow up and look into the implications for Ward 5. There will be a second, and final, vote on December 21st. There is a Ward Task Force that is spelled out in the timeline that Roy has discussed in the Monthly Report and there will be an opportunity for input. Fort Lincoln now has one (1) ANC member and more than likely that will increase to two (2) ANCs. ANC persons usually represents about 2,000 people so, and Fort Lincoln has over 4,000 people. So, we would likely be broken into two ANCs and that will affect Fort Lincoln, and there will be two ANC persons for this region.

6. New Business

Homeowner's Funding

Annual Contributions from Housing Clusters – Michael Berryhill, a representative from Dakota Crossing, sat in for Natalie Carey. Natalie Carey submitted a proposal and Michael Berryhill made a presentation regarding homeowner's ability and willingness of each community to contribute an annual amount to the FLCA's budget. Natalie believes Dakota Crossing will be willing and able to do so. Natalie proposes that each community pay a certain amount per lot. If they were to pay Five and 00/100 Dollars (\$5.00) per household, Dakota Crossing will contribute One Thousand and 00/100 Dollars (\$1,000.00) per year. And with 17 communities chipping in we wouldn't have to rely on fundraising as much to operate. And we can do more with money obtained from the current budget to lobby for the things we want.

This proposal directly impacts 19 Fort Lincoln townhomes and condominiums. And so, as a member of the Finance/Fundraising Committee, Ms. Carey will coordinate representatives of those 9 housing clusters approaching their Board of Directors to obtain their agreement to this funding proposal. We need to know, before our next Board Meeting, whether we can count on financial support from those housing clusters. If not, at our next Board meeting, we will have to vote on whether to accept outside funding with the restrictions that go with that.

FLCA Logos – Fort Lincoln now have 17 housing clusters which are comprised of townhomes, single family homes and apartment buildings. Emma James has been updating our logo for the FLCA. The Committee and then the Board should approve the final design of the logo. Emma will have a couple of different options from which to choose. There was one displayed in the Communications Committee report. And we will be able to decide which one to go with at a future Board of Director's Meeting.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 P.M.