

## A Tribute to Jim Pebley

With extreme sadness, we announce the passing of Jim Pebley on June 23, 2020. He was 69 and had been battling cancer. Jim was a former ACCF President, a winner of the Sun-Gazette Cup, and a member of the Civic Federation's Order of Distinguished Meritorious Service.



Professionally, Jim was a naval aviator. After retiring from the Pentagon, Jim spent several decades leading large aeronautical teams working on next generations projects. Jim was front and center on Arlington's issues of the day, such as airline safety at Reagan National, Fire Department staffing, and "Backyards Not Barnyards" that fought off chicken-raising in the county. Jim also served on the County's Fiscal Affairs Advisory Commission (FAAC), the Emergency Preparedness Commission (EPAC), and the Planning Commission. In each of his endeavors, Jim was knowledgeable, compassionate, and dedicated.

Jim had a special place in his heart for the USS Arlington and the 9-11 Scholarship Fund. Those who wish to honor Jim's memory may contribute to the Arlington Historical Society, 9-11 Fund, P.O. Box 100402, Arlington, Virginia 22210-3402.

## September 8, 2020 Virtual ACCF Membership Meeting

The September 8, 2020 ACCF Membership Meeting will be conducted virtually using Zoom, a video conferencing platform. Delegates; Alternate Delegates; others associated with member organizations; and the public are invited to attend.

**\*\*\*Please be advised: We are implementing a new registration and check-in process:**

**Advance Registration for the meeting is required, and it must be completed by Noon Tuesday, September 8th.**

Registration is free, please register early, even if your availability is still uncertain.

To register in advance for this meeting, use the following link:

**[https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclceisqzwjG9dfPM79ovq\\_GE\\_4PWnGDFd5](https://us02web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZclceisqzwjG9dfPM79ovq_GE_4PWnGDFd5)**

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing your unique log-in/phone-in details for the meeting. We encourage you to check-in between 6:00 PM and 7PM.

To expedite the check-in process please use your first and last name as your profile name

so that we can confirm electronic ballots for delegates. The check-in process is one individual at a time, so it may take some time. Please be patient.

If you are not familiar with Zoom, here is [a link to information and instructions on how to register and participate in CivFed's September 8, 2020 Membership Meeting.](#)

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## September 2020 Membership Meeting Agenda

7:00 Regular Business (Pledge, Approve Minutes, Greet New Delegates etc.)

7:10 2020 Candidates Forum

8:40 NAACP Membership Application and Vote

8:50 Introduction to a Resolution to establish a Governance Task Force

9:05 Introduction to a Resolution to Increase the size of CivFed's Board of Directors

9:10 Old Business

9:15 New Business

9:20 Electronic Ballots will be emailed

9:30 Adjournment

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## September Ballots

In accordance with our Bylaws, voting delegates must be present at the meeting to receive a ballot. Electronic Ballots will be emailed shortly before the end of the meeting. Ballots will be sent to the email addresses used at registration.

Delegates and alternates are designated by the member organization. Please contact your organization if you are unsure if you are a delegate or to designate an alternate in your absence.

The [Secretary](#) must be notified of alternates acting as substitutes for voting delegates by Noon, Tuesday, September 8.

Voting will close at noon on Wednesday, September 9. The president will introduce the ballots shortly before the meeting is adjourned. Results will be announced via email to the membership at 6:00 PM on Wednesday, September 9, 2020.

Voting members will receive two ballots.

- Draft June 16, 2020 Membership Meeting Minutes
- Approve NAACP Request for Membership

If you are a voting delegate and do not receive a ballot, please contact [Allan Gajadhar](#).

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## President's Corner

Welcome to the 2020-21 Civic Federation season. This season arrives in the midst of significant, life-changing turmoil. The reasons- the pandemic, protests, the election, civil unrest- are as old as time, but their current intersection and impact weigh on all of us in a very real, profound sense. We as the Civic Federation, through the work of our delegates, committees and member organizations, continue to address issues such as these that affect us all.

It is election season; the result of the November election will have a significant impact on our future. Our membership meeting on September 8<sup>th</sup> is our annual Candidates' Night, where nominees will present their positions to us, and answer questions. We hope that you will join us. In addition to the candidates, we will have a brief presentation by our Arlington County Director of Elections regarding mail-in voting procedures.

