

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

**MINUTES**

Date: March 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)<sup>1</sup>, Washington Overlook Apartments; Linda Brooks (by proxy), Vicksburg Senior Apartments; Emma James, Summit Village; Mardjon Hedayati, Reserves at Dakota Crossing; Parraize Butler, Village at Dakota Crossing; Linda Frances Johnson, Gettysburg Senior Apartments; Mary James, Fort Lincoln Senior Building; Konyka Dunson (by proxy), Cannon Village.

**ABSENT:** Natalie Carey, Dakota Crossing (by proxy); Cynthia Cherry, Hillside II Condos; Felicia Brown, The Jamison at Dakota Crossing; Dana Johnson, Wesley Senior House Apartments; Anthony Hubbard, 35<sup>th</sup> Street; Curtis Townsend, Maple View Condos; Lymar Curry, Banneker Ridge; Dorena Jackson, Petersburg Apartments.

A quorum was declared.

1. A draft of the Minutes of February 17, 2022 was circulated in advance of the March Board meeting on February 18, 2022 and as an Attachment to the Agenda sent out on March 10, 2022. A motion to accept the Minutes was made and seconded. The motion was passed unanimously by all Board members present.
2. **Report from the President** - Roy Pearson

**Request For Meeting With Two D.C. Agency Directors In April 2022.** - President Pearson reported that the Mayor's Ward 5 Coordinator reached out to him, personally, on March 8, 2022, to offer to have up to 3 different D.C. agency Directors appear to explain their agency's section of the Mayor's proposed 2023 budget. Because two of the FLCA's

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<sup>1</sup> President Pearson noted that one of the proxies he held was from FLCA Vice-President, Dr. Anita Jones. Mr. Pearson explained that Dr. Jones lost her daughter and the funeral for her daughter was the same day as the Board meeting. He encouraged Board members to express their condolences to Dr. Jones in whatever way they could. Needless to say, the death of a child is something you never fully recover from. Dr. Jones expressed to President Pearson her appreciation for the support of Board member, Cynthia Cherry, in particular.

highest priorities are: (1) the planned community center in Fort Lincoln park, and (2) additional exits from the Shops at Dakota Crossing, Mr. Pearson wrote back the same day to request that the Director of Parks & Recreation and the Director of the Department of Transportation appear before two of the FLCA's committees.

Mr. Pearson does not think it was a coincidence that on March 9th Brent Sisco of the Department of Parks & Recreation sent out an email announcing there would be a community meeting on the planned community center in Fort Lincoln on March 23rd. He think that was in direct response to Mr. Pearson's email, the day before, asking for his boss, the Director of Parks & Recreation, to speak to a committee of the FLCA about the planned community center in Fort Lincoln park. Mr. Pearson believes he was the only person, on the DPW mailing list, who did not receive an email about the suddenly planned March 23rd community meeting. So, it appears to be an instance of the old divide-and-conquer strategy.

Mr. Pearson has not heard back from the Ward 5 Coordinator with a date for either of the two agency directors that the Ward 5 Coordinator had personally called Mr. Pearson to urge him to request.

**Possible \$10,000.00 Per Year In Funding For The FLCA.** President Pearson reminded Board members that he sent out emails earlier this week about a possible \$10,000.00 per year in funding for the FLCA. The emails explained that President Pearson discovered, while researching the history of the old Thurgood Marshall Elementary School, that the D.C. Zoning Commission ordered Premium Distributors to pay \$10,000.00 each year into an escrow account to benefit an 8th grade student at Thurgood Marshall elementary school. That was imposed as a permanent condition on their zoning approval. Thurgood Marshall closed in July 2013, however. President Pearson referred the issue to the FLCA's Finance/Fundraising committee and recommended that FLCA Board members who represent condominiums and townhomes volunteer to serve on the committee to discuss and vote on that issue.

3. **Report from the Treasurer** - The opening balance, on January 20, 2022, was \$2,428.03.

The following disbursements were made:

Deposits:	Jamaine T. Chisholm (website advertising) . . .	\$200.00
Payments:	Eyeth Studios (website down payment)	\$250.00
	D.C. Fed. of Civ. Assoc.	\$50.00

As a result, the current balance is: **\$2,328.03**.<sup>2</sup>

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<sup>2</sup> 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.

- 4. Vote to Declare That Felicia Brown Has Resigned As FLCA Secretary.** When a member or officer of the FLCA Board resigns, but does not do so in writing, the FLCA bylaws require a vote by a majority of Board members present to declare that the Board member or officer has resigned. Attached to the Agenda for the Board meeting is a February 19, 2022 email that President Pearson wrote to Ms. Felicia Smith, and that he thought he copied all Board members on. The email recorded Ms. Smith's oral resignation as both the representative of The Jamison Apartments and as the FLCA Secretary. The email advised Ms. Smith that, because she had not submitted her resignation in writing, a vote to declare her position as the representative of the Jamison Apts., and as Secretary, to be vacant would be taken at the Board meeting on March 17, 2022.

