



# FRIENDS OF SOUTHWEST DC

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## MINUTES OF 2016 ANNUAL MEETING

President Coralie Farlee called the annual meeting of Friends of Southwest DC (FOS) to order on March 29, 2016, at 7:00 p.m., at Westminster Presbyterian Church, 400 I Street, SW.

The other members of the Board of Directors introduced themselves: CW Hargrave, Joyce Bouvier, Farley Fisher, Cecilie Jones, Rodney Ross, and Jean Sammon. Attendees, including representatives of grantee organizations and donors, introduced themselves.

Coralie Farlee summarized 2015 accomplishments, including 13 grants to 7 organizations and 25 new donors. She noted that 95% of FOS income was used for grants, since the volunteer board keeps administrative expenses low.

Joyce Bouvier called attention to the minutes of the 2015 annual meeting, copies of which were available on the table at the entrance.

Farley Fisher reported on board elections. Members Hargrave, Jones and Sammon were elected to 3-year terms ending in 2019. Farlee was elected President until 2018, Sammon was elected Secretary until 2018, and Ross was elected Vice-president until 2017. There are currently 2 vacancies on the board.

Representatives of organizations that received FOS grants in 2015 each spoke about how the grants were beneficial to residents of Southwest:

Julia Malecki and Anita Maynard of Arena Stage thanked FOS for helping to fund scholarships for Camp Arena Stage, a two-week summer arts program for children aged 8-15, and Voices of Now, an after-school program for middle school students. They focused on stories of several Jefferson Academy students who developed skills, confidence, and friends through their participation in the programs.

Emma Ward of EmmaUS used an FOS grant to take 12 students, ages 8 and up, and 3 adults to the National Archives in DC and the Constitution

Center in Philadelphia. She gave examples of what students learn on the trips, including not just U.S. history but also geography and financial literacy.

Monica Evans took members of her Southwest Girl Scout troop to the Chesapeake Children's Museum with the help of an FOS grant. They spent the night there experiencing what it would have been like to escape slavery via the Underground Railroad. Monica also engaged with others at the meeting about other possible educational experiences for the scouts.

Paul Taylor reported on "Summer in Lansburgh Park," sponsored by the Southwest Comm-Unity Forum and aided by an FOS grant. About 1000 adults and children enjoyed the event and also had the chance to learn about SW history.

Vyllorya Evans thanked Coralie and C.W Hargrave for their help with the SWNA Scholarship program. Audrey Hinton talked about Kiana and Tiffany Livingston, the two students who benefitted from the FOS-funded scholarships, and showed videos of them talking about their college experiences.

Perry Klein of the SWNA Technology Task Force spoke of computer centers at Greenleaf, Syphax, and James Creek that were funded by FOS, and how they are used by the communities there.

Thelma Jones talked about educating the SW community about breast cancer. She was grateful for an FOS grant to attend the National Breast Cancer Coalition Advocate Leadership Summit, since this connected her with many national resources.

Board treasurer C.W. Hargrave talked about the fundraising that is necessary to provide these grants, and how FOS has grown its fundraising and grantover the past few years through mailings, distribution of brochures and ads in The Southwester newspaper. He emphasized the \$10,000 "double match" fundraising campaign this Spring, which will run until July 4.

There were several suggestions from attendees about possible fundraising sites, including Square and Generosity.com.

Respectfully submitted,

Jean Sammon, Secretary

Approved by the FOS board May 23, 2016