

**FORT LINCOLN CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC.
BOARD OF DIRECTORS MEETING**

MINUTES

Date: February 17, 2022
Time: 7:00 P.M.
Via: FreeConferenceCall.com

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

Roll call of Board Members:

PRESENT: Roy Pearson, Pineview Court; Dr. Anita Jones (by proxy), Washington Overlook Apartments; Linda Brooks (by proxy)¹, Vicksburg Senior Apartments; Emma James, Summit Village; Mardjon Hedayati, Reserves at Dakota Crossing; Parraize Butler, Village at Dakota Crossing; Natalie Carey (by proxy), Dakota Crossing; Linda Frances Johnson, Gettysburg Senior Apartments; Konyka Dunson, Cannon Village; Cynthia Cherry (by proxy), Hillside II Condos;

ABSENT: Felicia Brown, The Jamison at Dakota Crossing; Dana Johnson, Wesley Senior House Apartments; Anthony Hubbard, 35th Street; Curtis Townsend, Maple View Condos; Mary James, Fort Lincoln Senior Building; Lymar Curry, Banneker Ridge; Dorena Jackson, Petersburg Apartments.

A quorum was declared.

1. A draft of the Minutes of January 20, 2022 was circulated in advance of the Board meeting. It did not include a summary of the oral committee reports provided by the Social Committee (through Natalie Carey), the Education Committee (through Dr. Anita Jones), or the Special Committee on Redistricting (through Konyka Dunson) on January 20, 2022. Those committee chairpersons or members were requested to, as soon as possible, provide a written summary of their oral committee report of January 20, 2022, so that the Minutes of January 20, 2022 can be finalized and circulated for final Board review and a vote of approval by email.

¹ President Pearson noted that one of the proxies he held was from FLCA Treasurer, Linda Brooks, who has been at the Washington Hospital Center since February 1st, and who underwent surgery on February 15th. It is not yet known when Ms. Brooks will be discharged. Board members who would like to send Ms. Brooks a get-well card, can simply address it to Linda Brooks, care of the Washington Hospital Center, 110 Irving Street, N.W. Or, if they know how to attach a “get well” GIF to a text message, Ms. Brooks’ cell phone number is: (202) 704-5321. In addition to serving the FLCA as its treasurer, Linda chairs the FLCA’s Senior Affairs committee, she is the President of the Tenants’ Association at the Vicksburg Apartments, and for many years she has championed the interests of seniors throughout the Fort Lincoln community.

2. **Report from the President** - Roy Pearson

100th Anniversary Luncheon of the D.C. Federation of Civic Associations - President Pearson reported that The D.C. Federation Of Civic Associations is having its 100th anniversary luncheon on Saturday, June 8, 2022, at 11 a.m., at Joint Base Anacostia. [it used to be called Bolling Air Force Base]. Individual tickets are \$65.00 apiece. A table, for 8 persons, if paid in a lump sum, will be discounted to \$455.00. That means 8 board members would only have to pay \$56.89 each, and that would cover the cost of a table at the event. The leading nominee to be named to the current vacancy on the U.S. Supreme Court, U.S. District Court judge Judge Ketanji Brown Jackson, has been extended an invitation to be the Keynote Speaker.

President Pearson explained that, in addition to commemorating the 100th anniversary of the Federation, this is, also, a fundraiser for the D.C. Federation Of Civic Associations. The FLCA belongs to the Federation because it means that, if necessary, we can call on the support of 20 other civic associations, from every quadrant of the city, when we lobby the Mayor, The D.C. Council, or D.C. Agencies.

Ticket must be purchased by the 4th week of May. And so those interested should have their payment of \$56.89, each, to the FLCA treasurer by our May board meeting on May 19th. Linda Brooks can then write a check for \$455.00, and mail it, to the D.C. Federation in time to meet their May 27th deadline.

3. **Report from the Treasurer** - The opening balance, on January 20, 2022, was \$2,644.03.

