

March Mt. Vernon Membership Meeting Notes

Chair Report

- Call to Order / Procedures Used
- Approval of the Minutes
- Welcome

Celebrating Black History (February),
International Women's Day (March 8)
& Women's History Month (March)
with answers from questions during the March 16 meeting produced by Genie McCreery
(Social Justice)

Three questions were posed:

1. Who was the first Black Governor of Virginia? Douglas Wilder—Bob Fasick posted a video of his response
2. What Virginia case went to the Supreme Court? Loving vs Loving. Yoko Makembe posted a video of his response questions

• **New Members**

- Lawrence Webb (626 - Saratoga)
 - Christine Morin (628 - Laurel Hill)
- Both new members were voted in.

Legislature Short Session – The Upper House

- Senator **Adam Ebbin** (30th District)
 - legislation allowing tenants to receive penalties in the event of an illegal eviction,
 - permanently banning guns in state buildings and Capitol Square,

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- moving on a path towards legalizing adult use of cannabis in 2024 and
 - repealing Virginia's inoperative constitutional ban on same-sex marriage.
 - advances in making it easier to vote, keeping guns out of the hands of convicted domestic abusers, worker protections, and moving towards more low and zero emissions vehicles.
- Senator **Scott Surovell** (36th District)
 - Death Penalty
 - Reform Criminal Record Sealing/Expungement
 - Expanding Fairfax County Tax Authority for Underground Utilities
 - Expanding Authority to Protect River Farm
 - Raised Minimum Auto Insurance Limits for 1st time since 1975
 - Bill to Help Immigrant Crime Victims Get Visas
 - Bill to Help Abandoned Immigrant Children and Young Adults Get Visa
 - Voting Rights Amendment
 - Voting Rights Act
 - No Absentee Witness Signature
 - Permanent Drop Box Authority
 - Moved Primary Election to Late June
 - Bills that Died:
 - Qualified Immunity Reform
 - Authorize Class Action Lawsuits
 - Require Disclosure of Sex Harassment Arbitration Claims
 - Senator **George Barker** (39th District)

Climate Change: An Update

- **Dr. Ana Prados** (623 - Alban)
- **John Wickham** (604 - Bucknell)

Fiscal Year Budget Review & Vote

Maritza Zermeño (Chair) & **Sarah Jernigan** (Treasurer)
with officer comments

Budget was adopted as Presented

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New Business

- **Update on Membership—Bryan Graham, FCDC Chair**
 - March Monthly Membership Meeting. Budget will be on the agenda, but also some bylaw changes
 - Paul Krizek addressed the meeting. He is running this year, please reach out to him if you live in his district so you can sign his petitions.
 - Candidates
 - Elizabeth Barrett Parker (HOD-45)

Announcements

Erica Kelly—GMU Dems are having an event—Pennies for Patriots.

Maria Vorel & Bev Bacon. Early voting starts on April 23rd, so the signup genius will go out in the beginning of April.

Adjournment - HAPPY HOUR

Grab some refreshments and join the conversation