Also please note that our Membership Meetings will continue to be virtual at least through January. This has required us to examine and update our processes to align with our

bylaws. We ask for your continued patience and cooperation as we implement and refine the registration and check-in process.

[See above for information on how to register for the meeting.](#)

It is also Back-to-School season. APS students are learning virtually for now, many of our local college students have returned to campus. Later this year, we will host the APS School Board and Superintendent.

Our committees have a full slate of activities this year, a few highlights:  
We are introducing a resolution to the membership to consider a Governance task force that will be examining ranked choice voting, and the composition of the County Board. Dave Schutz has an article in this newsletter with details.

Our Legislative Affairs, Public Services and Schools' Committees will be looking at police practices and civil rights. We will also host the County Board, our state legislative delegation and the County Manager this year.

The Revenues & Expenditures Committee will be looking at the County budget, including upcoming bond issues on the November ballot.

The Livability 22202 task force continues to advocate for livability needs in the Crystal City and Virginia Highlands area.

In October, our Public Services Committee will be hosting Dr. Reuben Varghese, the Arlington County Public Health Director.

Our Civic Federation committees, delegates, member associations and community advocates work closely with Arlington County and many non-profits in order to provide essential services to our fellow residents. Even though we have all become used to the 'new normal', it is important to remember that there are many people in our county who are unemployed, who don't know where their next meal is coming from or if they can afford rent. I encourage everyone to continue your good work supporting community food banks and local small businesses. These are times when the true character of our citizenry is apparent in our efforts to help the needy and advocate for justice. I am proud to live in a community with such commitment to making Arlington a welcoming, diverse, and caring place.

Warmly,

[Allan Gajadhar](#)

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## **Arlington County Civic Federation 2020 Candidates Forum**

The Arlington County Civic Federation (ACCF) is pleased to host our annual Candidate Forum on September 8, 2020. As in past years, we have invited candidates who will be on the ballot in Arlington. This year we have planned for four panels to include candidates for: US Senate from Virginia, US House of Representatives District 8, Arlington County Board and Arlington School Board. All seats are contested. For more details about Arlington's ballot on November 3, 2020, visit this [link](#).

We have already heard from all but two candidates that they plan to attend, virtually, of course. ACCF President Allan Gajadhar will moderate the forum at the September Zoom meeting at 7pm. Please remember to sign in to the meeting using your full name starting at 6:00pm.

We will kick off the evening with a quick update from the [Arlington County Director of Elections](#) staff. They will provide the most up-to-date instructions on voting for the November elections in Arlington.

Questions for Candidates: Because of the Zoom format, there will be a few changes to the evening. Federation President [Allan Gajadhar](#) would like Committee Chairs, delegates and alternate delegates to submit questions for the candidates in advance to him by Monday, September 7. He will then pose the selected questions to the candidates. Delegates attending the meeting may submit additional questions using the Zoom chat function. He will ask them as time permits. We recommend you contact committee chairs and discuss your questions in advance if possible! You will find a list of committee chairs in this newsletter.

Please join us and get to know your candidates as the Fall campaign season gets into full swing. This forum is a terrific opportunity to introduce candidates and to refresh and update yourself on the policies and positions of incumbents.

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## **NAACP Application to Join the Civic Federation**

The Federation's Board of Directors unanimously recommends the membership application of the Arlington branch of the NAACP to join the Civic Federation. Mr. Julius D. Spain, Sr., President of the Arlington branch of the NAACP, will introduce his organization to the membership. For more information about the Arlington branch of the NAACP, please follow this [link](#).

Voting members will be asked to approve the NAACP membership application by electronic ballot at the end of the meeting.

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## **Resolution to Establish an Arlington Governance Taskforce**

At its July meeting, CivFed's Board of Directors approved bringing to the membership a resolution establishing a Task Force to examine, and propose reforms, for Arlington's form of government. It has been ninety years since the at-large Board of five part time members replaced the prior system of district commissioners, and in that time Arlington's population and complexity of government have increased manyfold. Possible reforms to be considered by this task force include:

1. Structural reform through district representation and/or multi-member synchronous elections.
2. The size and/or remuneration of our county board and/or school board.
3. Ranked choice voting for County Board and School Board general elections.
4. The future role of primaries and caucuses.
5. Options for alternative electoral mechanisms besides first past-the-post and ranked choice.
6. Term Limits

Follow this [link](#) to read the complete resolution.

