



The Civic Voice



Newsletter of the Arlington County Civic Federation | April 2, 2019 | Volume 103 | Issue 8

Please join us at 6:30 pm in the Hazel Auditorium's lobby to enjoy light refreshments.

Dear Delegates, Alternates and Presidents of Member Organizations,



I want to begin by congratulating Board Member Alexandra Bocian on the birth of her daughter Emily Morgan. I am sure all delegates and alternates join me in wishing the best for both mother and daughter.

We look forward to seeing you twice next week. The first occasion will be at the April Membership meeting on Tuesday, April 2nd,

which will focus on the County and School budgets and a discussion and vote on a Budget resolution. The second time will be CivFed's Annual Banquet and Award Ceremony on Friday, April 5th, which will be held in Patton Hall on Joint Base Myer – Henderson Hall. It will feature Col. Kimberly Peeples, Commander of the base. We are expecting a sizeable crowd and wish to thank all who plan on attending.

All banquet guests must enter Joint Base Myer – Henderson Hall through the Hatfield Gate on 2nd Street South. All are encouraged to arrive by car. Please read the article in the Newsletter explaining what you should do to facilitate your access to the Post. If you do plan on arriving on foot or by taxi or Uber, please let us know so that we can inform the base accordingly.

!Important Notice!

The Civic Federation is changing the day on which it holds its monthly meetings. Effective October 2019, the Federation's General Membership Meetings will move to the third Tuesday of the month. The meetings will continue to start at 7 PM and be held in the Virginia Hospital Center's Hazel Auditorium.

I want to recognize and give thanks to all who have dedicated hours to help organize the banquet, especially our banquet chair, Sandy Newton.

Looking forward, the Nominations Committee is working on identifying the leadership team of CivFed for the coming year. If you are interested in being on the Board of Directors, please

Meeting Agenda

April 2, 2019 Membership Meeting

- 7:00 – Call to order – Approve agenda, minutes and treasurer's report
- 7:15 – County Budget overview
- 7:55 – School Budget Overview
- 8:35 – Cultural Affairs Committee Report
- 8:40 – Old Business – Discussion and vote on R&E Budget Resolution
- 9:00 – New Business – Introduce Election Security Resolution

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contact the Nominations Committee chair ([Sarah Shortall](#)). We anticipate that they will complete their work in a few weeks, and we will be able to elect the Board of Directors for 2019-2020 at our May meeting.

In May, we will have a provocative meeting that focuses on Arlington's efforts to promote transparency through Open Data, plus a discussion and vote on an Election Security resolution. You will not want to miss this presentation.

And in June, we anticipate a program by the Cultural Affairs Committee concerning the state of the arts in Arlington, an update from the Lee Highway Alliance, and an update from the Arlington County Teachers Scholarship Fund that CivFed has traditionally supported.

At our March meeting, we announced a public engagement event that we planned to cohost with the County for March 30th. Because of scheduling issues, we need to postpone this event to a future date. Stay tuned for details.

This month, our newsletter has links to documents that provide [explanatory detail](#) on the operating budget and tax resolution and accompanying report from the Revenue and Expenditure Committee; a [statement and report](#) by the Cultural Affairs Committee; and a [draft Resolution on Election Security](#) by the Legislative Committee. We encourage all to click on the hyperlinks and read the material before the meeting.

Best,

Duke Banks, President

ACCF

More Information about Access to Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall

All banquet guests who do not have a Department of Defense ID must enter the base via its main gate, Hatfield Gate, which is the visitor's gate. This gate is accessed from South 2nd St and Washington Blvd. Patton Hall is a good distance from Hatfield Gate. But if the person is a walker and doesn't mind the walk, they may walk to Patton Hall. We are providing vehicle passes for guests who are driving on base. If you will be walking to the Banquet, we will also need to provide to the base the names of the guests who will be walking so they do not have to undergo a background check at the gate. Please notify Sandy Newton (sandy@civfed.org or 703 522 5593) if you plan to walk to Patton Hall from the Hatfield Gate.

Guests using a taxi or Uber should be aware that the taxi or Uber driver will be required to undergo a background check at the Visitor Control Center before being allowed to travel on base (we would not be able to provide a vehicle pass to a taxi or Uber). The base gets a lot of taxi and Uber drivers on base, and drivers are aware of the requirement, but – an important note – the guest must let the taxi or Uber companies know when requesting the ride that the final destination is on a military installation with the requirement for a background check before being allowed on base. There have been instances where taxi or Uber drivers do not want to undergo the background check and they end up leaving the fare at the gate. Then the person must walk to their final destination.

If coming by taxi or Uber, one should plan an additional 20 minutes for the taxi or Uber driver to go through a security check.

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April is the Month to Discuss the County and APS Budgets and the 2020 Tax Rate

In February, the County Manager and the Schools Superintendent released their proposed budgets. At our March meeting the Revenue and Expenditure Committee introduced a draft resolution concerning the proposed tax rate the County Manager is proposing in his budget. For CivFed's April meeting, the Board of Directors has organized two panels for CivFed members to help delegates better understand the two budgets and the tax rate necessary to finance them.

