

## Fenwick Park Civic Association



# The Fenwick Park Flyer

Fall 2024

### 2024 Officers

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Got an idea? Send it to:

HelloFenwickPark@gmail.com

## President's Column

### *Hello Fenwick Park Community!*

I'm very excited with the progress we've made this year in getting the Fenwick Park Civic Association up and running. The community-building goals of the FPCA are taking off thanks to our Welcoming Committee (Hello new neighbors!), Monthly Happy Hours at El Tio's, and the completed picnic and planned events before the end of the year!

Administratively, the number of dues-paying FPCA households is growing by the week,

and our bylaws are being updated. We successfully transitioned our authorized bank signers that have access to our bank account. We are planning to set up digital banking services soon. So all of our treasury and banking functions will be functioning in the modern age!

We're still working with the IRS on getting our 501c3 status started again. A pro bono search by tax lawyers in the greater Falls Church community have revealed that our six year dormant period has resulted in a recommendation that we start

fresh with a new 501c3 application!

While we iron that all out, we're making progress in alerting local elected officials that FPCA is back on the radar. I hope to see some of them at our regularly scheduled meetings in early 2025!

Thanks again for being such great neighbors. I'm looking forward to seeing everyone out and about, while we rake leaves at 3019 Fenwick over the next few weeks! Stop by and say, "Hi!" if you see me out there!

*See you at the next meeting! -Tom Leary*

## Review and Update of FPCA By-laws

The current version of the FPCA Bylaws were adopted in May 2007. The current Board of Directors felt that a review was warranted and a committee for this purpose was established with the following timeline:

- Workgroup Review begins June 15 for 90 days
- Proposed changes due by Sept 15 to FPCA Board of Directors
- Publish proposed Bylaws in the Fall 2024 newsletter
- Hold a discussion/vote at a Special Meeting to be held on November 12, 2024.
- Disseminate final by-laws at the General Membership meeting in January 2025.

Committee Chair Tom Leary reports that the workgroup has been on track with the timeline. Be sure to attend the special meeting to discuss these important changes.

**BYLAWS OF THE FENWICK PARK CIVIC ASSOCIATION**

Proposed to be adopted on November 12, 2024

**BYLAW ONE: OFFICES**

The principal office of the association in the Commonwealth of Virginia shall be located at the home of the president of the association, Falls Church, County of Fairfax.

**BYLAW TWO: PURPOSES AND OBJECTIVES**

The purpose and objectives of the association are as follows:

- a) To develop a community, which provides its residents a safe, healthful, and harmonious living environment.
- b) To promote the collective and individual property and civic interests and rights of all persons, firms, and corporations residing in or owning property in Fenwick Park.
- c) To aid and cooperate with the members of this association and all appurtenant to their property as are now in existence, as well as any other conditions, covenants, and restrictions as shall hereafter be approved, and to counsel with the planning commission and zoning commission having jurisdiction in relations to any zoning that may affect any portion of the subject property.
- d) In general, but in connection with the foregoing, to do any and all things necessary to promote the general welfare of the residents and owners of any portions of Fenwick Park and their property interests therein.
- e) To arrange social and recreational functions for its members
- f) To exercise any and all powers that may be delegated to it from time to time by the owners and residents of residential real property in the tract.
- g) This association shall not engage in political activity or pursue political purpose of any kind or character.
- h) On dissolution, the assets of this association may be distributed only to sec. 501(c)3 charitable organizations or sec. 501(c)4 social welfare organizations located in Fairfax County, Virginia.

**BYLAW THREE: MEMBERS**

- a) Class of members: The association shall have one class of member. The qualifications and rights shall be as follows:
  - i. Every owner of a residential unit in Fenwick Park shall be qualified for membership.
  - ii. Any tenant residing in a residential unit in Fenwick Park shall be qualified for membership.
  - iii. Membership shall be achieved by payment of annual dues. Membership dues shall be collected at the January meeting and throughout the membership year, shall cover membership from January 1 through December 31 of each year. Dues shall not be prorated
- b) Voting Rights: Each member in good standing shall be entitled to vote on each matter submitted to a vote of the members.
  - i. At membership meetings all votes shall be cast in person, or by proxy registered with a member of the Board of Directors.
  - ii. The Board of Directors is authorized to establish regulations providing for voting by mail if and when it deems appropriate and under circumstances determined by the Board of Directors.

**BYLAW FOUR: MEETING OF MEMBERS**

- a) Annual Meeting: Annual meetings of the members for the purposes of hearing reports from all officers and standing committees and for electing officers shall be held in January of each year. The Board of Directors shall fix the time and place.
- b) Regular Meetings: In addition to the annual meetings, regular meeting of the members shall be had at such times and place as shall be determined by the Board of Directors
- c) Special Meetings: Special meetings of the members may be called by the Board of Directors or by no less than 10 percent of the membership. The president will call a special meeting of the members within 14 days of receipt of the aforementioned petition if requested by not less than 10 percent of the membership.
- d) Notification: Meeting notices will be posted at conspicuous locations within Fenwick Park for not less than seven days prior to each meeting, and by other means as deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors. Signs may not be posted in a manner that impedes or distracts from any official traffic control device or sign.
- e) Quorum: Five percent of all possible votes that may be cast shall constitute a quorum at any meeting of the members. In the absence of a quorum, a simple majority of the members present may adjourn the meeting without further notice.