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## **Resolution to Add Two Board Seats**

Whereas the Bylaws, Section 3.02, allows the Board to consist of between 9 and 13 individuals,

Whereas the current Board consists of 9 individuals,

Whereas the Board would benefit from additional members,

Whereas the Membership sets the number of Board members,

Be it resolved that the Board supports adding two Board seats, and resolves to put the question of expanding the Board by two seats to the Membership at the next Membership meeting.

# Preparing for and Responding to COVID-19

## [Arlington is in Phase 3 of Forward Virginia](#)

[Emergency Ordinance](#). The County has installed physical distancing ordinance signage and began Phase I enforcement of its physical distancing ordinance on Friday, August 28, 2020. Location and enforcement details can be found in this [Newsroom Release](#).

[Coronavirus \(COVID-19\) updates from Arlington County](#) includes:

- Key Updates
- Information and Resources
- Frequently Asked Questions about COVID-19

[Steps to Slow the Spread of COVID-19](#) tells residents what to do if they or family members are sick or have symptoms. In addition, the guide provides instructions about how to identify people who came into close contact with you while you were sick.

The [Arlington Community Corps](#) is a resident initiative to bring the community together and support each other neighbor-to-neighbor. Helping us get through this pandemic by connecting neighbors who need help with neighbors who want to help.

- For more information or questions, email:  
[arlingtoncommunitycorps@gmail.com](mailto:arlingtoncommunitycorps@gmail.com).

## [Virginia's Stay-at-Home Order FAQ](#)

Arlington's COVID-19 Mental Wellness [resource page](#) contains:

- Hotline links and phone numbers
- Health and Wellness Resources for Arlingtonians
- Resources for Practicing Self-Care and Resilience
- Parenting/Caregiver Guides to help support kids through the COVID-19 Crisis
- Guides for Caregivers for Older Adults
- For Those Experiencing Emotional Distress

[Arlington County Public Library](#) locations remain closed to the public at this time.

- Central Library is open for holds pickup only. [Learn more](#).
- Librarians are available online and by phone during set times. Follow their link for more details: <https://library.arlingtonva.us/chat-live/>

Parks & Recreation is following Phase 3 of Forward Virginia. Visit their [page](#) for a full menu of facility operations and programs.

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## Legislative Committee Report

The Legislation Committee has been active this summer. It has been focusing its attention on two areas:

- **Coronavirus Response** - Members of the committee have been tracking coronavirus response in Arlington, inquiring about basic human resources support in the county to address emergency needs associated with food insecurity and loss of housing. This aligns with one of our current areas of inquiry: Virginia landlord-tenant law.
- **Formation of a Civil Rights Working Group** - The purpose of the working group is to share information learned with the membership, and to develop appropriate recommendations.

Here is a [link](#) to the full report.

New members to the Legislative Committee are always welcome, please reach out directly to the working group lead Juliet Hiznay at [juliet@jdhezay.com](mailto:juliet@jdhezay.com).

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## **Airport Noise Mitigation Study.**

Arlington County and Montgomery County have jointly funded a study to identify, evaluate and propose mitigations to reduce aviation noise impacts on communities north of Reagan Washington National Airport (DCA). The study is being conducted by ABCX2, who will provide technical resources to elected officials, staff, and the North of Airport Committee of the DCA Community Working Group. Arlington County and Montgomery County, along with the study team, want to hear from you!

Online feedback is being accepted through September 21st. For details about the study and where to share your input, visit this [link](#). The study is expected to conclude its findings with a report in February 2021.

An initial briefing provided by the consultants for the community was held on August 17, 2020. Joe Pelton, CivFed's Airport Noise Committee Chair, prepared a report on this briefing. Here is a [link](#) to Joe's report.

