



THE Civic Voice

ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

Newsletter of the Arlington County Civic Federation

January 2011

Meeting Notice

Tuesday, January 4, 2011
7:30 p.m.

Hazel Conference Center
Virginia Hospital Center
1701 N. George Mason Drive
Arlington, VA 22205

www.civfed.org

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Agenda

- 7:00 Submit written questions for the forum moderator to ask the legislator panel until 7:30 p.m. Questions from the floor will also be recognized during the legislative delegation program.
- 7:30 Call meeting to order
Pledge of Allegiance
Adopt agenda
Officer reports
Member delegate announcements
- 7:40 Legislative Delegation Program
- 9:00 Snow Removal and Winter Storm Program
- 9:50 Unfinished Business (*none anticipated*)
- 9:55 New Business
- 10:00 Adjourn

Executive Committee

Mark Antell, Chair mark@civfed.org
Gary Barbee, Vice-Chair gary@civfed.org

The Executive Committee will meet on January 10, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. at 4805 Wilson Boulevard (Fire Department Station 2 in Ballston) to coordinate committee work, plan future meeting programs, and organize the February Civic Voice newsletter.

In addition to asking questions from the floor during the legislative delegation program, Civic Federation member delegates may submit written questions for the forum moderator to ask the legislator panel. Written questions should be submitted in the lobby from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m.

Civic Federation member delegates adopted the Tax Administration motion at the December 7, 2010, membership meeting (www.civfed.org/replegtaxadmin10-12.pdf).

Agenda Details

Legislative Delegation

Peter Owen peterowen@civfed.org

Peter Owen, chair of the Civic Federation Legislation Committee, will lead an informational program with invited guest speakers:

- Delegate Robert Brink,
- Delegate Adam Ebbin,
- Delegate David Englin,
- Delegate Patrick Hope,
- Senator Patricia Ticer, and
- Senator Mary Margaret Whipple.

The legislators will discuss Arlington neighborhood-focused issues and answer questions from Civic Federation member delegates. Member delegates may ask their question from the floor during the legislative delegation program or submit their question in writing in the lobby from 7:00 p.m. to 7:30 p.m. The forum moderator will pose the written questions to the legislators.

Snow Removal & Winter Storms

Sal D'Itri sal@civfed.org

Sal D'Itri, chair of the Civic Federation Public Services Committee, will lead an informational program about what Arlington residents should expect this winter regarding Arlington's new residential sidewalk snow removal policy, Arlington's snow clearing operations, and countywide electric power delivery with guest speakers:

- Dave Hundelt, Arlington County Department of Environmental Services,
- Deborah Johnson, Senior External Affairs Manager, Dominion Virginia Power, and
- Hunter Moore, Assistant Deputy County Manager, Arlington County.

Committee News

Awards

Sharon Rogers sharon@civfed.org

Mark Antell, Martha Moore, Sharon Rogers Kathryn Scruggs, and Jackie Snelling were elected to the Civic Federation Awards Committee at the December 7, 2010, Civic Federation meeting. The committee will consider recipients for the Sun Gazette Cup and Certificate of Appreciation awards that will be presented at the Civic Federation banquet on April 8, 2011 (www.civfed.org).

Community Relations

Sharon Rogers sharon@civfed.org

Thank you Barbara Donnellan and Patrick Murphy for discussing countywide budget and school system policy with the Civic Federation on December 7, 2010.

Thank you Civic Federation committee chairs Michael Beer, Cecelia Espenosa, and Wayne Kubicki and the members of the Civic Federation Revenues and Expenditures Committee and Schools Committee for leading the budget and school system overview program.

Ms. Donnellan's and Dr. Murphy's presentations are on the Civic Federation website (www.civfed.org/prescm1012.pdf) and (www.civfed.org/presaps1012.pdf).



Barbara Donnellan, Arlington County Manager



Patrick Muphy, APS Superintendent

Civic Federation member delegates will welcome Members of the Arlington County Board at the February 1, 2011, Civic Federation meeting to discuss countywide issues. Civic Federation Vice President Terri Prell (terri@civfed.org) is leading the program planning.

Emergency Preparedness

Jackie Snelling jackie@civfed.org

On December 14, 2010, the first annual report of the Arlington County Emergency Preparedness Advisory Commission was submitted to the Arlington County Board by commission Chairman Christopher Essig. In his remarks, Chairman Essig reported that public outreach will be a priority and that, while much work remains, the Commission has "started a dialogue with the Arlington County Civic Federation." The report includes accomplishments from this year such as the focus on the Emergency Management and public safety budgets and a preview of commission priorities for the coming year. The Chairman's remarks and the full annual report are available on the Arlington County website (www.arlingtonva.us/departments/Commissions/emergency_preparedness/members/page74450.aspx).

The Commission was created in May 2009 in recognition that preparedness efforts must be collaborative and when, confronted with a crisis, the community must respond as a system in order to ensure the greatest service to those in need.