The first panel will review the County Budget with the following participants:

- Richard Stephenson, Budget Director of Arlington County
- Tenley Peterson, the immediate past chair of the Fiscal Affairs Advisory Commission
- Burt Bostwick of the CivFed Revenue and Expenditure Committee

The second panel will review the School Budget (one of the main drivers of the increased cost expenditures in the County Budget). These include:

- Julia Borgas, Chief of Staff, and Alvera Wilson, Budget Analyst of APS
- A representative of the APS Budgetary Advisory Council if available
- Michael Beer, Chair, CivFed Schools Committee

After these panel discussions, there will be a discussion and vote on the revised R&E Resolution on the budget and tax rate. Here is a [link](#) to the resolution and its report.

Arlington County FY2020 Budget

The County Board will host the following public hearings on the proposed FY2020 budget at the Ellen Bozman Government Center, 307, 2100 Clarendon Blvd., unless otherwise noted:

- Tuesday, April 2 Public hearing on FY2020 proposed budget
- Thursday, April 4 Public tax rate hearing on FY2020 proposed budget

Dates and proposed topics for each Work Session are subject to change. Please check <https://budget.arlingtonva.us/fy-2020-budget-information/> for updates.

Arlington Public Schools FY2020 Budget

The following work sessions on the proposed FY2020 APS budget will be held at 7 p.m., at Syphax Education Center, 2110 Washington Blvd:

- Tuesday, April 2 Budget Work Session 5
- Tuesday, April 9 Budget Work Session 6
- Tuesday, May 7 Budget Work Session 7 (if needed)

Dates and proposed topics for each Work Session are subject to change. Please check <https://www.apsva.us>

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ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION Revenues & Expenditures Committee Real Estate Tax-Rate Resolution for FY2020 April 2, 2019

Whereas, the Arlington County Manager has proposed a base real estate tax rate of \$1.008 and a stormwater management rate of \$0.013 for a total of \$1.021 per \$100 of assessed value, an increase of \$0.015 cents per \$100 of assessed value over tax year 2018 and,

Whereas one cent of the rate increase is designated as a “one time” transfer to the Schools and one-half cent supports General Government functions, and,

Whereas, the County Board has advertised a tax rate of \$1.0335, an increase of \$0.275, and

Whereas, assessments of residential real estate increased by 2.8% and commercial real estate by 4.1%, and,

Whereas, absent an increase in the tax rate the effect of the increase in assessments will result in an increase of 3.8% in revenues from real estate taxes, which exceeds the anticipated rate of inflation for 2020, and

Whereas, under the federal tax code, the itemized deduction for state and local taxes (SALT) are capped at a total of \$10,000, and

Whereas, according to published reports individuals’ tax refunds for 2018 are averaging 8% less than the average for 2017¹, and

Whereas, the effects of the 35-day federal government shutdown are still being felt, and there is no guarantee that there will not be one or more additional shutdowns during 2019 or 2020, and

Whereas, the cumulative effects of the above make it increasingly difficult for residents to afford living in Arlington and make it likely that many residents of Arlington will be faced with significant financial stress during FY 2020,

Whereas, the County manager has not explored savings and efficiencies as suggested in the Arlington County Civic Federation’s resolution of June 2018,

Now therefore be it resolved that the Arlington County Civic Federation, with reservations, supports a tax rate not to exceed the County Manager’s recommendation for a rate of \$1.021 per \$100 of assessment and,

Be it further resolved that, the Civic Federation encourages the County Board, the County Manager and County staff to continue their efforts to prioritize core needs and identify savings ideas, as stated in the Federation’s resolution of June 2018.

Approved by Revenue and Expenditure Committee March 21, 2019

Aye: John Tuohy, Tina Worden, Duke Banks, Frank Emerson, Burton Bostwick, Suzanne Sundburg, Roger Morton

Nay: None

¹Internal Revenue Service as of February 19, 2019 as reported by Michelle Singletary in the Washington Post . https://www.washingtonpost.com/business/2019/02/19/tax-refund-recipients-respond-critics-stop-shaming-me/?utm_term=.abd96b529fda

Follow this [link](#) for the report on this resolution.

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Cultural Affairs Committee Update

Off and running, the committee met on March 19 with a full agenda. Joan Lynch, Arlington Cultural Affairs Division hosted the meeting, gave a tour of the facility and overview of the programming at 3700 S Four Mile Run Dr. The committee marked its Kick-Off by adopting the Statement of Concern shared at the March 2 General Assembly. Tina Worden's attendance and participation was warmly welcomed in all R&E Committee March meetings in preparation for the budget report and resolution.

Both Kate Summers, president of Friends of the Arlington Public Library and Craig Syphax, president of The Black Heritage Museum of Arlington gave brief overviews of their respective organizations' and notable work. Please see the Announcements for the dates and details for the upcoming Library Book Sale, proceeds support Arlington Public Library programs.

The cultural landscape has changed dramatically in the last 9 years and its an exciting prospect to offer a glimpse of Arlington's dynamic culture. With a committee of 18 members, 11 were in attendance. The committee will reconvene in May to prepare for the June 4 presentation.

