

**FORT LINCOLN CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.**

**BOARD OF DIRECTORS**

**MINUTES**

Date: October 21, 2021  
Time: 7:00 P.M.  
Via: FreeConferenceCall.com

Roy Pearson opened the meeting at 7:03 P.M.

**Roll Call of Board Members:**

**PRESENT:** Roy Pearson, Pineview Court; Felicia Brown, The Jamison at Dakota Crossing; Emma James, Summit Village; Adalis Morales, Reserves at Dakota Crossing; Linda Brooks, Vicksburg Senior Apts; Parraize Butler, Village at Dakota Crossing; Konyka Dunson, Cannon Village; Natalie Carey, Dakota Crossing

**ABSENT:** Dana Johnson, Wesley House Senior Apts; Anthony Hubbard, 35<sup>th</sup> Street; Dante Richardson, Dakota Crossing; Cynthia Cherry, Hillside II Condos; Curtis Townsend, Maple View Condos; Lidell Smith, Gettysburg Senior Apts.; Antoinette Bobo, Petersburg Senior Apts.; Doris Foreman, Fort Lincoln Senior Building; Lymar Curry, Banneker Ridge; Dr. Anita Jones, Washington Overlook.

A quorum was declared.

1. There were no corrections to the Minutes of September 16, 2021. A motion was made, and seconded, to approve the Minutes. By unanimous vote of the Board members present, the motion was passed.
2. There were no corrections to the Minutes of September 23-October 1, 2021, when the Board met by email and invited nominations for the position of Treasurer and elected Linda Brooks, by unanimous vote on those voting, to the position of Treasurer. A motion was made, and seconded, to approve the Minutes. By unanimous vote of the Board members present, the motion was passed.
3. **Report from the President** – Roy Pearson

**Administrative Matters**

A. Proposed Amendment To Bylaws

Before the Board Meeting in November President Pearson will be circulating a proposed Amendment to the FCLA bylaws to address the fact that our current Bylaws only affirmatively authorizes the Board to meet virtually through January 2022. In April 2021, the Board amended the bylaws to affirmatively authorize it to meet by email, and by video and audio conference. The Board was confident that by January 2022 Covid-19 would be a thing of the past, but this has not proven to be the case. Accordingly, President Pearson will be proposing an Amendment 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.” Next month President Pearson will propose that we amend that sentence to read: **Until the Board decides otherwise**, in-person meetings of the Fort Lincoln Civic Association shall be suspended.”

The proposed 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 the Board to discuss and decide whether it wants to continue the practice of having virtual meetings – even when Covid-19 is not a problem. President Pearson noted that 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 to a location for an in-person meeting. And that is particularly true for Board members, and Fort Lincoln residents, who are not mobile. So, he encouraged Board members to give the proposed amendment some thought, to consult with each other and their neighbors about it, and the Board will take a vote at our November meeting on whether to continue virtual meetings past January 2022.

B. D.C. Council Redistricting Process

The D.C. Council has begun a redistricting process and will be drawing new boundary lines for all 8 Wards in the city, as well as drawing new boundary lines for the ANCs and Single Member Districts (SMDs) in the city. Those boundaries lines are re-drawn to reflect population changes in the city.

The last redistricting took place 20 years ago. In 2001, Fort Lincoln had a smaller population that it does now. And, so, instead of having 1-1/2 Commissioners, it looks like Fort Lincoln, by itself, will have as many as 3 ANC Commissioners, because of our increased population. And that will give Fort Lincoln residents a lot more voting power in whatever Advisory Neighborhood Commission we are part of.

As President, Roy Pearson thinks it would be advisable to form a Special Committee to educate ourselves, and the Fort Lincoln community on Redistricting – particularly as it relates to the boundaries for ANCs, and SMDs, because that is the part of the redistricting that will directly affect Fort Lincoln. In terms of the timeline, the

Council will be focused on re-drawing Ward Boundaries until early next year. After they complete that process, they will then turn to re-drawing ANC and SMD boundaries.

And by then, we want ourselves and this community to be educated, and ready to engage, to ensure that we get as many SMDs drawn within Fort Lincoln as possible.

***President Pearson asked that Board members let him know if they wish to be a part of this Special Committee on Redistricting.*** There really won't be much to do except read and educate ourselves over the next six (6) months or so.

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

The opening balance was	\$1,874.08	as of October 1, 2021
	850.00	received from Summit Court for Appellate attorney
	\$2,724.08	
	<100.00>	Catherine Taylor for email
	<141.05>	Roy Pearson for postage, email
	\$2,583.03	Balance as of October 16, 2021
	=====	

5. A special **THANK YOU** goes out to Linda Brooks for stepping up and offering to serve in the capacity of Treasurer.

6. **Nomination of Board Member for Dakota Crossing.** The biographical portion of Natalie Carey's resume was read out aloud by Roy Pearson because she was not able to attend the Board meeting due to a pre-existing overseas work obligation she had. Ms. Carey, who is the newly elected President of the Homeowners Association for Dakota Crossing, has nominated herself to replace Dante Richardson as the representative of Dakota Crossing, who will resign effective with her election. ***A motion was made to second*** her nomination and by acclamation Ms. Carey was elected to represent Dakota Crossing for the remainder of Mr. Richardson's term.

