

Board Matters

December 12, 2024

Letter from the NAACP Housing Committee

Chair Stanton shared a letter with her colleagues from the Chair of the Fairfax County NAACP Housing Committee congratulating the FCRHA for acting to remove the racial covenant on the Franconia Governmental Center property. The letter highlighted the FCRHA's action as a historic symbolic event in the transition of Fairfax County to a place committed to equitable opportunities. Chair Stanton expressed excitement for the FCRHA's efforts being recognized and praised.

Recognizing Deputy County Attorney Cynthia Bailey on Her Retirement

Commissioner Mondoro mentioned it was the last FCRHA meeting for Cynthia Bailey, Deputy County Attorney, Office of the County Attorney (OCA) and suggested the Authority ask her to return to thank her for all her service.

In return, Ms. Bailey thanked the Commissioners for their service. She stated that it has been one of the privileges of her life to work with the FCRHA and to see the hundreds of homes that have been built in the last ten years. Ms. Bailey also thanked her team of talented, smart, and dedicated professionals who she has enjoyed working with over the years.

Tom Fleetwood, Director, Department of Housing and Community Development (HCD), on behalf of staff, thanked Ms. Bailey for all her dedicated work and leadership to make affordable housing a reality in Fairfax County. He added that Ms. Bailey has been a tireless professional, leader, and counselor and he was very appreciative.

Each of the Commissioners took a moment to share sentiments on Ms. Bailey's impending retirement. They also shared personal experiences and reflected on how Ms. Bailey has had such a positive impact on the work of the FCRHA.

Board Matter regarding the Franconia Government Center property

Commissioner Zurawski announced plans to bring forward a resolution to the FCRHA in January 2025 regarding the residences at the Franconia Government Center. He stated that there were representations made by various people during public meetings regarding who will be eligible to reside at the redeveloped Franconia Government Center property. Commissioner Zurawski further stated that the income levels of future residents that were shared publicly were not included in the final agreement. Therefore, the resolution he will bring forward to the FCRHA will instruct staff to include the commitments made to the public in the property's final agreement. Commissioner Zurawski also referred to the Rose Hill Coalition whose website includes documentation and materials that have been shared with the public about the redevelopment of the property. He concluded that he hopes he and his colleagues can have a robust

discussion regarding this matter at the FCRHA's Committee of the Whole meeting in January.

After discussion regarding how Commissioner Zurawski's resolution would be presented to the Authority, Director Fleetwood offered a point of clarification noting that the information would come forward at a full meeting of the FCRHA as a board matter not as an action item prepared by staff.

Compliments to Director Fleetwood and Staff

Vice-Chair Lardner complimented Director Fleetwood and staff for its positive recognition in the general press by WTOP. She highlighted that the article quoted Director Fleetwood and his excellent work and the FCRHA and HCD's achievement in creating affordable units. She congratulated everyone for doing a super job and for positive press about affordable housing which is long deserved and earned.

Consolidated Community Funding Advisory Committee Updates (CCFAC)

Commissioner Cushing shared that on December 10, 2024, CCFAC met. Staff briefed CCFAC on the FCRHA Working Advisory Group recommendations for the One-Year Action Plan. CCFAC will be reviewing the draft plan and are expected to vote in January 2025.

Residences at Government Center II Groundbreaking

Chair Stanton highlighted the recent groundbreaking for the Residences at Government Center II held in the parking lot of the Fairfax County Government Center. She shared that it is a wonderful project demonstrating the County's commitment to affordable housing as it is located in the front of the building. She also thanked staff for their work and continued efforts this year to keep projects moving through the pipeline. Director Fleetwood added that it was a great event, and staff are appreciative of the Commissioners who were able to attend.

FCRHA Annual Report for Fiscal Year 2024

Director Fleetwood pointed to cards that had been placed at the Commissioners' seats which included a QR code. He explained the QR code could be used to access the FCRHA Annual Report for fiscal year 2024. Director Fleetwood stated that the report contains great information that can be used in the community to explain the work and programs of the FCRHA.

2025 Legislative Session

Director Fleetwood stated the Virginia General Assembly will begin its session on January 8, 2025. It will be a "short session" of 30 days. Staff, as done in the past, will keep the FCRHA up to date of any significant actions that effect the FCRHA's work.

Update to FCRHA Action Items

Director Fleetwood announced that starting with FCRHA board packages for January 2025, FCRHA Action Items will include an equity impact analysis. Staff are pleased to be including it into FCRHA action items to help promote discussions on equity when approving actions.

Update on Autumn Willow Project

Director Fleetwood stated that construction at the Autumn Willow project, in the Springfield District, is rapidly coming to a landing. Staff are looking forward to a grand opening being held in the first half of 2025. More information to follow.

Annual Statement of Economic Interests

Director Fleetwood informed the Commissioners that they would be receiving the Statement of Economic Interests in their home mailboxes from the Clerk to the Board of Supervisors. He asked the Commissioners to complete and return the forms as soon as possible, but no later than February 3, 2025. Failure to return the forms by February 3, 2025, would put the FCRHA at risk for an audit finding.

Fairfax County Trainings

Director Fleetwood stated that each Commissioner should have received an email from Brandy Thompson encouraging them to complete the annually required Fairfax County Security Awareness Foundations and Phishing Foundations training modules. The modules are expected to take no longer than 40 minutes to complete. The Commissioners were asked to complete the trainings no later than December 31. Director Fleetwood advised that Jason Chia of HCD is available to assist with any technical issues.

Recognizing County Attorney Alan Weiss on His Retirement

Director Fleetwood announced that it was also Alan Weiss's final meeting with the FCRHA. He stated that Mr. Weiss, Assistant County Attorney, OCA, faithfully and well served the FCRHA for 32 years. His tenure spanned a period of incredible change and growth for HCD and its mission in the community. Director Fleetwood stated there is not a bit of work that HCD does or has done over the last three decades that Mr. Weiss hasn't helped make possible. On behalf of staff, Director Fleetwood expressed gratitude towards Mr. Weiss for all his work, unbelievable institutional knowledge, and incredibly good nature. Mr. Weiss will be honored at the FCRHA's January meeting.

Ms. Bailey personally thanked Mr. Weiss for all his work. She explained that when she came to Fairfax County as the Deputy County Attorney, Mr. Weiss was instrumental in helping her learn about this incredibly complicated area of law. Ms. Bailey added that the contracts and legal documents that OCA provides are among some of the best well-

written materials that she's seen. She stated that much of OCA's templates and foundational legal documentation was written by Mr. Weiss. Ms. Bailey wished Mr. Weiss all the happiness in his retirement.

Happy Holidays and Happy New Year!

Director Fleetwood, on behalf of staff, thanked the Commissioners for the time they commit to the FCRHA, their advice and wisdom, and all the support in doing such important work. He wished everyone the very best and happy holidays.

Chair Stanton thanked everyone for attending and wished them a happy new year.