



Minutes – October 6, 2015 ACCF Membership Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 PM by President Stefanie Pryor at Hazel Auditorium. President Pryor led the meeting in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The agenda and the September 8, 2015 Membership Meeting Minutes were approved as submitted. The Treasurer's Report was filed as submitted.

100 Year Anniversary Gala Committee: Joe Pelton and Duke Banks gave an update on the organization and preparation for events celebrating the 100th anniversary of the ACCF.

Program: Candidates Night – Part 2 – Uncontested Races

The following candidates spoke and answered delegates' questions:

Legislative Offices

- **Senate of Virginia, 32th District**
- Janet D. Howell (D), incumbent
- **House of Delegates, 45th District**
- Mark H. Levine (D)
- **House of Delegates, 48th District**
- R. C. "Rip" Sullivan (D), incumbent
- **House of Delegates, 49th District**
- Alfonso H. Lopez (D), incumbent

Constitutional Offices

- **Clerk of the Court**
- Paul F. Ferguson (D), incumbent
- **Sheriff**
- Elizabeth F. "Beth" Arthur (D), incumbent
- **Commonwealth's Attorney**
- Theo K. Stamos (D), incumbent
- **Commissioner of Revenue**
- Ingrid H. Morroy (D), incumbent
- **Treasurer**
- Carla F. De La Pava (D), incumbent

New Business

NCAC: President Pryor reviewed proposed changes in the process for selecting and approving NCAC projects. (See attachment.)

By-laws Committee: The Executive Committee introduced a resolution to amend Article III, Section 7 of the Federation By-laws on the annual dues for member organizations. (See attachment.)

Schools Committee: The Schools Committee introduced a draft resolution opposing historic designation for the Stratford School Building. (See attachment.)

Membership Committee: The Membership Committee reported that the North Highlands Civic Association has applied for a boundary change. Action on this application is on hold until neighboring associations notify ACCF that these boundary changes are acceptable.

Announcements

- No Membership Meeting on November 3 due to state and local elections. The next Membership Meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on November 10, 2015.
- The Executive Committee will meet at 7:30 PM on Sunday, October 11, at the fire station at 4805 Wilson Blvd.
- AIM's recording of the September 8, 2015 Membership Meeting is available on YouTube. <https://youtube/N3SZZSag8WY>
- There will be a Community Facilities Study Committee meeting with a residents' forum at 7 PM on Wednesday, October 14, 2015 in the Wakefield High School cafeteria. The final draft of the Facilities Study is now available at <http://commissions.arlingtonva.us/community-facilities-study/documents/> A new website is available for comments: <https://arlingtonva.opencomment.us/> or via email at ACGFacStudy@arlingtonva.us. There will be an ACCF membership presentation on this study later this winter.
- October is urban agriculture month. There will be a ribbon cutting ceremony for 42 new garden plots in the Four Mile Run Community Garden located in the right-of-way along the W&OD Trail at 1 PM on Sunday, October 18.

The meeting adjourned at 9:14 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Dennis Gerrity, Secretary

PROPOSED AMENDMENT TO ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION (ACCF) BY-LAWS

Annual dues. The Executive Committee shall set annual dues for member organizations by June 1 each year or the current dues shall remain in effect for the next year. Dues shall be payable by July 1. The Treasurer shall notify organizations whose dues are at least six (6) months in arrears that they will be dropped from membership in the Federation if they do not pay their dues within thirty (30) days. Organizations dropped from Federation membership may reapply for membership in accordance with this article. New organizations that join the Federation after January 1 shall pay one half the annual dues.

SCHOOLS COMMITTEE DRAFT RESOLUTION OPPOSING HISTORIC DESIGNATION FOR THE STRATFORD SCHOOL

Whereas in 1959 Stratford School was the first school in Arlington and Virginia to desegregate on the basis of race;

Whereas Arlington played a leading role to end segregated education;

Whereas the historic value of Stratford's bricks and mortar are modest and there are 14 other schools in the area built by the same architect;

Whereas there were already 3 major additions and modifications made to the building;

Whereas the school system is in urgent need of additional seats for students throughout Arlington;

Whereas APS may need the option to expand the school beyond 1,000 students to accommodate the number of students (1,300) housed in the 1960s;

