



Minutes – November 10, 2015 ACCF Membership Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:32 PM by President Stefanie Pryor at Hazel Auditorium. President Pryor led the meeting in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The agenda and the October 6, 2015 Membership Meeting Minutes were approved as submitted. Treasurer Patrick Spann provided an oral report on CivFed's financial status.

Program: Open Data and Governmental Transparency

Civic Federation Vice-President Duke Banks gave an overview of Open Data policies and practices and how they can be used to get timely data from local governments that empowers citizens and improves strategic planning. Stephen Larrick of the Sunlight Foundation explained Open Data and how it promotes transparency. He reviewed efforts in the US to implement Open Data at the local government level. Victoria Lewis, dataMontgomery Project Manager for Montgomery County, discussed the history of Montgomery County's involvement with open data. She described Montgomery County's dataset inventory, its Open Data website, and initiatives that make use of open data to further engage residents. Zaki Barzinji, Governor McAuliffe's Deputy Director, Intergovernmental Affairs, provided an overview of the governor's efforts to promote Open Data in Virginia, particularly at the local government level. He suggested ways that citizens could encourage their local officials to implement an Open Data initiative in their communities. Edith Wilson of the Shirlington Civic Association provided an example illustrating how access to Arlington County data allowed a small group of volunteers to show the proximity of civic associations to parks with and without playgrounds as data and on maps of the county. Questions from the audience ranged from how effective Open Data would be in regions like the Washington area where there were multiple, sometimes antagonistic, independent jurisdictions to how individual privacy is protected in open data environments.

Unfinished Business

Membership Committee

President Pryor reported that Arlington Mill and Shirlington boundary issues had been resolved.

By-laws Amendment

Sarah Shortall presented the By-laws Committee's report on an amendment of Article III, Section 7 of the Federation's By-laws proposed by the Executive Committee at the October 2015 Federation Meeting. This amendment would change the way annual dues are set and clarified the dues collection process. A motion to approve this amendment was made and seconded. A substitute motion to replace the first sentence in ExCom's proposed amendment was made and seconded. A "friendly" amendment to replace a word in the substitute motion was accepted and then withdrawn upon objection. The substitute motion failed by a vote of thirteen to eleven. The main motion was then approved by a two-thirds show of hands.

New Business

Membership Application

A motion to approve the membership application of NoVa Norml was made and seconded. In discussion, President Pryor said that Norml's application had been reviewed carefully and it met the membership requirements in the Federation's By-laws. The motion was approved by a two-thirds show of hands.

Announcements

- The next Membership Meeting will be held at 7:30 PM on December 1, 2015.
- The Executive Committee will meet at 7:30 PM on Sunday, December 6, at the fire station at 4805 Wilson Blvd.
- November 19 is the deadline to submit material for the December newsletter.
- The final draft of the Community Facilities Study is available at <http://commissions.arlingtonva.us/community-facilities-study/documents/>. The November 10 County Board and School Board joint meeting with the Community Facilities Study Committee was recorded and should be available soon.
- Stan Karson said that Radnor Fort/Myer Heights will have meeting on airport noise with MWAA participation at 7:00 PM on November 17 in the meeting room at 1400 N. Oak St.
- President Pryor said that two ACCF representatives were needed to participate in the APS Key Stakeholders Group. The first meeting of this group will be held at 7 PM on November 19 in the cafeteria of the Carlin Springs Elementary School.
- President Pryor said that an ACCF representative was needed to serve on the Fire Station #8 Advisory Board. This individual cannot be a resident of this fire station's normal service area.
- President Pryor said that League of Women Voters in Arlington will present a program titled "Going SOLAR in Arlington" from 7 PM to 9 PM on November 17 in the first floor conference room at 2300 Wilson Blvd.

The meeting adjourned at 10:01 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Dennis Gerrity, Secretary

**APPROVED AMENDMENT OF ARTICLE III, SECTION 7 OF THE ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC
FEDERATION BY-LAWS**

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.