The following disbursements were made:

Check #1006, U.S. Postal Service . . .	\$216.00
Check #1007, D.C. Fed. of Civ. Assoc.	\$50.00

As a result, the current balance is: **\$2,378.03**.²

(In accordance with FLCA Resolution No. 2022-1, the Treasurer sought to dispute the \$216.00 P.O. Box fee (which represented a 50% increase over the charge for 2021) insisted upon by the U.S. Postal Service. However, the local post office at 3178 Bladensburg Road, N.E. was unable to deviate from the amount due shown on its records. Their only explanation was that the increase took effect on January 1, 2022, for all P.O. Box payments made on or after that date.)

4. **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

² Eight hundred fifty dollars (\$850.00) of this amount is earmarked for payment of appellate attorneys' fees, should they prove necessary, in the case of *In Re: Fort Lincoln-Eastern Avenue, LLC*, BZA Case No. 20184.

and orally summarize their reports so that meeting time can be devoted to answering any questions or comments by Board Members. And it would also permit focused discussion and votes on any proposed Resolutions that the Committees may have submitted.

A. **Finance/Fundraising Committee** – There was no supplementation of the committee’s previous month’s report. The previous month, Board member Natalie Carey had proposed securing funding for not only the FLCA website, but the FLCA’s operations generally, at least in part from those Fort Lincoln housing developments that can include a yearly contribution in their budgets. They would likely be: (1) The Reserves at Dakota Crossing, (2) The Village at Dakota Crossing, (3) Pineview Court (although not necessarily this year, because they are adversaries in zoning litigation with the FLCA), (4) Summit Court Condominiums, (5) Banneker Ridge, (6) Dakota Crossing, (7) Maple View Condos, (8) Hillside Condominiums and (9) Dakota Crossing.

The committee then set two target dates:

February 16, 2022: For contacting, and receiving financial commitments, from as many of the 9 townhomes and condominiums in Fort Lincoln, as possible.

March 17, 2022: For receiving donations from as many of the 8 condo and HOA Boards as possible.

B. **Planning and 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 three (3) months ago.

One priority is the Board of Zoning Adjustment case, *In Re: Fort Lincoln-Eastern Avenue, LLC*, BZA Case No. 20184, that is still pending. It appears likely the BZA will not issue a ruling because it would have to rule against the developer, who has the support of the District of Columbia government. Most members of the BZA are appointed by the Mayor.

The second priority involves the potential relocation of Fire Engine Company No. 26 to Fort Lincoln. The committee has not, yet, received a response from the Fire Department to FLCA Resolution No. 2021-1, which detailed our objections to that possibility, and made the case for relocating Fire Engine Company No. 26 to the intersection of Bladensburg Road & V Street, N.E., instead.

C. **Communications Committee** – The Committee submitted a monthly status report on the three (3) major activities identified as its priorities for the balance of this term.

1. **FLCA Website Content and Design** – The Committee has identified Board members with whom to divide up the groundwork that will be necessary, and now the Committee has nine (9) Board members, and one (1) community volunteer. Additionally, all FLCA Board members will be asked to contribute to the page for their respective apartment building, housing cluster, or the single-family homes along 35th Street.

2. **FLCA Fundraising for And Through Website** – The committee had been offered a \$4,000.00 grant, by the CPMG Foundation, to fund the design of an FLCA website. However, the grant came with three, very compromising, conditions. As a result, the committee set for itself the goal, last month, of dividing up more than 100 businesses to solicit for funds that will be recognized by placing the businesses’ logo on the Home Page of the planned website. A target date of February 17th had been set for sending a form letter, and making a follow up phone call to each such business. In addition, Felicia Brown agreed to send out letters offering advertising on the FLCA website to 22 targeted political candidates, by that same date.