With an exploding student population and a persistent vacancy rate, the reality of the County's budget burden is on the minds of many.

Arts Advocacy Efforts —Update:

The Arlington arts community is facing devastating cuts to the Cultural Affairs Division. The proposed reductions are:

- 1-Cultural Affairs Audio - Production Specialist \$83,143 1.0 (Vacant)
- 2-Scenic Studio Program Gunston Community Center \$108,621 1.0 (Filled)
- 3-Facility Manager at 3700 S Four Mile Run Dr \$96,663. 1.0 (Filled)
- 4-Costume Lab Gunston Community Center \$70,761 1.0 (Filled)
- 5-Facility Technology Services Director \$151,202 1.0 (Filled)

Total Proposed Reductions: \$510,390.00

And there is a second tier cut: Arts Grants \$70,000. For a complete version of this report on financial issues facing the Arts Community in Arlington, follow this [link](#).

Encore Stage & Studio and **Embracing Arlington Arts** are leading the response to the cuts in the County Manager's FY 2020 Proposed Budget.

Over the last few weeks, the community has organized to reach out to County Board members with emails, meetings, requests for appointments or speaking out against these cuts at Open Door Mondays. On March 11, over 100 attended an open advocacy meeting covered and featured on NBC4 news.

To follow or join in on social media use #ARLsaveourstage or follow this link: <http://www.encorestageva.org/support-us/arlsaveourstage/>

A petition with over 1,900 signatures so far, will be forwarded to the County Board. To get in on this: [change.org petition](https://www.change.org/petition)

A Celebration of the Arts in Arlington will be held on Tuesday, April 2 from 6 - 7 pm. With performances by local groups. All are encouraged to attend and share concerns over the budget cuts. Various groups will have speakers, The Arlington Players will distribute stickers to wear as a show of collective strength - and together attend the 7pm Budget Hearing.

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ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION LEGISLATION COMMITTEE RESOLUTION REGARDING ELECTION SECURITY AND ADMINISTRATION IN ARLINGTON

BACKGROUND

In the fall the Legislation Committee decided that it would propose a resolution on improving election security:

- While Virginia now uses paper ballot voting statewide there are still state and local election security and election administration issues that need to be addressed
- We decided to address the local Arlington issues first since they fall under Arlington's authority, are fairly straight forward, and could be implemented relatively quickly.
- We intend to address the more complex state issues in a future resolution.

In preparing the current resolution and in conjunction with the LWV Arlington Election Security Committee we conducted the following research on Arlington's election security and election administration needs.

- Reviewed the Arlington Board of Elections Strategic Plan, March 20, 2018;
- Reviewed Intelligence Community threat assessments provided to Congress;
- Reviewed election Security documents from the National Academies of Sciences, Medicine and Engineering, and documents from the U.S. Election Assistance Commission;
- Reviewed the Joint Legislative Audit and Review Commission report: Operations and Performance of Virginia's Department of Elections, September 10, 2018
- Reviewed the Center for American Progress, Election Security is all 50 States: Defending America's Elections, February 2018
- Conducted interviews with Linda Lindberg, the Arlington County General Registrar and Gretchen Reinemeyer, the Deputy General Registrar; and
- Reviewed the results of the City of Fairfax Pilot Risk-Limiting Audit.

On March 16, the Legislation Committee met and approved the following proposed resolution for introduction at the April 2nd meeting which states in major part:

NOW, THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, that the Arlington County Civic Federation urges the Arlington County Board provide adequate funding to properly secure voting equipment and ballots in accordance with industry best practices, particularly given that the Arlington Electoral Board will have invested in new voting equipment; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Arlington County Civic Federation recommends that the County Board increase the management-level staff of the Office of the Registrar by one full-time equivalent position, in order to operate a satellite absentee-voting polling place ; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Arlington County Civic Federation recommends that the County Board to work closely with developers to ensure that site plans include appropriate spaces for polling locations, and enforce those site plans; and

FURTHER BE IT RESOLVED, that the Arlington County Civic Federation urges the Arlington County Board direct the Electoral Board and General Registrar to conduct a pilot risk-limiting audit and to provide the resources to do so.

Follow this [link](#) for the complete text of this resolution.

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Draft Minutes

March 10, 2019 Arlington County Civic Federation Board of Directors Meeting

Call to order at 6:37 p.m.

Board members attending the meeting: Duke Banks, Dennis Gerrity, Lois Koontz, Mike McMEnamin, Sandy Newton, and Sarah Shortall. Others attending included Allen Norton (Bylaws Committee Chair), and Tina Worden (Cultural Affairs Committee Chair).

1. Meeting Agenda

A motion to approve the agenda for this meeting was made, seconded and approved without exception.

2. February Board Meeting Minutes

A motion to approve the minutes for the February 10, 2019 Board Meeting was made, seconded and approved without exception.

3. Treasurer's Update

Sarah reported that CivFed had received 2018-2019 membership fees totaling \$4,100 as of this meeting.

