

Arlington County Civic Federation Jan. 2, 2019, Membership Meeting Minutes

President Duke Banks called the Jan. 2 ACCF membership meeting to order at 7:40 p.m. and thanked the County Board for allowing the Federation to use their meeting room. Motions to approve the meeting agenda and hold a special meeting on Jan. 8 were approved unanimously.

President Banks presented two organizations that the Board of Director recommended for membership: Friends of Aurora Highlands Parks and Gaslight Condominium Association. A motion to approve both organizations for membership were approved unanimously.

The following candidates for the Awards Committee were elected unanimously:

- Sara Anderson
- Michael Beer
- Mileva Hartman
- Scott Pedowitz
- Stef Pryor

Stef Pryor volunteered to chair the Committee.

Conversation with the County Board

- Each County Board member gave a 3-minute introduction to their priorities for the year.
- Questions from delegates included: engagement of citizens; civility in public discourse; budget priorities; environmental efforts and changes in Arlington; and Amazon's relocation to Arlington.

Vice-President Nicole Merlene presented a report recapping the Energize Arlington initiative. She reported in the month of workshops provided to Arlington civic associations and other organizations gave a recap on the events and outcomes from the partnership between the County and the Civic Federation, including a guide that will provide resources for civic organizations.

Public Services Committee Chair Jackie Snelling, Cultural Affairs Committee Chair Tina Wooden, and Planning and Zoning Executive Committee Chair Ben Feeney briefly introduced their committees and ways to get involved.

Old Business

- The decriminalization of marijuana resolution will be considered at the Feb. 5 meeting.
- The "POPS" plan resolution will be considered at the special meeting on Jan. 8.

New Business

- There will be a special membership meeting at 7 p.m., Jan. 8 at Virginia Hospital Center. Topics will include a panel on the Amazon relocation to Arlington and consideration and vote on the "POPS" resolution.
- The February Newsletter deadline is Jan. 24.

The meeting was adjourned at approximately 10 p.m.

Arlington County Civic Federation
Jan. 8, 2019, Membership Meeting Minutes

President Duke Banks called the Jan. 8 ACCF special membership meeting to order at 7:05 pm. He reminded Delegates and Alternate to sign-in and get a voting card. President Banks thanked the Arlington Career Center for filming the meeting. He also reported that Vice President Nicole Merlene had resigned from the Board of Directors due to personal and professional changes. Finally, he reminded everyone that the agenda for the special meeting was approved at the Jan. 2 membership meeting.

The Board of Directors recommended that Arlington County Little League (ACLL) be approved for membership. The Delegates unanimously approved ACLL for membership.

Amazon “Pros and Cons” Panel

- Stephen Fuller, George Mason University
- Sally Duran, Arlington Economic Development Commission
- Roshan Abraham, Our Revolution Arlington

Each panelist gave a brief presentation of their views of the Amazon deal, followed by questions from Delegates and Alternates. Questions included: the methodology used to estimate where people will live; affordable housing; the distribution of wages around the \$150,000 median; the incentive program offered to Amazon; investments in education; impacts on Arlington public schools; and transportation development.

Presentation/Panel on POPS Plan and Level of Service calculations

- President Banks gave a short background to the panel, explaining that the County was invited to present themselves, but sent citizen representatives in their place feeling that they had the appropriate information to answer any and all questions regarding level of service.
- Caroline Haynes and Elizabeth Gearin, presenting the rationale behind the Level of Service methodology
- Peter Russelot and Kari Klaus, presenting opposition to Level of Service methodology the plan incorporated

Delegates and alternates asked questions focusing on: how level of service methodology was chosen; viable alternatives; the engagement of athletic organizations in the process; objections to the cities/counties chosen as comparable to Arlington; objections to the idea that there are too many fields; whether field “rest” time and maintenance were taken into account; whether weather needs were taken into account; why analysis by Peter Russelot and Kari Klaus focused on diamond fields as opposed to other types of fields; how scheduling of ball fields works; how to make scheduling more efficient; and how the athletic organizations and parents feel about field needs and usage.

Consideration of the “POPS” Resolution

- A motion to amend the resolution to strike the text in the section “Be it further resolved...” stating “keeping existing athletic fields in safe, playable condition for longer periods” was made and seconded. The amendment passed 66 - 1 - 0
- A motion to call the previous question was made and seconded. President Banks determined the motion passed with a clear $\frac{2}{3}$ majority. The resolution, as amended, passed 66 for, 17 against and 3 abstentions.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40 pm.