### BYLAW FIVE: BOARD OF DIRECTORS

- a) **Officers:** The officers of the association shall be president, a vice president, a secretary, and treasurer, providing that the Board of Directors may from time to time name committee chairperson and constitute committees to fulfill special functions. These chairpersons will not be voting members of the Board of Directors, but may attend board meetings in an advisory capacity if so requested by the Board.
- b) **Qualifications and Methods of Election:** The officers shall be members in good standing, shall serve as directors, and shall serve for a term of one year, or until successors are elected. Present and past officers are eligible for re-election.
- c) **President:** The president (or in their absence, another designated board member) shall preside at all meetings of the association and the Board of Directors; shall exercise general supervision for the affairs and activities of the association. The president shall serve as a member *ex officio* of all standing and other committees which may be formed.
- d) **Vice President:** The vice president shall assume the duties of the president during his/her absence, or if the post of president is vacated at any time except at the close of the membership year.
- e) **Secretary:** The secretary shall take the minutes of the meetings of the association and of the Board of Directors, which shall be an accurate and official record of all business transacted. The secretary may arrange for a substitute minute-taker at any meeting with the approval of the Board of Directors. The secretary shall serve as an *ex officio* member of the Communications Committee.
- f) **Treasurer:** The Treasurer shall receive all Association funds, keep them in a bank approved by the Board of Directors, and pay out funds as approved by the members for any reason or by the Board of Directors for administrative and other expenses
- g) **Vacancies:** A vacancy in an office for any reason may be filled by election of a new officer by the general membership for the unexpired portion of the term. One of the currently serving directors may assume temporarily the duties of any vacant office until filled permanently at a meeting of the membership.

### BYLAW SIX: DUES

The annual dues shall be the same for each member, and shall be twenty dollars (\$20) per year. The amount of annual dues will be presented by the Board of Directors to the membership at the Annual meeting of every year. No increase above five dollars (\$5) per year may be determined without two-thirds of the members present at the meeting voting to approve such an increase.

### BYLAW SEVEN: FISCAL YEAR

The fiscal and membership year of the association shall be from January 1 through December 31 of any year.

### BYLAW EIGHT: COMMUNICATIONS

- a) Communications methods with the membership shall include printed and electronic means that take into account varying comfort levels with an ever-evolving list of communications options.
- b) **Notification:** Meeting venues will be posted at conspicuous locations within Fenwick Park for not less than seven days prior to each meeting, and by other means as deemed appropriate by the Board of Directors.
- c) Signs may not be posted in a manner that impedes or distracts from any official traffic control device or sign.

### BYLAW NINE: AMENDMENTS

Any proposed amendment to these Bylaws may be submitted in writing at or before the January meeting of the members of the association. Such proposed amendments shall be reviewed by a review committee composed of at least three members of the Board of Directors with their recommendations voted upon at the next general membership meeting. A proposed amendment shall become effective when approved by a two-thirds majority of the members present and entitled to vote.

### BYLAW TEN: PARLIAMENTARY AUTHORITY

The latest edition of Robert's Rules of Order will be the parliamentary authority used to govern the conduct of the association.

## Treasurer's Report

FPCA has enjoyed a vibrant reboot in 2024. As of 9/30/24, our bank balance is \$1,208.72. Our 46 Paid Memberships have financed our newsletters, the Meet and Greet in April, our Block Party in

June, and will cover our new website currently under construction.

The IRS may require funds to reinstate our non-profit status.

We value your paid membership which enables the growth of our burgeoning association and community engagement. The household membership fee is \$20.00 per

calendar year. Please consider joining as a paid member!



## FPCA Membership Application

Your financial support is integral to FPCA's success. Revenue from dues primarily contribute to expenses related to communications, community building activities and annual events. **Membership is \$20 per household for the 2025 calendar year.** In addition, membership confers voting privileges on the business of the FPCA and the election of Officers. To join or renew your membership, please drop off your dues at 7404 Elmwood Dr. or at the next meeting/event with the information below:

### Fenwick Park Civic Association 2025 Annual Membership Dues

Name(s): \_\_\_\_\_

Address: \_\_\_\_\_

Phone: \_\_\_\_\_

E-mail: \_\_\_\_\_



### Next FPCA Meeting

The Annual meeting of the Fenwick Park Civic Association (FPCA) will take place at 7

p.m. on January 21, 2025 at the Thomas Jefferson Library.

Officer elections will be taking place, so you don't want to miss out on this meeting!

If you have an item you would like to have on the agenda, just send it to: [HelloFenwickPark@gmail.com](mailto>HelloFenwickPark@gmail.com).

### Nominations for Officers in 2025

If you would like to nominate or self-nominate, you have until December 31 to do so. Send your nominations to [HelloFenwickPark@gmail.com](mailto>HelloFenwickPark@gmail.com)



Si desea recibir esta carta en español, envíe una solicitud a [HelloFenwickPark@gmail.com](mailto>HelloFenwickPark@gmail.com)