7. **Nomination of Board Member for Cannon Village.** Konyka Dunson introduced herself and summarized her background and talked about what motivated her to volunteer to complete Courtney Williams' terms as the representative of Cannon Village. ***A motion was made to second*** her nomination and by acclamation Ms. Dunson was elected to represent Cannon Village for the remainder of Mr. Williams' term.

8. **Nomination of Chairpersons of 2 Committees**

A. Finance/Fundraising Committee

The major responsibility of this committee is to prepare and recommend a budget in September of each year (which has already been done). Mr. Pearson made a motion to confirm his nomination of Linda Brooks, to chair this committee by acclamation. The motion was seconded and Linda Brooks was elected by acclamation to the position of Chair of the Finance/Fundraising Committee.

B. Social Committee

This is a Special Committee that has not previously existed, so the bylaws do not specify what the committee is supposed to do. Because of the \$39 Million Dollars being invested in revamping the Hagans Cultural Center, Fort Lincoln Park and a Social Center, there are going to be tremendous opportunities for community-bonding events – first outdoors, and then indoors as well. Roy Pearson made a motion to confirm his nomination of Natalie Carey, to chair this committee, by acclamation. Natalie Carey was nominated and elected by acclamation to the position of Chair of the Social Committee.

**9. Committee Reports**

President Pearson has requested that the Chairperson of each FLCA committees submit a written Monthly Report prior to our monthly Board meeting so that we can devote Board meeting time to comments and questions, and to also vote on any proposed resolutions. Each Chair will be asked to summarize their report before comments and questions are invited, and a vote on any proposed resolutions are taken.

A. Finance/Fundraising Committee

This Committee has already prepared a budget that the Board acted on last month, and it has no current activities to report on.

B. Planning & Zoning Committee

Roy Pearson, Chair, summarized the Planning & Zoning Committee's written monthly report on the progress the committee has made over the past thirty (30) days in working on the priorities established by the committee in June 2021.

1. The status of the zoning case, in which the FLCA is a party, has not changed.
2. Chairman Pearson submitted a proposed Resolution regarding a study being undertaken by the D.C. Fire and Emergency Medicine department to determine whether Fire Engine Company No. 26 should be moved from 1340 Rhode Island

Avenue, N.E. to the 2-3 acre park space next to the Hagans Cultural Center. The Committee inquired into the matter and concluded that a better option would be to place the fire station on a nearby commercial corridor (Bladensburg Road, N.E.), so that residents of Fort Lincoln would not be disturbed by fire truck sirens, particularly at night. *All of the fire stations that have been built in the District of Columbia over the last 118 years have been placed on commercial corridors and not in the middle of a residential neighborhood.* In this case, the site next to the Hagans Cultural Center is also a historic site – it was one of the forts during the Civil War, which is the major reason this community was named “Fort Lincoln.” Roy Pearson made a motion to approve a proposed FLCA Resolution 2101-1, that would urge that the fire engine company be placed on the southwest corner of Bladensburg Road & Eastern Avenue, N.E., and not next to the Hagans Cultural Center. The motion was seconded. However, the motion was then amended, and that amendment was seconded to hold the record open, and the vote on the motion open, until October 28, 2021. By unanimous vote of the Board members present, the motion was passed. On October 28, 2021, by 5:00 P.M., Board members will submit their vote on the proposed Resolution by email. **[After the meeting, however, President Pearson reviewed the FLCA bylaws and concluded that they do not permit Board members who were not present for a Board meeting to vote as if they had been present for the Board meeting. And so this motion dies and a new motion will be necessary at the upcoming November 18, 2020 FLCA Board meeting.]**

#### C. Communications Committee

Roy Pearson, Chair, summarized the Communication Committee’s written monthly report on the progress the committee has made over the past thirty (30) days in working on the priorities established by the committee in June 2021. They are; (1) designing and funding a website, and writing and collecting content for the website and (2) soliciting charitable contributions from business that will ensure ongoing funding for the website and the priorities of the FLCA’s eleven committees.

