

Minutes of the Fairfax County Consumer Protection Commission

May 18, 2010

7:30PM Conference 7
Government Center
12000 Government Center Pkwy.
Fairfax, Virginia 22035
Chairman Fee, presiding

Attendance:

Commissioners: Bahhur, Belkowitz,
Bounacos, Douskalis, Fee, Hine,
Nguyen, Roark, Rosier

Absent:

Commissioners: Boyd, Hargraves, Kirk,
Mrowka

Staff:

Michael S. Liberman, Director
Cable Communication and Consumer
Protection
Susan C. Jones, Branch Chief,
Consumer Affairs
Susan Hafeli, Utilities Analyst, DCCCP

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

Minutes

The minutes of the April 20, 2010 meeting were approved.

Report of the Chairman

Chairman Fee spoke with Patricia Stevens, Executive Director, Office of Public Private Partnerships about a Board of Supervisors request to contact taxicab drivers to inform them of the Fairfax County parking ordinance. DCCCP staff provided assistance.

Report of the Director

Director Liberman mentioned the Board of Supervisors passed the FY2011 Budget. The County is facing a \$70 million deficient for FY2012 Budget.

Commission Matters

Commissioner Hine had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Rosier mentioned she purchased a parking pass from Washington Metropolitan Area Transit Authority and received two unjustified parking tickets at the Metro while the pass had been visible. Commissioner Rosier explained the difficulty in fighting this issue and believes that Fairfax County Police are writing the tickets. Commissioner Rosier will provide

a copy of the information to staff.

Commissioner Roark had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Douskalis had no matters to bring before the commission.

Commissioner Bahhur mentioned her attempts to bundle her utilities with the same provider and the difficulties involved.

Commissioner Belkowitz mentioned that Verizon installed FIOS in his neighborhood and had no issues with the restoration. Commissioner Belkowitz did mention that Verizon needs to provide better communications with homeowners concerning easements and placement of the green boxes.

Commissioner Bounacos mentioned that Verizon complaints are down compared to last year. Staff responded that weather has been an issue and complaints should increase as the weather gets warmer. Commissioner Bounacos mentioned that Cox Communications was now offering wireless service.

Commissioner Nguyen requested that staff schedule the cable providers for a future meeting. Commissioner Nguyen discussed weight scales in medical facilities.

Old Business

Director Liberman provided the Commissioners with a final copy of the report on Rates Charged by Water Systems Serving Fairfax County Residents.

New Business

1. Nomination Procedures. Commissioners were provided a copy of the proposed changes to the Consumer Protection Commission Standard Operating Procedures.

A discussion ensued on the value of floor nominations, providing advance notice to solicit candidates, and making the process consistent.

Chairman Fee made the motion to accept the changes made by staff to the Consumer Protection Commission Standard Operating Procedures. Commissioner Douskalis seconded the motion. Chairman Fee withdrew the motion.

A discussion ensued on what changes to make in Paragraph B.

Commissioner Nguyen made the motion to accept the amended changes to the Consumer Protection Commission Standard Operating Procedures. Commissioner Bounacos seconded the motion. Seven Commissioners voted for approval and two Commissioners opposed the motion. The motion passed in favor of the amended changes.

The meeting adjourned at 8:45 PM