

Minutes of the Fairfax County Consumer Protection Commission

January 15, 2019

7:30 PM
Government Center, Conference 8
12000 Government Center Parkway
Fairfax, Virginia 22035
Chairman Fee, presiding

Attendance:

Commissioners: Belkowitz, Callender, Fee,
Gulakowski, Hine, Javed, Lynch, Kirk, Rosier

Absent:

Commissioners: Hargraves, Kazmi, Omeish,
Roark

Staff:

Michael S. Liberman, Director
Cable and Consumer Services
Rebecca L. Makely, Director
Consumer Services Division
Susan C. Jones, Branch Chief
Consumer Affairs

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by Chairman Fee.

Minutes

The minutes for the December 18, 2018, meeting were approved.

Report of the Chairman

Chairman Fee attended Chairman Bulova's New Year Reception on Tuesday, January 8, 2019.

Report of the Director

Director Liberman stated in response to the Federal Government Shutdown, staff assembled a resource page for federal employees.

Director Makely provided an overview of the resource page on the Department of Cable and Consumer Services Web site. Also informed Commission of the Facebook Live *Consumer Connection* program on Federal Employees Resources to air on Wednesday, January 16, 2019, at 4:00 PM.

Commission Matters

Commissioner Kirk had no matters to bring before the Commission.

Commissioner Callender spoke about a meeting he attended with Great Falls Citizen Association on telephone copper wire and Verizon in the Great Falls area.

Commissioner Belkowitz had no matters to bring before the Commission.

Commissioner Hine had no matters to bring before the Commission.

Commissioner Gulakowski wrote a letter to the editor for his homeowners' association newsletter, pointing out the fact that the widening of the Fairfax County Parkway project would have an impact on traffic patterns in Burke Center. He also pointed out VDOT was having public meetings and asking for resident input regarding the proposed plan. The last VDOT meeting that was held drew over 300 residents (more than the 200 VDOT anticipated), during which several residents provided input to the jurisdictional representatives. This process showed the importance of informing residents of various issues at the grassroots level.

Chairman Fee forwarded CAB staff an email he received on *Important Information About Your TrustedID® Premier Subscription*. Staff will review and provide a response. Chairman Fee spoke about a HELOC loan and finding a loan interest rate with no transfer fees to save money.

Commissioner Javed alerted Commissioners on any telecommunications discussions in the future he will recuse himself due to his work at the Federal Communications Commission.

Commissioner Lynch had an issue with HVAC that was covered under a home warranty and the cost to replace the unit.

Commissioner Rosier provided an update on the Verizon pole issue near her home.

Old Business

There was no old business before the Commission.

New Business

1. Elections: Commissioner Gulakowski, Nominating Committee, announced the slate of candidates.

Chairman: John Fee

Vice Chairman: Denis Gulakowski

Secretary: Jaqueline Rosier

Commissioner Kirk made the motion to accept the slate of candidates by acclamation.

Commissioner Callender seconded the motion. The vote was unanimous.

Commissioner Javed inquired about remote teleconferencing and the requirements under FOIA. Staff will discuss with County Attorney and report back to the Commission.

A discussion ensued on topics for future meetings: Taxicabs, Identity Theft, Pawn Shops/Precious Gems and Metals, Consumer Protection in other counties, One Fairfax with Chief Equity Officer Carla Bruce, Consumer Affairs Intake Process, Retail Policies, Home Repairs, DPOR, Area on Aging, Door to Door Solicitation, Massage Licenses, Affordable Housing, Short Term Lodging, and Legislation.

Commissioner Kirk made the motion to adjourn the meeting. Commissioner Callender seconded the motion. The meeting adjourned at 8:43 PM.