

ACCF General Meeting Notice

NORMAL START TIME

Tuesday, January 8, 2008, 7:30 PM

Hazel Conference Center

Virginia Hospital Center – Arlington

1701 North George Mason Drive

1. **7:30pm** - Pledge of Allegiance (formal start of meeting)
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes (December 4, 2007)
4. Treasurer's Report
5. **7:40 pm** Committee Reports/Announcements
6. **7:50 – 8:50 pm - Program on Accessory Dwellings - (See Page 1)**
 - Presentation on AD Program and AD Report (25 minutes)
 - Specific Questions and Answers from Committees (10 minutes)
 - Member Question and Answer Period (25 minutes)
7. **8:50 – 9:10 pm – Program on Arlington Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) – (see page 2)**
8. **9:10 – 9:25 pm** – Timely Notices and Information resolution progress/discussion (See Page 2)
9. **9:25 – 9:30** – New Business & Other Announcements
10. **9:30 pm** – Adjournment

Accessory Dwellings (ADs)

The Accessory Dwelling (Ads) Proposal will call for Zoning Ordinance Amendment(s). On December 12 the Housing Commission discussed, amended, approved and forwarded to the County Board a proposal to amend the Zoning Ordinance to permit Accessory Dwellings. A broad public process, providing opportunities for community comment, begins prior to County Board consideration of amending the Zoning Ordinance. Reid Goldstein, Arlington Housing Commission member, has chaired the AD subcommittee and will provide an up-to-date overview of the proposal at the January 8 meeting.

What is an Accessory Dwelling Unit - An accessory dwelling is a second dwelling with kitchen and bath on a single family lot inside **or** detached from the main house. A "unit" would be permitted in basements, second floors, attics, garages and other accessory structures.

Rationales for allowing accessory dwellings include:

- Facilitating Elders' ability to age in place through added income or space for caregivers;
- Increasing affordable home ownership opportunities;
- Expanding the supply of affordable rental housing without the use of County subsidies;
- Providing extra income through small landlord opportunities;
- Accommodating greater variety of household budgets and circumstances; and
- Fostering investment in the existing housing stock.

Addressing Issues -The issue of overcrowding is addressed through four components. The Proposal would require the owner to:

- live on the property;
- limit the number of occupants
- limit the size of ADs to 1,000 square feet; and
- grant access to code enforcement inspectors if there are complaints about the AD.

The owner-occupancy requirement provides a major incentive for careful choice of tenants since problems such as noise would affect the owner more directly than the neighbors. The requirement to grant inspectors' access to the AD is key to enforcement through documentation of any problem.

Parking is addressed by the proposal. The parking standard for an AD Permit is 65% and which is stricter than that for the current residential parking permits which is 75%. If the block is more than 65% parked there would be some requirements for maintaining parking spaces.

The proposal suggests a two-tier approval process for an AD Permit:

- For ADs **within** the house, e.g. in basements or attics: by-right when all ordinance conditions are met; and
- ADs in **detached** structures: by use permit approved by the County Board. A use permit allows neighbors to provide input on the details of structures to ensure compatibility with the existing neighborhood.

The Zoning Administrator would issue the AD Permit once the building code, zoning and parking requirements were met.

The Executive Summary and the full report can be found at the County website:

<http://www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/CPHD/housing/hpp/CPHDHousingHppHsgCommission.aspxset>



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Arlington County Civic Federation
C/o Lawrence R. Mayer
3108 Fourth Street North
Arlington, VA 22201-1614

February Meeting: Tuesday, February 5, 2008

The Major Topic: Arlington County Board Program

February News deadline: January 16, 2008

Tidbits

New activities or actions, considered or approved, by the Executive Committee since the December meeting is itemized. Unless specifically noted, material has been posted to our Web site.

1. **Appointments** –By-Laws Chair – Jean Mostrom; Arlington’s Neighborhood Traffic Calming Committee ACCF Representative - Mileva Hartman; Reappointment to APS Budget Advisory Council – Rich Samp.
2. **Increased Electronic Communication** – We messed up in December! For the foreseeable future to clipboards for Email address will be available at every general meeting OR, better yet send it to us!

Banquet – Banquet is March 28, 2008 at the Hyatt Arlington. Stay tuned for further particulars!

Community Themes and Strengths Assessment Survey

The Arlington MAPP (Mobilizing for Action through Partnerships and Planning) program is being conducted through a steering group under the auspices Reuben K. Varghese, MD, MPH; Health Director; Arlington County Public Health. ACCF participates in the steering group. As part of the process, a survey has been prepared with the desire for broad participation of Arlington residents.

Many factors are important to your quality of life as you live, work and play in Arlington. The County's MAPP health initiative is promoting a survey of residents to determine key factors for a healthy community.

Check the ACCF Web site for links to survey information and/or forms. We also hope to have copies of the survey on the front tables at the January meeting.

Arlington Medical Reserve Corps

The mission of the Arlington County Medical Reserve Corps (MRC) is to assist the Arlington County Public Health Division during public health emergencies; promote public health education and support to ongoing public health initiatives and programs. The MRC was first funded by the Department of Health and Human Services, Office of the Surgeon General in September 2003. In essence, the MRC is to Public Health what CERT is to OEM.

Arlington County Public Health department recruits and trains current or retired physicians, dentists, veterinarians, pharmacists, nurses, and members of the general public with relevant skills to help in emergencies. Members of the MRC may assist in mass immunization or medication clinics, help with epidemiologic investigations, work with public health staff to respond to telephone inquiries, assist in public health clinics, and in public health outreach and education.

We will hear a brief presentation on the MRC at the January meeting with time for questions and answers.

Resolution on Timely Notices and Information

At the December meeting, the Executive Committee was charged with the task of possibly developing a resolution relating to timing and public availability of information from the County Board for their meetings. This desire, expressed on the part of delegates was precipitated by the Stormwater Tax proposals timing and information availability.

At the time of *Civic Voice* publication, the “legal” parameters, advisability and/or any final resolution language had not been concluded. Latest information on this topic will be available on the ACCF Website and the meeting.