Whereas the historic designations generally require additional maintenance expenditures and current funding for capital expenditures is in short supply;

Whereas the disappearance of green space is a disturbing trend in Arlington, and historic restrictions on the height of needed additions might lead to construction that impinges more on green space than would otherwise be the case;

Whereas a majority of the civic federation delegates are older than Stratford school;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT

The Arlington County Civic Federation calls on the County Board and the Arlington County Board to reject a historic designation for the Stratford School Building. The ACCF further resolves that the Arlington County Board and School Board to use plaques, monuments, and/or art to both honor and ensure that all will remember the historic contribution of the people, and their rectitude, that contributed to desegregating the Stratford School.

PROPOSED PLAN FOR NCAC FIRST PRIORITY PROJECTS – COMPARISON WITH CURRENT PROGRAM

Current NCAC Procedure	Proposed Process
<p>The current process is different for street projects than for parks projects. The following details focus on the current policy for street projects</p>	<p>The new process envisions a single process that would cover both street projects and park projects</p>
<p>Community Associations decide on “first priority” projects based on their currently-filed plans</p>	<p>The new plan also requires that “first priority” projects be included in the association plans.</p>
<p>The first step is a clipboard survey of affected residents, primarily those whose frontage would be directly affected by the project. The tally for 60% approval is based on percentage of frontage for properties</p>	<p>The new plan eliminates the clipboard process completely. Instead, it requires the Community Association to have a neighborhood-wide meeting to determine the “first priority” project.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • Community stakeholders are defined as those, 18 years old or older, who live within the boundaries of the civic association. These include owners and renters, absentee owners, property managers or business owners of establishments within the civic association. • Principal stakeholders are those whose properties would be directly impacted by a proposed project, particularly frontage owners in street enhancement projects. Parks projects have no principal stakeholders. • Civic associations would be required to publicize any meeting for the selection of “first priority projects” at least 30 days in advance of the meeting. The group can consider multiple requests. • Notification of the meeting should be widespread and documented. Newsletters or list serves that reach an entire neighborhood are sufficient. However, many civic associations are not able to reach everyone within their boundaries through these channels. We encourage them to use other means to engage in “special outreach.” The methods they choose are voluntary, but we ask that they document their outreach. It is not necessary to guarantee that everyone who lives within the boundaries has received notification, only that the association has made reasonable accommodation to that end. • Every stakeholder should be welcome to attend the meeting and vote, regardless of official membership in the civic association.

	<p>The organization may choose to monitor the meeting to ensure that those voting actually live within the civic association boundaries.</p> <ul style="list-style-type: none"> • There will be NO proxy voting. However, primary stakeholders who can't attend the meeting can give an absentee vote directly to the President of the civic association, to be included in the vote tally. • NC staff may participate in the meeting to answer questions and give general guidance about the proposed projects in order to allow the civic association to make an informed decision. • A simple majority vote greater than 50% is needed to move forward. The civic association President would write a letter to NCAC indicating the neighborhood's "first priority" project. • The association will retain all records of the process, including meeting notes, voting results, and documentation describing the notification process, until the NCAC project is completed.
<p>Following the first clip-board survey, which just expresses general interest in the project, county staff (DES) conducts a field study and creates an initial design.</p>	<p>NC and DES staff will act in good faith to conduct a field study, prepare an initial design with estimate of costs, conduct a meeting with the community to discuss the initial plan, again with broad notification to all stakeholders and giving at least a 30-day notice. The meeting is designed to inform everyone. However, detailed plans will focus particularly, but not exclusively, on the impact on Principal Stakeholders.</p>
<p>The design will be presented to the civic association and a second, more formal final petition is sent by NC staff. In order for the project to qualify for funding, 60% of the affected linear frontage must approve. Staff sends the survey to pertinent property owners, including off-site owners. Those who fail to submit a vote by a set date are considered "yes" votes. If the survey "fails" to pass, the project dies and the civic association loses all points for the project.</p>	<p>If the civic association wishes to consider rejecting the project after the County completes its design work, it must hold another meeting and the vote for rejection must be greater than 70% of the stakeholders attending the meeting. NC staff may attend the meeting to discuss the proposal. If the civic association rejects the proposal, it will lose all points it may have accrued for the project.</p>