**Collecting Content & Designing and Funding The Website.** To supply photos and information for the website, the Committee has asked *each* of the 17 apartment buildings, housing developments and single family homes in and contiguous to Fort Lincoln to contribute to their own page on the 40-page website. Simultaneously, to obtain seed money to retain a website developer and host for the website, over the past 30 days the Communications Committee targeted three entities: (1) Premium Distributors, (2) The Menkiti Group and (3) ANC 5C. Despite its past support for the FLCA, Premium Distributors abruptly stopped communicating with the committee after initially appearing receptive to our funding request. The Menkiti Group is expected to take a final vote on our grant application in November. ANC 5C, which opposes us in a zoning case, has so far refused to even place our grant application on

its Agenda for consideration. The Communications Committee is attempting to urge our SMD 5C03 Commissioner, Pierre Hines, to have our application placed on the ANC 5C Agenda and voted on. He certainly has that power.

**Soliciting Charitable Contributions From Businesses.** To demonstrate the value that the FLCA has to the businesses at The Shops at Dakota Crossing, the FLCA (through its Roads, Grounds & Recreation Committee) co-authored a letter to the D.C. Council and the Mayor requesting that \$2 million dollars of the anticipated \$600+ million in tax revenue that will be generated by The Shops, be used to construct a third exit from The Shops at Dakota Crossing. A 3<sup>rd</sup> exit would be a win-win for the businesses at The Shops, Fort Lincoln residents and D.C. residents all over the city. The D.C. Federation of Civic enthusiastically co-signed the letter for that reason. The Communications Committee assisted in that effort by collecting email addresses for all businesses at The Shops at Dakota Crossing.

Having demonstrated the FLCA's value to the business community, Communication committee members will complete the process of collecting email address from select businesses along Bladensburg Road, select businesses along New York Avenue, and a handful of businesses on Rhode Island Avenue, N.E. and H Street, N.E. The final step will be emailing (and following up) form letters to all 85 business for whom we have email addresses, seeking charitable contributions. Charitable contributions are tax deductible, and will be recognized by placing each donors business logo on the Home Page of the FLCA website. By clicking on their logo, visitors to the FLCA website will be taken to the businesses' own website.

Emailing, and following up, 85 form letters will require the participation of all Board members (and community volunteers) who have computers and email addresses.

D. Education Committee

Cynthia Cherry chairs the Education Committee. The Education Committee has combined forces with the Youth Committee and, so, is still identifying its priorities for the coming nine months present.

E. Youth Committee

Dr. Anita Jones chairs the Youth Committee. The Youth Committee has combined forces with the Education Committee and, so, is still identifying its priorities for the coming nine months present.

F. Roads, Grounds, and Recreation Committee

Roy Pearson has been Acting Chair of the Roads, Grounds, and Recreation Committee pending the nomination of a permanent Chairperson. Acting chairman Pearson submitted a monthly report regarding the 3<sup>rd</sup> Exit from the Shops at Dakota

and monitoring construction of the campus recreation center on Fort Lincoln Drive and monitoring bus service to Fort Lincoln. The Committee sent a letter to Councilmember McDuffie and the D.C. Council requesting that construction of a 3<sup>rd</sup> Exit from the Shops at Dakota Crossing be made a priority because of the over \$600 Million Dollars cash revenue it is projected to generate over the next thirty (30) years.

G. Public Health Committee

This Committee did not have a Chairperson during the preceding 30 days, and so did not submit a written report. Natalie Carey have volunteered to serve on this committee.

H. Public Health & Safety Committee

Felicia Brown, Chair, submitted a written monthly report with the assistance of President Pearson. It identified three priorities for the committee.

I. Senior Affairs Committee

Linda Brooks, Chair, reported that she has run into considerable difficulty in recruiting members for this committee. However, she will persevere.

J. Social Committee

Natalie Carey was nominated and confirmed to chair the FLCA's Social Committee. She and her committee members will inherit some 15 potential priorities that President Pearson listed in an October monthly report, based on his survey of the activities of other civic association Social Committees in the District of Columbia – and particularly that of The Parks at Walter Reed in northwest Washington, D.C.

**10. New Business**

- A. Adalis Morales, who represents the Reserves at Dakota Crossing, announced that she will be moving from the area soon and that the Board of Directors of the Homeowners Association for the Reserves at Dakota Crossing will be nominating a replacement for her.
- B. We are now sending meeting notices to **Kelley Cislo**, The Constituent Services Director for Councilmember McDuffie, and to **Kyla Woods**, Mayor's Office of Community Relations and Services who has been assigned to Fort Lincoln. We have encouraged them to reach out to any of our Committee Chairpersons if they believe they can be of assistance with any of the priorities that each of our committees have identified, and that our ten (10) committees report on each month.

- C. The Public Safety Committee emailed **Community Outreach Officer, Arnita Hamilton**, a request to provide us with a written monthly report of criminal incidents within Fort Lincoln boundaries during the preceding thirty (30) days. Community Outreach Officers serve as liaisons between the community and the Police Department, and one of their specific duties is to monitor crime and arrest data to make the community they serve aware of crime trends.

The meeting adjourned at 8:03 P.M.