The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President James Schroll at Hazel Auditorium. The Pledge of Allegiance was led by Jean Mostrom from the American Association of University Women. The agenda was adopted as submitted. Minutes for the previous membership meeting on April 3 were approved. The Treasurer's report was postponed.

Announcements: President Schroll thanked the Banquet Committee for their good work. Executive Committee Chair Jim Lantelme announced the next meeting on May 7 at Firehouse #2. Joe Pelton announced that there will be another round of workshops and public meetings on the cable franchise renewal. Larry Mayer announced that the next public meeting on changes to the Sign Ordinance will be next week. Bob Atkins announced that the Medical Reserve Corps is launching its seasonal flu campaign work for the fall, and is available as a program for civic associations.

The Housing Committee presented a program on the Columbia Pike Land Use and Housing Study. Takis Karantonis, Executive Director of the Columbia Pike Revitalization Organization, summarized the study and answered questions from the Committee and from delegates. The study grew out of the effort to preserve affordable housing along the Pike, and includes additional sections on long range goals for extending the Form-Based Code to areas not covered, historic preservation, transportation and possible increases in density in some areas.

The Arlington Commission on Aging presented a program on services for aging Arlingtonians, introduced by Lincoln Cummings. Jessica Vasquez of Parks and Recreation outlined their program for seniors, and Maimoona Bah-Duckenfield presented the Department of Human Services program, and mentioned the $5,000 Virginia tax credit available to those who upgrade the accessibility of their homes. Metlife has awarded Arlington a grant to study the problem of utility poles blocking sidewalks.

Andrea Walker presented the Arlington Villages project to form a villages concept program for Arlington to improve seniors’ ability to remain in their homes. Their Web page is at www.arlingtonvillages.org and they are seeking volunteers.

Unfinished Business: Resolution Regarding Proposed Changes to the County Ordinances Affecting Agriculture. Jim Pebley and Darnell Carpenter explained their resolution opposing zoning changes to permit raising chickens in Arlington backyards. Ed Fendley on behalf of the Arlington Egg Project advocated that the Federation not take a position on backyard hens until the Urban Agriculture Task Force has completed its work and made a recommendation. Planning and Zoning Committee co-chair Larry Mayer explained how the Committee had reached agreement to present a resolution based on Jim Pebley’s original draft but with modifications. Since the draft had been overtaken by events it was referred back to the Committee for revision by a vote of 45 to 0 with 2 abstentions and action on it was postponed until June.

There was no new business.

The meeting adjourned at 10:25 pm until the next membership meeting on June 5, 2012.
Respectfully submitted:
Randy Swart
Interim Note Taker