A motion was made, and seconded, to declare that Ms. Brown has resigned as FLCA Secretary. There was some discussion by those who did not read Mr. Pearson's February 19, 2022, which encouraged Board members to reach out to Ms. Smith, if they wished.<sup>3</sup> The Board voted to declare that Ms. Brown has resigned as FLCA Secretary by a vote of 4-2, with two abstentions.

- 5. Vote to Declare Board Seat For The Jamison Apts. To Be Vacant.** A motion was then made, and seconded, to declare that Ms. Brown has resigned as the representative of the Jamison Apts. Mr. Pearson noted that he had reached out to the officers of the Tenant Association at The Jamison Apartments for a nominee to serve out the balance of Ms. Brown's term as the representative of the Jamison Apts. Chiezda Washington has asked to be nominated for that purpose and has provided Mr. Pearson with her resumé. Mr. Pearson will place Ms. Washington's name in nomination at the Board's next meeting if the Board votes to declare that Ms. Brown has resigned as the representative of the Jamison Apts.

The Board voted to declare that Ms. Brown has resigned as the representative of the Jamison Apts by a vote of 6-0, with two abstentions.

- 6. Nomination\Vote on Linda Frances Johnson For the Position of FLCA Secretary.** President Pearson then nominated Linda Frances Johnson for the position of FLCA Secretary. The nomination was seconded. The Board then voted, unanimously, to elect Linda Frances Johnson to complete the remainder of Ms. Brown's term as FLCA Secretary.
- 7. Nomination\Vote on Mardjon Hedayati To Chair the Public Safety & Emergency Management Committee**

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<sup>3</sup> After the Board meeting, Mr. Pearson discovered he did not copy Board members on his February 19, 2022 email to Ms. Brown. He had already, on February 18, 2022, sent an email to all Board members in which he explained the circumstances of Ms. Brown's oral resignation, and concluded by stating: ". . . unless another FLCA Board member wants to try reaching out to Ms. Brown, I will be communicating with the Tenant Association at The Jamison regarding nominating a successor for Ms. Brown. And some one of us (not me!) will have to complete Ms. Brown's term as Secretary." Mr. Pearson apologizes for confusing the dates and recipients of the two emails.

President Pearson then nominated Mardjon Hedayati to replace Ms. Brown as the Chair of the Public Safety & Emergency Management Committee. The nomination was seconded. The Board then voted, unanimously, to elect Ms. Hedayati to complete the remainder of Ms. Brown's term as the Chair the Public Safety & Emergency Management Committee.

8. **FLCA Committee Reports** - President 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 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 oral report. With respect to the issue of a vote by the committee on whether to pursue a change in the D.C. Zoning Commission's Order of March 13, 2000, to require Premium Distributors to pay \$10,000.00 per year to the FLCA, rather than Thurgood Marshall Elementary school, Mr. Pearson invited Board member Mary Adams to contact Finance/Fundraising committee chair, Linda Brooks if she was interested in investigating and voting on this issue. Mr. Pearson had already suggested that Board members who represent Fort Lincoln condominiums and town home developments volunteer to serve on the Finance/Fundraising committee for that purpose.

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** – Eyeth Studios, in nearby Brookland, has begun work on the FLCA's website. The Communications Committee will vote on whether to recommend it to the full Board on March 24<sup>th</sup>. If their vote is affirmative, the proposed website will be made available to the full Board on

March 25<sup>th</sup> for a vote on March 26<sup>th</sup> at 7 pm on whether to approve it. If it is approved, the website will go “live” on March 31, 2022.

2. **FLCA Fundraising for And Through Website** – The committee has continued dividing up and contacting 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. President Pearson sent out letters offering advertising on the FLCA website to 32 targeted political candidates, but received no affirmative responses.
  3. **Updating the Logo for the FLCA** – The issue of an updated logo is in the hands of the website developer that the FLCA has retained. The committee voted to use the logo that was used by the FLCA to publicize the May 2013 Home Tour as one of the logos. A copy of it is shown on page 11 of the committee’s monthly report.
- D. **Education & Youth Committee** – No updated report by this combined Committee was submitted. Their written February 2022 monthly report that identified as the committee’s 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 written monthly report with updates indicating no change in the status of 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 reported that it did not receive a monthly report on the criminal incidents in the Fort Lincoln vicinity, during the past 30 days, from Sgt. Harrison Grubbs of the 5<sup>th</sup> District MPD. This appears to be because the Commander of the 5<sup>th</sup> District abruptly resigned last week. And apparently the 5<sup>th</sup> District is being reshuffled.

**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 meetings will continue through March 22, 2022. The committee has released three discussion maps for new Single Member Districts in Ward 5.

Chairperson Konyka Dunson will not be able to continue monitoring the work of the committee Councilmember McDuffie has formed. She requested that another Board member taking over duties as the chair of the FLCA’s Special Committee on Redistricting

9. **New Business** – There was discussion of: (1) whether a condominium can enact bylaws prohibiting the smoking of marijuana in your home, even though D.C. law now makes it legal; (2) illegal dumping at the intersection of Fort Lincoln Drive & Commodore Joshua Drive, N.E., right outside Premium Distributors and (3) abandoned cars and trailers being parked along Commodore Joshua Drive, N.E.

The meeting adjourned at 8:04 P.M.