4. Priorities

i) Banquet Update:

Sarah reported that there were 109 reservations for the banquet as of this meeting.

Duke reported that the Career Center Color Guard would not be available for the banquet.

Duke said he was working with Tom O'Day to get the Trades Center video crew and their equipment on the post.

Sandy said a piano was not needed.

Head table seating: Sarah suggested Col. Peeples, Leah Rubalcaba, Duke Banks, Sandy Newton and her husband, Scott McCaffery, Stef Pryor, and Dennis Gerrity. No decision was made.

ii) **March 30th Arlington County Public Engagement Workshop:** Duke reported that this event was still being organized. He said it would be held at the Career Center.

iii) **Nominations Committee:** Lois and Sarah said they are trying to develop a slate of candidates that would reflect the county's diversity without sacrificing competency. They said they had made numerous telephone calls to delegates and alternates inquiring about their interest in serving on CivFed's Board. She said many of those with whom she and Lois spoke were receptive to the idea of serving on CivFed's Board of Directors.

iv) **Annual Meeting:** After discussion, Duke moved that CivFed's annual meeting and the election of its 2019-2020 Officers and Board members be scheduled for Tuesday, May 7th. Lois seconded this motion, and it was approved without exception.

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(March 10, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting Draft Minutes Continued)

v) Membership Committee: Dennis said he continued to update CivFed's database as new and revised information became available. He said the CivFed database contained about 1,050 names. The Constant Contact mailing list contained about ninety fewer names because Constant Contact suspended delegates and alternates who did not open their email. Dennis agreed to include a warning in the April newsletter about this problem.

Bylaws Committee: Sarah said she expected to have revised guidelines for draft Board Resolutions ready for review within the next week or so.

vii) Leadership Arlington: After discussion, the Board authorized Duke to tell the Leadership Arlington Foundation that, if invited, the CivFed would be willing to send a representative to one of its meetings to explain what the Federation does, but the Federation could only support or endorse Leadership Arlington initiatives through resolutions passed by the Federation's membership.

viii) Motor Vehicle Personal Property Tax Relief for Arlington Veterans: Duke moved that John O'Hara be authorized to present a report at the March County Board Meeting on CivFed's resolution recommending that the County Board give motor vehicle personal property tax relief on one motor vehicle owned by Arlington veterans who have a 100 percent service-connected permanent and total disability rating as determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs. This motion was seconded and approved unanimously.

ix) ACCF Facebook Page: Duke reported that Chanda Choun had volunteered to manage CivFed's Facebook page. After discussion, the Board decided to accept Mr. Choun's offer to take on this responsibility.

5) Programming for General Membership Meetings

April:

- Presentation and discussion of the County Manager's FY2020 Budget proposal by a panel comprised of representatives from Arlington County's Department of Management and Finance, Arlington County's Fiscal Affairs Commission and CivFed's R&E Committee followed by a Q&A period (30-40 minutes total);
- Presentation and discussion of the APS Superintendent's FY2020 Budget Proposal by a panel comprised of representatives from the APS finance staff, the APS Budget Advisory Council and CivFed's R&E and Schools Committees followed by a Q&A period (30-40 minutes total);
- Report and vote on R&E Committee FY2020 Tax Rate Resolution, 15-20 minutes;
- Introduce a Legislation Committee Resolution on Election Security in Arlington, 5 minutes.

Duke advised board members that the County Board has a Public Comment session and the School Board has a budget workshop scheduled for the evening of April 2 and these might make it difficult to find staff members to participate on these panels. Duke said he would work on finding County F&M staff and someone from the Fiscal Affairs Commission to participate on the County Budget panel. Lois said she would work with Duke to find representatives from the APS finance staff, and the APS Budget Advisory Council to serve on the APS budget panel. Board members recommended that at least an hour be allocated to each of

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(March 10, 2019 Board of Directors Meeting Draft Minutes Continued)

these budgets, and with just an hours' time, panel participants should be encouraged to focus on what they see as the key points in these budgets and consult with each other to make sure their efforts are not duplicative. Sarah said she would like R&E to provide details on budget cuts it recommended in its resolution. Duke said this type of information would likely be included in a white paper that will accompany R&E's resolution.

May:

- Transparency/Open Data Program;
- Election of 2019-2020 officers and board members;
- Report and vote on a Legislation Committee Resolution on Election Security in Arlington;
- Announce 2019-2020 Membership Dues.

June:

- Cultural Affairs Committee presentation;
- Lee Highway Alliance presentation;
- A report from Lois on the end of the Arlington County Scholarship Fund for Teachers;
- Possible informational presentation by P&Z and Housing on the impact of Amazon on affordable housing in the county.

September:

- Candidates Forum: Board Member Mike McMenamin agreed to organize this event.

October:

- Human Trafficking: Board Member Sandy Newton agreed to organize this event.

6) April Newsletter

Duke said the deadline for submitting material for the April newsletter was March 21. Sarah said she had other commitments which would not leave her enough time to contribute articles to the April newsletter. The Board reviewed responsibilities for preparing material for the April newsletter. Dennis agreed to write most of them.

