

## October Membership Meeting Minutes

Secretary Maureen Coffey noted that we reached a quorum, and President Duke Banks gave a brief introduction, thanking Virginia Hospital Center and calling the meeting to order. President Banks recognized the 18 All-Star organizations from the September meeting, and noted that we had attendance from 68 delegates and 43 organizations at that meeting. President Banks also thanked the career center and its students for filming the October meeting. The agenda and the consent agenda were both approved unanimously, with no amendments.

Treasurer Sarah Shortall reminded those in attendance that membership verification forms must be submitted by October 31. Organizations that do not submit their membership forms, including a verification of 20 members and their list of delegates and alternates, will not be able to vote.

President Duke Banks asked new delegates in attendance if they would introduce themselves. He also announced that for personal reasons, two board members needed to resign and that nominations to fill their places should be sent to the Federation's secretary, Maureen Coffey.

President Banks reminded attendees that ART is planning route changes and there will be a public comment period concluding October 31, and that the Federation is looking for chairs for several committees.

**Vice-President's Report:** Vice President Nicole Merlene gave an overview of the strategic planning process that the Board of Directors undertook at our August meeting. She introduced one of the results of this process, which is the addition of an open mic session to the end of meetings. Each delegate or alternate will get 30 seconds to provide productive comments.

**Bond Initiative Panel:** Vice President Nicole Merlene guided the panel on the bond initiatives. The panel topics and speakers included:

- Overview of County Bonds and Finance - John Touhy
- Arlington Public Schools Bond, Lida Anestidou
- Metro/Transportation Bond, Katie Cristol
- Community Infrastructure Bond, Peter Russelot
- Parks and Recreation Bond, Bill Ross

Questions for the panelists included requesting background information on what the funds would be used for, the longevity of the investments, and whether we were prioritizing the correct things to fund through the bond initiatives.

### **County Budget Listening Session with Katie Cristol, Chair of the County Board:**

Katie Cristol, chair of the Arlington County Board, explained the budget gap that the county is facing for the upcoming budget process, and went over the timeline of how the budget process works. She then took public comment on budget priorities, which included: ensuring accessibility of public comment on the budget; making the content more approachable to the general public; including underrepresented communities in the process; hosting more than one town hall;

working closely with APS; increasing income and not just cutting services; developing the Lee Highway corridor; expanding our definition of transit beyond the metro; needing to talk about the Dillon Rule; actually listening to residents when they provide feedback; paying teachers more; avoiding flashy but not functional projects; and looking beyond one year to ensure stability over time.

**Parks and Recreation Bond Resolution:** Jay Wind presented a resolution in support of the Parks and Recreation Bond measure at the September 2018 meeting. Debate on the resolution was robust, and many voiced concerns about passing a resolution on one bond measure without passing a resolution on all of the bond measures. Votes taken were:

- Motion to table the resolution by Suzanne Sunburg (19 in favor, 19 opposed - motion failed)
- Motion to amend the resolution to end after the text "...encourages all voters to vote yes." without adding any caveats by Sarah Shortall, Treasurer (21 in favor, 15 opposed - motion passes)
- Motion to amend the resolution to add text to indicate that the Federation supports all of the bond measures by Juliet Hiznay (11 in favor, 23 opposed - motion fails)
- Motion to amend the resolution to add text to indicate the the Federation's passage of this resolution has no bearing on the opinion on the other bond measures (11 in favor, 17 opposed - motion fails)
- Motion to pass the resolution, as amended (18 in favor, 15 opposed, 1 abstention - motion passes)

**Resolution on Civil Forfeiture:** Juliet Hiznay presented a resolution on reforming the civil forfeiture laws. The resolution was accepted and President Duke Banks referred it to the legislative committee.

Meeting was adjourned at 9:45 pm.