Because most Committee member had not sent out their letters by February 17th, the Committee considered whether to accept the \$4,000.00 grant, or to pursue one of four alternatives to its acceptance. On the afternoon of February 17th the committee voted to recommend that the full Board reject the grant and accept an alternative proposed by committee member, Natalie Carey. That alternative was incorporated into a Resolution and presented to the full Board for a vote:

* * * * *

FORT LINCOLN CIVIC ASSOCIATION, INC. RESOLUTION NO. 2022-2

Whereas, on September 16, 2021, the Fort Lincoln Civic Association, Inc. (“FLCA”) voted to adopt a budget that allocated \$5,000.00 for the design and launch of a community website; and

Whereas, to date, the Communications Committee has raised \$1,100.00 to that end, with a target date of March 31, 2022 for launching the website; and

Whereas, the FLCA has been offered a grant of \$4,000.00 by the CPMG Foundation (the philanthropic arm of The Menkiti Group) to fund the website, but only if the FLCA agrees to: (1) ensure that the CPMG Foundation is “connected with your web designer to ensure production of the site will begin immediately and with great quality & care,” (2) provide “weekly updates regarding the progress of the website with visual snapshots of how it is coming along,” and (3) place the Menkiti Group & CPMG Foundation logos (with hyperlinks that connect visitors to their sites) on every page of the website, with wording indicating that the web-site is powered by The Menkiti Group & the CPMG Foundation; and

Whereas, with additional time the Communications Committee believes it will be able to raise at least an additional \$2,900.00 in *unrestricted* funds from surrounding businesses, political candidates and/or ANC 5C, for a total of at least \$4,000.00 in unrestricted funds; and

Whereas, the Dakota Crossing Board of Directors is willing to lend the FLCA \$2,900.00 (at 0% interest), and that amount, coupled with the \$1,100.00 the FLCA already has in its bank account, would total \$4,000.00, which Eyeth Studios has said it will accept in full payment for designing and launching a high quality website for the FLCA by March 31st; **IT IS THEREFORE**

RESOLVED, that the Fort Lincoln Civic Association, Inc., by vote of its Board of Directors on February ____, 2022, concludes that:

1. The CPMG Foundation should be advised that the FLCA has declined its grant of \$4,000.00 because of the conditions that come with it. However, the FLCA invites either the CPMG Foundation or The Menkiti Group to provide a grant of \$1,000.00, each, which will be acknowledged by placing their respective logos on the Home Page, and one other page, of the FLCA website for a period of one year; and

2. The Dakota Crossing Board of Directors should be advised that the FLCA accepts its offer of a loan in the amount of \$2,900.00, at zero percent interest, with the understanding that: (a) the FLCA’s Communications Committee will continue to solicit businesses, political candidates, and ANC 5C for funding for the website and other FLCA operating expenses, and (b) that the first \$2,900.00 that is raised will go to reimburse the Dakota Crossing Board of Directors in satisfaction of its loan to the FLCA.

Voted On And Approved by the Fort Lincoln Civic Association,
Inc. Board of Directors on this ____ day of February, 2022.

* * * *

After a spirited discussion the proposed Resolution was approved by a vote of 6-2 (with 2 abstentions).

3. **Updating the Logo for the FLCA** – Last month, Board member Emma James volunteered to develop an updated logo for the FLCA that would replace the logo that was adopted in 2013 when there were only 13 and not 17 housing developments existing and participating in the FLCA. Ms. James prepared a wide range of potential logos, with various kinds of cannons and scenes of Fort Lincoln shown. The Communications Committee recommended the top two vote getters to the full Board for a final vote. After a spirited discussion there was a 4-4 tie vote, which sent the issue back to the Communications Committee for reconsideration.

Board member, Parraize Butler, then made a motion to request that Ms. James email all the potential logos that had been considered by the Communications Committee to all Board members. That motion was unanimously approved by all Board members present.

D. Education & Youth Committee - This combined Committee submitted a monthly report that identified its four (4) priorities: (1) lobbying to ensure that space is reserved in the planned Fort Lincoln Community Center for an “Education & Resource Center; (2) identifying a family in need; (3) utilizing social media, such as the current Fort Lincoln Facebook page, to provide information on Youth and Education activities and to increase community support and involvement with them; and (4) consider partnering with Ariel Stephens to expand the Bookbag/School Project giveaway she pioneered during the summer of 2021.