7) Carryover from February Board Meeting

8) Rest of Year Workplan

Sarah moved that items 7 and 8 on this meeting's agenda be tabled until the April Board meeting. Lois seconded this motion, and it was approved without exception

The meeting adjourned at approximately 8:25 PM. These minutes were submitted by Dennis Gerrity

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Draft Minutes March 5, 2019 ACCF Membership Meeting

Call to Order: Federation President Banks noted the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 7:05 PM. President Banks led the meeting in reciting the Pledge of Allegiance. The meeting's agenda was approved as submitted and the minutes for the February 5, 2019 Membership Meeting were approved as submitted. The February Treasurer's report was filed subject to audit.

Member Organizations All-Stars: President Banks announced that the following member organizations had two or more delegates and/or alternates present at the February 5, 2019 Membership Meeting: Alcova Heights Citizens Association; American Association of University Women; Arlington East Falls Church Civic Association; Arlington Tree Action Group; Bluemont Civic Association; Columbia Heights Civic Association; League of Women Voters; Lyon Village Citizens Association; Waverly Hills Civic Association; Woman's Club of Arlington.

Career Center Video Recording of this Meeting: President Banks thanked Career Center students Seb Duall, Campbell Hamilton-Howard and Emilio Tonelli; Duane Loomis a sound technician with the Career Center TV production program; and Career Center instructor Tom O'Day for making a video recording of this Federation meeting.

2019 ACCF Banquet and Awards Ceremony: President Banks reminded those attending the meeting that the 103rd Civic Federation Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony would be held from 6 PM to 10 PM on Friday, April 5, in the Koran Room at Patton Hall, the former Officer's Club of Joint Base Myer-Henderson Hall. It will feature Col. Kimberly Peeples, post commander, as the program speaker. Meals would be priced at \$45 until March 10th and \$65 thereafter. Those registered by March 10th will receive a pass that will give them access to the post as guests of the commandant. President Banks thanked Sandy Newton for her efforts as chair of the Banquet Committee.

2019-2020 Nominations Committee: President Banks reported that Michael Beer, Eric Berkey, Dennis Gerrity, Lois Koontz and Sarah Shortall agreed to serve on the 2019-2020 Nominations Committee. A motion to approve these five individuals as members of the 2019-2020 Nominations Committee was made, seconded and approved without exception.

2018-2019 Board Secretary: President Banks reported that the Board of Directors had nominated Dennis Gerrity, an Alternate Delegate for NoVa Norml, to serve as Board secretary for the balance of the 2018-2019 fiscal year. President Banks asked if there were any nominations for the Secretary's position the floor. There were none, .A motion to approve Dennis Gerrity as Board Secretary until June 30, 2019 was made, seconded and approved without exception.

Old Glebe Boundary Change: President Banks reviewed Old Glebe's application to expand its boundaries. He said there were no objections from individuals and civic associations that could be affected by this boundary changes. Sarah Shortall advised President Banks that a motion to approve a boundary change must pass by a two-thirds majority vote. A motion to approve this boundary change request was made, seconded and approved by a two-thirds margin given that there was only one vote in opposition.

A Conversation on WMATA: President Banks introduced Christian Dorsey, Arlington County Board Chair and a member of the Metro Board, and Maura Brophy, Federal City Council Associate Director for Transportation and Infrastructure, who discussed the challenges facing the Washington Metropolitan Transit Authority (WMATA) and Metro including the issues of governance and how to re-establish public trust to increase ridership. Chairman Dorsey and Ms. Brophy answered these and other questions from

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(Draft Minutes March 2019 General Membership Meeting Continued)

3 delegates and alternates: cleanliness of Metro cars; maintaining reliability of service during major maintenance programs; coordinating Metro, the ART bus system and new “mobility” options; getting the private sector to provide subsidies to encourage their employees to use Metro; Silver Line ridership; Metro on Columbia Pike; Metro bus ridership; expectations for the Purple line; maintenance efforts and Metro service levels; revising the Metro Compact; increasing ridership in the era of Uber, Lift, electric scooters and electric bicycles; weekend reliability; increasing service levels during off-peak hours and on weekends.

Listening Session on Amazon: Christian Dorsey, Arlington County Board Chair, and Erik Gutshall, Arlington County Board Member, gave brief presentations on Arlington County’s agreement with Amazon and then listened to the following comments and answered questions from delegates and alternatives on this agreement: Has Amazon committed to working with established small businesses and banks in Arlington? Has Amazon discussed partnerships with the Arlington Public School System? Will the County guarantee transparency in its discussions with Amazon on the use of revenue from the hotel occupancy tax? How will the county guarantee that Amazon will be a sustainable energy user? How will Amazon fit in the Community Energy Plan? Will Amazon offset increased emissions created by their employees commuting to work? Will Amazon be entitled to Tech Zone incentives? Has the County asked Amazon what will the mean salary paid to its employees in Arlington? What percentage of Amazon’s employees will be executives and what percentage be will administrative and support staff? What steps can be taken to make the impact of Amazon on housing costs be equitable on Arlington’s residents? Why aren’t small businesses getting benefits similar to those Amazon will receive from the County? Does Amazon really need \$26 million in benefits to locate in Arlington? Are the County’s estimates of the future growth in the Transit Occupancy Tax realistic?