Housing

Kathryn Scruggs kathryn@civfed.org

The committee will meet on January 31, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. at 935 N. Liberty Street (Scruggs residence).

Legislation

Peter Owen peterowen@civfed.org

The committee has transmitted to Arlington's state legislators the Tax Administration motion that Civic Federation member delegates adopted as a resolution on December 7, 2010:

Whereas, the Commissioners of the Revenue Association of Virginia has proposed certain changes to Virginia tax administration to create more efficient, accurate and customer friendly tax assessment and collections,

Whereas, the Association's proposals would allow local tax administrators to provide "one-stop" services for certain local businesses, and would be able to more promptly and accurately assess sales and other taxes from certain local businesses, and

Whereas, "local" tax administration addressed by the Association's proposals would in Arlington County be administered by the office of the Commissioner of Revenue,

Be it therefore Resolved, That the Arlington County Civic Federation supports legislation allowing local registration for state and local business taxes, local monitoring of the local option portion of the state sales and use tax, local/state tax audit partnership for the meals tax, and local registration and monitoring of businesses that are subject to the licensing laws of the Department of Professional and Occupational Regulation.

The committee is preparing the Legislative Delegation program for the January 4, 2011, Civic Federation meeting.

The committee has not received, other than the tax administration issue, federal or state

legislative issues to organize in a supplement for member delegates to consider adding to the Civic Federation legislative packages that have been adopted in past years. Please send countywide, neighborhood-focused legislative issues to Peter Owen.

Membership

Mileva Hartman mileva@civfed.org

The committee takes great pride keeping an up to date list of neighborhood civic association presidents (www.arlingtonva.us/Departments/CountyBoard/org/civic.asp). Please be sure to send Mileva Hartman updates for officers and/or Civic Federation delegates.

The 2011 Civic Federation meeting schedule and topics for January through June are on the website (www.civfed.org/10-11-mtgdates-chairs.pdf). Please make every effort to ensure that your community participates.

Parks and Recreation

Jay Wind jay@civfed.org

The committee will meet on January 25, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. at 2909 16th Street, South (Walter Reed Community Center). The committee will begin to prepare input for the Civic Federation Revenues and Expenditures Committee about the portion of the 2012 Arlington County budget within the Parks and Recreation Committee's jurisdiction.

Public Services

Sal D'Itri sal@civfed.org

In preparation for the January 4, 2011, Civic Federation program about snow removal and winter storms, the committee is reaching out to neighborhood presidents to find out what information would be important for them to hear during the discussion. The program will focus on what Arlington residents may expect this winter regarding Arlington's new sidewalk snow removal ordinance,

Arlington's snow clearing operations, and countywide electric power delivery.

Information about Arlington County's comprehensive snow removal plans and priorities are on the Arlington County website (www.arlingtonva.us/portals/topics/TopicsWeatherWinter.aspx).

A new Arlington County ordinance requires property owners to remove snow and ice from public sidewalks adjacent to their property within 24 hours after the snow stops falling when accumulations are less than 6 inches, and within 36 hours when 6 or more inches of snow accumulate.

To support the many generous snow clean-up neighborhood volunteers, Arlington County maintains 25 snowblowers to lend to civic associations or community groups to assist with clearing routes to schools and Metro stops, or to clear the walkways of neighbors with disabilities or special needs. The snow blowers are loaned to groups according to the size and importance of the area they can support. Training is provided. All snowblowers have been allocated for the 2010-2011 snow season. Interested groups may [get on a list](#) to be contacted for consideration for next season's effort.

The committee is studying a portion of the Arlington County policy and practice of controlled home burning. This is due to concerns expressed by Civic Federation member organizations that burned homes could be left standing for an extended time.

Revenues and Expenditures

Wayne Kubicki wayne@civfed.org

The committee is preparing to begin work on a comprehensive study of the 2012 Arlington County budget. The committee will discuss its conclusions and recommendations with Civic Federation member delegates at the April 5, 2011, Civic Federation budget and tax rate program.

Schools

Michael Beer michaelbeer@civfed.org
Cecelia Espenosa cecelia@civfed.org

The committee will meet on January 25, 2011, at 7:00 p.m. at 1015 N. Quincy Street (Arlington Central Library) to prepare and plan for the March 1, 2011, Civic Federation School Board program and the April 8, 2011, school system budget committee report.

The committee will conduct a comprehensive study of the 2012 Arlington Public Schools budget and will discuss its conclusions and recommendations with Civic Federation member delegates at the April 5, 2011, Civic Federation budget and tax rate program.

Special Events

Peter Olivere peterolivere@civfed.org

Please look for your Civic Federation banquet invitation in the mail the first week of March. The banquet will be held on April 8, 2011, at 1900 N. Fort Myer Drive (Rosslyn Holiday Inn).

Unfinished Business

No unfinished business from the December 7, 2010, Civic Federation meeting is anticipated to come before the Civic Federation on January 4, 2011.