- E. **Roads, Grounds and Recreation Committee** – This Committee submitted a monthly report with update about its four (4) priorities.
1. Lobbying for Additional Exits from Shops at Dakota Crossing – The committee identified three steps that will be necessary to have the D.C. Council appropriate funds for, and approve, additional exits from the Shops at Dakota Crossing, which in turn will ease congestion in and around the Fort Lincoln community.
 2. Monitoring Construction of the Fort Lincoln Campus – More than THIRTY-NINE MILLION AND 00/100 DOLLARS (\$39,000,000.00) has been approved for major construction and/or improvement of everything in and around the old Thurgood Marshall Elementary School. The Committee reached out to the Department of Parks and Recreation (DPR) in an effort to ensure that plans and planning is shared with the FLCA and that steady progress is made toward a groundbreaking and construction.

Because the DPR has not yet gotten final approval for the design of the Community Center there is still time for the FLCA to have an impact. The committee therefore urges the FLCA to work with all of the Fort Lincoln housing developments around a single set of priorities in the coming months. The directly affected FLCA committees include: (1) Senior Affairs Committee, (2) Roads, Grounds and Recreation Committee, (3) Youth Committee, (4) Education Committee and the (5) Social Committee. Those committees have been urged to draw up a list of priorities for the FLCA Board to approve, so that as an organization we can engage with DPR to ensure that the planned programming and space will meet the evolving needs of the Fort Lincoln community (and provide an office for the Fort Lincoln Civic Association, Inc.).

3. Monitoring Bus Routes – The committee sought to determine whether residents of The Jamison Apartments, in particular, were interested in having the H6 bus service extended so that it stops in front of The Jamison Apartments. However, no feedback was provided by the February 15, 2022 deadline for submission of comments to WMATA.
 4. Bike Trail/Bike Connection – Through his membership on the D.C. Bicycle Advisory Committee, Parraize Butler will be providing updates. Thus far, there are no plans for a bike path through Fort Lincoln.
- F. **Public Safety and Emergency Management Committee** – The Committee submitted a monthly report on the criminal incidents reported in the Fort Lincoln vicinity, during the past 30 days, with the information provided by Sgt. Harrison Grubbs of the 5th District MPD. There were 18 criminal incidents over the past 30

days. They included only the second homicide in Fort Lincoln’s history, which took place in the 3800 block of CBJ Drive on January 21, 2022; there was a robbery of the 7Eleven on Bladensburg Road, that resulted in an arrest; there were nine (9) thefts from various retail stores; there was a burglary at the UPS store at The Shops at Dakota Crossing on January 28, 2022; five (5) thefts from autos, a robbery at the Shell Gas Station at 2350 South Dakota Avenue, N.E. , and three (3) thefts from private residences

The D.C. Office of Victim Service and Just Grants has established a rebate program for residents, nonprofits and business. The program will reimburse the purchase of security cameras, in an amount up to \$500.00.

D.C. residents can pick up two free N95 masks per day at any of the seven (7) COVID centers now open across D.C. The centers also offer free vaccinations, boosters, rapid tests and PCR tests. In Ward 5, the COVID center is located at 22350 Washington Place, N.E., Suite 105-N, 10 a.m.-8 p.m.

G. Special Committee on Redistricting – Ward 5 Councilmember Kenyan McDuffie has formed a committee to propose new ANC and Single Member District boundaries for Ward 5. The members of the committee are identified on Councilmember McDuffie’s website. All of its meetings are streamed live. The next meeting is scheduled for February 22nd and the meetings will continue through March 22, 2022.

5. **New Business** – Congratulations were extended to FLCA Board Member, Konyka Dunson, on the recent publication of her book, “Sacred & Overflowing: A 30 Day Devotion To The Woman God Called You To Be.” It can purchased for yourself, and the women in your life, at: konykadunson.com/ It is another testament to the talent and skill that exists among Fort Lincoln residents.

The meeting adjourned at 8:20 P.M.