Legislation Committee Resolution on Motor Vehicle Tax Relief for Disabled Veterans: John O’Hara, a delegate representing the Arlington East Falls Church Civic Association and a member of the Legislation Committee, gave a report on a resolution recommending motor vehicle tax relief for disabled veterans prepared by the Legislation Committee. This resolution states in relevant part that the *Arlington County Civic Federation recommends the Arlington County Board approve motor vehicle personal property tax relief on one motor vehicle owned by Arlington veterans who have a 100 percent service-connected permanent and total disability rating as determined by the U.S. Department of Veterans Affairs by amending Arlington County Code §27-11-1; and further that the Arlington County Civic Federation recommends the Arlington County Board adopt a reduced motor vehicle personal property tax rate of \$.01 per \$100 assessed vehicle value on one motor vehicle owned by a disabled veteran with a 100 percent service-connected permanent and total disability rating, which is like the motor vehicle personal property tax rate Fairfax and Loudoun Counties have approved for disabled veterans.*

Questions from delegates and alternates included: How many people be affected by this resolution? Did veterans request this relief from the personal property tax? What other categories of people are exempt from the personal property tax?

Debate on resolution: A delegate spoke in favor giving veterans who have a 100 percent service-connected permanent and total disability personal property tax relief as described in this resolution. Another delegate argued that it would be better to give personal property tax relief to all citizens in Arlington with a 100% permanent and total disability rather than a small group of individuals so afflicted. He said he was concerned about awarding more and more exemptions from the County’s personal property tax.

Sarah Shortall moved that the Legislative Committee’s Resolution on Motor Vehicle Tax Relief for Disabled Veterans resolution be approved as amended. Lois Koontz seconded this motion, and it was approved by a vote of 27 ayes, 3 nay, and 1 abstention.

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(Draft Minutes March 2019 General Membership Meeting Continued)

New Business

ACCF Cultural Affairs Committee: Tina Worden, chair of the ACCF Cultural Affairs Committee, gave a brief summary of issues her committee will be dealing this year, in particular, cuts affecting the arts in the FY2020 budget. She invited interested delegates and alternates to participate in her committee's meetings.

Revenues & Expenditures Committee Real Estate Tax-Rate Resolution for FY2020 John Tuohy, a delegate representing the Waverly Hills Civic Association and a member of the Revenue and Expenditures Committee introduced a resolution recommending in relevant *part that the Arlington County Civic Federation, with reservations, supports a tax rate not to exceed the County Manager's recommendation for a rate of \$1.021 per \$100 of assessment and,*

Be it further resolved that, the Civic Federation encourages the County Board, the County Manager and County staff to continue their efforts to prioritize core needs and identify savings ideas, as stated in the Federation's resolution of June 2018.

Questions and comments from delegates and alternates included: A delegate pointed out that the resolution did not contain any source material and asked that this be corrected; and further, there were two whereas clauses that were opinions that should be sourced or struck from the resolution.

President Banks said he would refer this resolution to the Legislative Committee and the Revenues and Expenditures Committee. President Banks said other committees were welcome to review this resolution with R&E at meetings which can be found in the March newsletter.

March Board of Directors Meeting: President Banks announced that the March Board of Directors Meeting would be held at 6:30 PM on March 10 at Fire Station 2, 4805 Wilson Blvd.

April 2019 Membership Meeting: President Banks announced that the April 2, 2019 Membership Meeting will be held in the Hazel Auditorium at the Virginia Hospital Center. The meeting will begin at 7:00 PM. The meeting will focus on the County and School FY2020 budgets and a vote on the final version of R&E's FY2020 Tax Rate resolution.

April Newsletter Deadline: President Banks reminded the meeting that March 21 was the deadline for submitting material for the April newsletter.

The meeting adjourned at approximately 9:35 PM.

Respectfully submitted: Dennis Gerrity

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ACCF Treasurer's Report – February 1-28, 2019

Checking		
Beginning balance (2/1/19)		\$ 8,010.67
Deposits		
Banquet – 2019	\$ 2,157.50	
Checking	\$ 971.29	
PayPal	\$ 3,128.79	\$ 3,128.79
Expenditures		
Administrative		
Constant contact	\$ 66.50	
P.O. Box rental	\$ 96.00	
	\$ 162.50	\$ 162.50
Ending balance (2/28/19)		\$ 10,976.96
Savings		
Beginning balance (2/1/19)		\$ 4,426.25
Deposits		
Interest	\$.10	\$.10
Expenditures	\$.00	\$.00
Ending balance (2/28/19)		\$ 4,426.35
PayPal		
Beginning balance (2/1/19)		\$.00
Deposits		
Banquet - 2019	\$ 1,005.00	
	\$ 1,005.00	\$ 1,005.00
Expenditures		
Transfer to checking	\$ 971.29	
PayPal fees	\$ 33.71	
	\$ 1,005.00	\$ 1,005.00
Ending balance (2/28/19)		\$ 0.00
Arlington Community Federal Credit Union		
Beginning balance (1/1/19)		\$ 10,051.56
Deposits		
15-month CD interest	\$ 7.82	
18-month CD interest	\$ 19.16	
	\$ 16.98	\$ 16.98
Expenditures	\$ 0.00	\$ 0.00
Ending balance (1/31/19)		\$ 10,068.54
Total Assets		\$ 25,471.85
Total Liabilities		\$ 0.00
Fund Balance		\$ 25,471.85
Total Liabilities and Fund Balance		\$ 25,471.85