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### **A Virtual Conversation with Arlington Community Leaders & County Leadership Monday, September 14, 2020 6:30 PM-8:00 PM**

Arlington County Government and the Arlington County Civic Federation invite you to join your friends and community leaders in a Virtual Conversation,

We have been inspired by everyone who has pitched in neighborhoods across Arlington to help family, friends and neighbors navigate through these unprecedented times. While we still have wide-spread community transmission of COVID, we hope to take some time to meet virtually for an informal conversation on COVID-19, race and equity, the final stretch of Census 2020, and other topics of interest for your neighbors. We will also have the opportunity to introduce you to Arlington's newly appointed Chief Race and Equity Officer, Samia Byrd.

**Please RSVP by emailing [engagearlington@arlingtonva.us](mailto:engagearlington@arlingtonva.us).**

If you are not available at this specific time, we ask that you share the name and email of another member of your team who can attend in your place. As we get closer to the conversation, we will send a reminder that includes the link/joining information for accessing this virtual session.

We look forward to "seeing" you for this informal and interactive session. As always, if you have any questions or concerns, please let us know. Thank you!

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**Arlington County Public Schools**

[APS Website](#)

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[The Civic Federation's Website](#)

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[ACCF Treasurer's Report – June 1, 2020 – June 30, 2020](#)

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## **2020-2021 Board of Directors**

### **Officers**

Allan Gajadhar, [President](#)  
Tina Worden, [Vice President](#)  
Allen Norton, [Secretary](#)  
Burt Bostwick, [Treasurer](#)

### **Board of Directors**

Board Chair, [Eric Cassel](#)  
Member at Large, [Michael Cantwell](#)  
Member at Large, [Mike McMenamin](#)  
Member at Large, [Stacy Meyer](#)  
Member at Large, [John Vihstadt](#)

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## **2020-2021 ACCF PUBLIC INTEREST COMMITTEES**

Cultural Affairs – [Chair Tina Worden](#)  
Environmental Affairs – [Chair Mary Glass](#)  
Housing – [Chair John Vihstadt](#)  
Legislation – [Chair Ron Haddox](#)  
Parks and Recreation – [Chair Duke Banks](#)  
Planning and Zoning – [Chair Ben Keeney](#)  
Public Services – [Chair John Ford](#)  
Revenues and Expenditures – [Burt Bostwick \(POC\)](#)  
Schools – [Chair Michael Beer](#)  
Transportation – [Co-chairs Jerry Auten and Joe Pelton](#)

- Airport Noise Subcommittee – [Chair Joe Pelton](#)

## **2020-2021 FEDERATION SUPPORT COMMITTEES**

Audit -- [Chair Jay Wind](#)  
Awards – Chair – Tbd  
Bylaws and Rules – [Chair Allen Norton](#)  
Banquet – Tbd  
Communications – [Chair Tina Worden](#)  
Membership – [Chair Dennis Gerrity](#)

Any Delegate, Alternate or member of a Member Organization may participate on any Public Interest or Support Committee. Please contact the Committee chair or point of contact or [President Allan Gajadhar](#) if you are interested in participating on ACCF Committees.

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## **ACCF Email Account Update**

The Board of Directors is working with Adam Henderson to reorganize and streamline the ACCF email system with the goals of improving its performance and reducing its maintenance cost.

Effective immediately, email accounts for Officers, Board Members and Committee Chairs will no longer be created by attaching an individual's name to [@civfed.org](#). The new practice is to attach the role of the individual to [@civfed.org](#). For example, ACCF President

Allan Gajadhar used to have [allan.g@civfed.org](mailto:allan.g@civfed.org) for his ACCF email account. Now Allan's ACCF email account is [president@civfed.org](mailto:president@civfed.org).

[Click](#) here for a list of other updated ACCF email accounts.

Adam Henderson has begun eliminating inactive ACCF email accounts. The status of active ACCF email accounts will be assessed individually based on their relevance to the affairs of the Civic Federation.

Please email your questions and comments to Tina Worden at [vicepresident@civfed.org](mailto:vicepresident@civfed.org)

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## **LINKS TO MEETING DOCUMENTS**

[Draft June 16, 2020 Membership Meeting Minutes](#)

[Approved June 28, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes](#)

[June 2020 Treasurer's Report](#)

[Approved July 19, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes](#)

[Draft August 23, 2020 Board of Directors Meeting Minutes](#)

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## **!Please Remember!**

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