

**Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board
Government and Community Relations Committee
January 13, 2003**

The Government and Community Relations Committee of the Fairfax-Falls Church Community Services Board met in regular session at the Alcohol and Drug Services Administrative office on Jermantown Road, Suite 201, Fairfax.

Committee members present: Jessica Burmester, Charles Fletcher, Robin Ihara, Ben Pepper

CSB Staff present: James Thur, Ruth Gerbec

1. Meeting Called to Order

Ben Pepper who chaired the meeting for Anngie Johnson who is out of town on business, called the meeting to order at 6:15 p.m.

2. Approval of December Minutes

The minutes were approved.

3. Government Relations

A. Local Level

Ruth distributed a summary of Board members' visits to elected officials. Board members visited some of the Board of Supervisors, City and Town Councils.

ACTION: An email will go out to Board members to remind members to make appointments with their Supervisor toward the end of February and early March.

ACTION: Board members need to be registered for BOS budget hearings in April.

Dr. Fletcher and Jim reported on the Criminal Justice Advisory Board meeting. The CSB provided a presentation on its services to CJAB at their last monthly meeting.

B. State Level

Board members present reported on their visits with their State elected officials and provided feedback on legislators' questions and concerns.

Dr. Fletcher reported that Delegate Albo requested specific CSB budget information and information on homelessness in Fairfax County.

Some Board members went to their legislators local "Town Meetings". Ruth reported that she heard back from a consumer's parents who went to Senator Howell and Delegate Plum's Town Meeting. The parent reported that there were a lot of persons representing mental health and alcohol and drug issues at the meeting.

Jessica reported on the plans for the Coalition Rally in Richmond. Also she will be sending out the Coalition's legislative agenda in the next day or two.

Staff and several Board members will be attending the VACSB conference next week.

There was some discussion on the "Barrier Crimes" bill. Jim will find out the names of the sponsors of the bill.

Ruth distributed draft copies of the "section" titles for the Government and Community Relations Notebook for review and discussion. The two school systems and the three School Boards will be included. Jim Thur suggested that the Notebook could be available online.

4. Community Relations

A. Business Community Organizations

Jim Thur suggested that contact with the Committee of 100 be done later in the year. It was suggested that the Board confirm the topic/issue for discussion and then contact the Roundtable organization to arrange a meeting date.

It was suggested that the Board focus on the faith community, civic associations and local chambers of commerce.

ACTION: Ruth will contact the Faith in Action organization.

Jim Thur reported that the Regional Partnership is planning to convene an "event" in March that would probably include exhibits, etc.

4. Adjournment

The meeting adjourned at 7:25 p.m.