Respectfully submitted, Sarah Shortall, Treasurer

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2018-2019 Officers and Board of Directors Members

President – Duke Banks (duke@civfed.org)
Vice President – Position Vacant
Secretary – Dennis Gerrity (dennis@civfed.org)
Treasurer – Sarah Shortall (sarah@civfed.org)

Board of Directors Chair, Position Vacant
Board of Directors Vice Chair Lois Koontz (lois@civfed.org)
Board Member Rick Epstein (rick@civfed.org)
Board Member Sandy Newton (sandy@civfed.org)
Board Member Alexandra Bocian (alexandrab@civfed.org)
Board Member Mike McMenamin -- (michael@civfed.org)

2018-19 ACCF MEMBER STANDING COMMITTEES

Audit -- Chair Jay Wind -- jay@civfed.org
Banquet – Chair Sandy Newton -- sandy@civfed.org
Bylaws – Chair Allen Norton -- allen@civfed.org
Cultural Affairs – Chair Tina Worden – tina@civfed.org
Emergency Preparedness – Chair Jackie Snelling - jackie@civfed.org
Environmental Affairs – Chair John Seymour --john@civfed.org
Housing – Chair Eric Brescia -- ericbrescia@civfed.org
Legislation – Chair Ron Haddox -- ron@civfed.org
Membership – Chair Stefanie Pryor– membership@civfed.org
Parks and Recreation – Duke Banks (POC)– duke@civfed.org
Planning and Zoning – Chair Ben Kenney – ben@civfed.org
Public Relations – Duke Banks (POC)– duke@civfed.org
Public Service - Chair Jackie Snelling – jackie@civfed.org
Revenues and Expenditures – Burt Bostwick (POC) – burt@civfed.org
Scholarship – Chair Lois Thomas Koontz – lois@civfed.org
Schools – Chair Michael Beer– michaelbeer@civfed.org
Transportation – Chair Jerry Auten - jerry@civfed.org

Any Delegate, Alternate and member of a Member Organization may participate on any Member Standing Committee (ACCF Bylaws, Section 3.03). Please contact the Committee chair or point of contact or President Duke Banks if you are interested participating on ACCF Member Committees.

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UPCOMING EVENTS

- Tuesday, April 2** **ACCF Membership meeting**
Virginia Hospital Center – Hazel Auditorium
1701 N. George mason Dr.
7 p.m.
- Friday, April 5** **ACCF Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony**
Koran Room, Patton Hall
Joint Base Myer Henderson Hall
Enter base at 2nd Street entrance
6 p.m. - cocktails, 7 p.m. – dinner and program
- Sunday, April 7** **ACCF Board meeting**
Fire Station 2
4805 Wilson Blvd.
6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 7** **ACCF Membership meeting**
Virginia Hospital Center – Hazel Auditorium
1701 N. George mason Dr.
7 p.m.
- Tuesday, May 14** **ACCF Board meeting (note date and venue change)**
Arlington Woman’s Club
700 S Buchanan S.
6:30 p.m.
- Tuesday, June 4** **ACCF Membership meeting**
Virginia Hospital Center – Hazel Auditorium
1701 N. George mason Dr.
7 p.m.
- Sunday, June 9** **ACCF Board meeting**
Fire Station 2
4805 Wilson Blvd.
6:30 p.m.

Does your organization have events to include in the ACCF newsletter?
Send your news items by the Newsletter deadline to ACCFMembership@email.com

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The Civic Voice

Common Parliamentary Motions Applicable to and Used in the Deliberative Process

Motion (“I move”)	Purpose	Second re-quired?	Debatable?	Amendable?	Vote re-quired?
Main motion	Puts new business before the membership.	Y	Y	Y	Majority
Amend motion	Revises or changes wording or elements of the main motion.	Y	Y	Y	Majority
Discharge issue from committee	Takes/keeps issue from committee and brings before membership before/without committee report/consideration.	Y	Y	Y	Majority, 2/3rds – if no prior notice
Limit/extend debate	Changes amount of time normally permitted for debate/discussion.	Y	Y	N	Two-thirds
Suspend rules	Sets aside normal operating rules, suspends standing rules without previous notice.	Y	N	N	Two-thirds
Table the motion	Stops debate and vote on motion.	Y	Y	N	Majority
Postpone to time certain or indefinitely	Delays deliberation to specific future time or kills motion (postpone indefinitely).	Y	Y	Y	Majority
Appeal decision of the chair	Disagrees with chair and lets members decide. Must appeal immediately.	Y	Y	N	Majority - sustains chair
Previous question Call the Question	Cuts off debate. Maker of motion first must be recognized by chair.	Y	N	N	Two-thirds
Reconsider	Reconsiders vote taken at same meeting. Maker must be on prevailing side.	Y	Y, if original motion is	N	Majority
Recess	Interrupts meeting for a short break.	Y	Y	Y	Majority
Adjourn	Ends meeting immediately.	Y	N	N	Majority

