

The Arlington County Civic Federation [ACCF] was founded in 1916 as a federation of Civic Associations within the then-Alexandria County. A key early initiative was to rename Alexandria County to avoid confusion with Alexandria City, the two entities having been separated by an Act of the Virginia General Assembly in 1870. This was accomplished with the naming of Arlington County in 1920.

As the ACCF's establishment was grounded in an alliance of Civic Associations, a long-standing function of the Federation has been to approve boundary changes, resolve boundary disputes and approve name changes with regard to Civic Associations. Since the turn of the 21<sup>st</sup> century, the ACCF has considered at least eight Civic Association-related actions:

- Nauck C A renamed to Green Valley C A [Apr 2019]
- North Highlands C A boundary dispute [2018-2019]
- Adding certain 'orphaned' areas to Douglas Park C A [Jul 2016]
- Arlington Mill C A / Forest Glen C A boundary clarification [Dec 2015]
- New Shirlington C A [Sept 2015]
- Columbia Heights West renamed to Arlington Mill [Sept 2015]
- Merge Forest Hills C A into Arlington Ridge C A [Mar 2012]
- Leeway Overlee C A / Highland Park-Overlee Knolls C A boundary dispute [Mar 2002]

It is noted that no formal agreement or Memorandum of Understanding (MOU) with regards to ACCF's role in Civic Association relations exists with the Government of Arlington County. Rather it is long-standing and traditional practice for the County Board to refer such matters that come before it to ACCF, as Civic Associations are self-organized entities, not governmental bodies, and ACCF was originally founded as an alliance of Civic Association that pre-dates the Arlington County governmental organization. The County Board therefore does not see such Civic Association disputes as within its jurisdiction.

Civic Association engagement and activity is by nature fluid due to the availability of individuals willing to serve as officers of these associations, and as such, some Civic Associations may experience a period of dormancy. It has been the historical practice of ACCF to suspend Civic Associations who experience such dormancy and to re-admit them immediately upon their self-reactivation and fulfillment of ACCF membership requirements (leadership certification, dues payment, etc). Our current bylaws inadvertently do not recognize this precedent and simply state that all lapsed member organizations must re-apply for membership once lapsed. The Amendment clarifies that Civic Associations in such circumstances will be treated as suspended with all ACCF privileges, including voting, revoked until such time as the Civic Association recertifies itself to the Secretary and brings its dues current. Civic Associations in such circumstances will NOT be required to re-apply for ACCF membership as if they were a new organization.

As Civic Associations endure regardless of activity or inactivity, this Amendment seeks to mitigate continuity issues and confusion with regard to boundary changes, disputes, and name changes while memorializing the traditional role of Civic Associations within ACCF as well as ACCF responsibilities with regard to Civic Associations for future ACCF members and leaders.