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The Civic Voice

Announcements

Spring Book Sale: Friends of the Arlington County Public Library will hold their Spring Book Sale in the garage of the main library located at 1015 N. Quincy St on Thursday, April 4, 2019, 5 PM to 9 PM, MEMBERS ONLY (Membership available at the door); Friday, April 5, 2019, 10 AM to 6 PM, open to all; Saturday, April 6, 2019, 10 AM to 6 PM, open to all; Sunday, April 7, 2019, 12 PM to 6 PM, open to all and everything is half price! For details: 703-228-5990; TTY: 703-228-6320; Special accommodation: 703-228-5993.

Email from CivFed: Please make sure to open email you receive from Civfed. Constant Contact, the software service CivFed uses to distribute newsletters and various types of messages, assumes your email address is inactive if you do not open email from CivFed, and it suspends email service from Civfed to you.

Tenant-Landlord Commission: The Tenant-Landlord Commission meets at 7:00 PM on Wednesday, April 10, in the Azalea Room at 2100 Clarendon Blvd. Comprised of tenant, landlord and public interest representatives, the commission hears grievances and facilitates disputes between tenants and landlords and advises the County Board on policy and programs. [Click here](#) for the commission's agenda. Public comment is welcome.

NCAC: The Neighborhood Conservation Advisory will meet from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm on Thursday, April 11 in the Navy League Building at 2300 Wilson Bld.. For more information about this meeting, follow this [link](#) to the NCAC's webpage.

Transportation Commission: The Transportation Commission's April meeting will be held on Thursday, April 4, starting 7:30 p.m. in Room 307 of the Ellen M. Bozman Government Center in Courthouse. For more information, follow this [link](#) to the Transportation Commission's webpage.

Planning Commission: The Planning Commission's March April will be held on Monday, April 8, starting 7:00 pm in Room 307 of the Ellen M. Bozman Government Center in Courthouse. The Planning Commission has scheduled a Carry-Over meeting for Wednesday, April 10, starting 7:00 pm in Room 307 of the Ellen M. Bozman Government Center in Courthouse. For more information, follow this [link](#) to the Planning Commission's webpage.

Housing Commission: The Housing Commission's September meeting will be held on Thursday, April 7, starting 7:00 p.m. in Room 311 of the Ellen M. Bozman Government Center in Courthouse. For more information about these meetings, follow this [link](#) to the Housing Commission's webpage.

Arlington County Board: The County Board's April meeting will be held on Tuesday, April 23, starting 8:30 a.m. Click here for this meeting's [agenda](#) a few days before April 23 The Board Recessed Meeting will be held on Thursday, April 25, starting at 3:00 p.m.

Parks and Recreation Commission: The Parks and Recreation Commission will hold a meeting starting at 7:00 pm on Tuesday, April 23, in Room 311 in 2100 Clarendon Blvd. Click here for this meeting's [agenda](#) a few days before April 23.

April Newsletter: The deadline for April CivFed newsletter articles is Thursday, April 21. Newsletters are published approximately 1 week before monthly meetings. [\(back to table of contents\)](#)

Guidelines for Participation in Q&A Periods and Member Comments at Membership meetings

To expand both diversity and breadth of engagement of Delegates and Alternates in discussions at Civic Federation meetings, the Board has developed some new guidelines:

- * Before discussion starts on a specific issue, we will ask how many Delegates/ Alternates want to ask a question or make a comment. This will help us determine how much time we can allow for each speaker and whether there will be any time for non-Delegates/Alternates to speak.
- * We want to invite new Delegates/Alternates and Delegates/Alternates who have not spoken before or recently to be the first to come to the microphone to speak.
- * To be respectful to all Delegates/Alternates who want to speak, each speaker needs to keep their questions and comments within the time allotted. Please be mindful of the timekeeper and remaining time.
- * Unless stated otherwise, speakers will have 30 seconds to ask their question or make a comment. To give as many Delegates/Alternates as possible an opportunity to speak, follow-up questions and comments are not permitted.
- * A Delegate/Alternate may speak only once on an issue unless all other Delegates/Alternates have had an opportunity to speak.
- Speakers are expected to follow the rules of civility.

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Parking at the Virginia Hospital Center

Delegates, Alternates and others attending Arlington County Civic Federation meetings at Virginia Hospital Center can park for **FREE** in the **B/GOLD** garage under the 1635 Medical Office Building at Virginia Hospital Center. Although everyone must take a ticket to enter the **B/GOLD** garage, the exit gate will be raised when you leave or you can insert your ticket and it will raise. The garage has abundant parking spaces. Please note, parking in any other lot on the Virginia Hospital Center property is not free.



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