



# THE Civic Voice

ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

Newsletter of the Arlington County Civic Federation

March 2011

## Meeting Notice

Tuesday, March 1, 2011  
7:30 p.m.  
Hazel Conference Center  
Virginia Hospital Center  
1701 N. George Mason Drive  
Arlington, VA 22205  
[www.civfed.org](http://www.civfed.org)

## Agenda

- 7:00 Member delegates may sign up to be selected to ask a question during the School Board Members program in the lobby from 7:00 to 7:30.
- 7:30 Call meeting to order  
Pledge of Allegiance  
Adopt agenda  
Officer reports  
Member delegate announcements
- 7:40 School Board Members Program
- 8:50 Neighborhood Edge Development Informational Program
- 9:20 Unfinished Business - Motion on Community Benefits Information
- 9:40 New Business
- 9:45 Adjourn

## Content Summary

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## Executive Committee

Mark Antell, Chair [mark@civfed.org](mailto:mark@civfed.org)  
Gary Barbee, Vice-Chair [gary@civfed.org](mailto:gary@civfed.org)

The Executive Committee will meet on March 7, 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 April Civic Voice newsletter.

Following the traditional Civic Federation process to prepare for the April budget and tax rate program, Civic Federation committee chairs should participate in the Revenues and Expenditures Committee meeting on March 12, 2011, at 1:00 p.m. at 2909 16th Street South (Walter Reed Community Center). Committee chairs should present budget recommendations in their jurisdiction relating to the County Manager's 2012 proposed budget ([www.arlingtonva.us/departments/ManagementAndFinance/budget/file80241.pdf](http://www.arlingtonva.us/departments/ManagementAndFinance/budget/file80241.pdf)). Committee recommendations must reflect formal consideration with a vote count.

# Agenda Details

## School Board Members

Michael Beer [michaelbeer@civfed.org](mailto:michaelbeer@civfed.org)

Cecelia Espenoza [cecelia@civfed.org](mailto:cecelia@civfed.org)

Michael Beer and Cecelia Espenoza, co-chairs of the Civic Federation Schools Committee, will lead an informational program with Members of the School Board as invited guest speakers:

- Sally Baird, Board Member
- Libby Garvey, Board Chair
- James Lander, Board Member
- Abby Raphael, Board Vice Chair
- Emma Violand-Sanchez, Board Member

The Board Members will discuss systemwide policy issues and answer questions from Civic Federation member delegates.

- 20 minutes - The Arlington County Board Member panel will have up to 20 minutes to make opening remarks.
- 25 minutes - Questions prepared by the Civic Federation Schools Committee. The School Board Member panel will have up to four minutes to jointly respond to each question.
- 25 minutes - Questions from Civic Federation member delegates. The School Board Member panel will have up to four minutes to jointly respond to each question. Questions should be limited to 30 seconds. Civic Federation member delegates will be selected to ask questions through a drawing system and may register to be selected by signing up in the lobby from 7:00 to 7:30 p.m.

## Neighborhood Edge Development

Larry Mayer [larrymayer@civfed.org](mailto:larrymayer@civfed.org)

Martha Moore [martha@civfed.org](mailto:martha@civfed.org)

Larry Mayer and Martha Moore, co-chairs of the Civic Federation Planning and Zoning

Committee, will lead an informational program and member delegate discussion about neighborhood edge development.

The committee is has been leading discussions with neighborhood civic associations about the challenges of transitioning from commercially-zoned areas to residentially-zoned areas. This video describes a recent project: (<http://tinyurl.com/Edge-Development>).

The goal of the presentation is threefold: to give an interim report about the issues they have encountered and possible guidelines for future development; to seek input from member delegates; and to encourage additional neighborhood civic associations to participate in a review.

# Committee News

## Community Relations

Sharon Rogers [sharon@civfed.org](mailto:sharon@civfed.org)

Thank you Terri Prell, Civic Federation Vice President, for leading the February 1, 2011, Civic Federation Arlington County Board Member program. Barbara Favola, Board Member, Jay Fisette, Board Member, Mary Hynes, Board Vice-Chair, Walter Tejada, Board Member, and Christopher Zimmerman, Board Chairman, participated as guest speakers.



The Civic Federation Cultural Affairs, Environmental Affairs, Housing, Parks and Recreation, Planning and Zoning, Public Services, Revenues and Expenditures, and Transportation committees prepared questions and Civic Federation member delegates representing 15 member organizations asked questions. Thank you all very much.

## Membership

Mileva Hartman [mileva@civfed.org](mailto:mileva@civfed.org)

What programs would benefit your Civic Federation member organization? Please let us know so we may plan the May 3rd and June 7th meeting agendas.

## Planning and Zoning

Larry Mayer [larrymayer@civfed.org](mailto:larrymayer@civfed.org)

Martha Moore [martha@civfed.org](mailto:martha@civfed.org)

At the March 1, 2011, Civic Federation meeting, the committee will be involved in two separate agenda items. First, the committee will lead the neighborhood edge development discussion. Second, the committee will present a report on the status of its study of the motion for resolution about community benefits information.

## Revenues and Expenditures

Wayne Kubicki [wayne@civfed.org](mailto:wayne@civfed.org)

To prepare a comprehensive study of the 2012 Arlington County budget and tax rate, the committee will meet on February 20th at 1:00 p.m., February 27th at 1:00 p.m., March 6th at 1:00 p.m., March 12th at 1:00 p.m., March 20th at 1:00 p.m., March 27th at 1:00 p.m., and April 2nd at 1:00 p.m. The location for all the meetings will be 2909 16th Street South (Walter Reed Community Center) in the conference room).

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](mailto:michaelbeer@civfed.org)

Cecelia Espenoza [cecelia@civfed.org](mailto:cecelia@civfed.org)

The committee will attend the Arlington County School Board meeting on February 24, 2011, at 7:30 p.m. at 1426 North Quincy Street to hear Superintendent Murphy's proposed 2012 budget. Member delegates interested in joining the committee are welcome to participate.

In addition to leading the March 1, 2011, School Board Members program, the committee is conducting 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](mailto:peterolivere@civfed.org)

Paul Ferguson, Clerk of the Circuit Court of Arlington County and the City of Falls Church, will be the honored guest speaker at the Civic Federation Banquet and Awards Ceremony.

Please look for your 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). Seating is limited so please RSVP quickly. Cocktails will be served at 6:30 p.m followed by dinner at 7:30.

## Arlington County Board Budget Worksessions for the 2012 Arlington County Budget

Date	Date	Topic
February 8 (Tuesday)	3:00-5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Work session with County Manager               <ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>◦ <a href="#">Overview of Proposed FY 2012 Budget</a></li> <li>◦ <a href="#">Budget Summary Tables</a></li> <li>◦ <a href="#">Manager's Message, ECC Initiative, Operational Efficiencies</a></li> </ul> </li> </ul>
February 15 (Tuesday)		Overview at County Board Meeting
February 22 (Tuesday)	3:00 – 5:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Revenue Overview</li> <li>• County Board</li> <li>• County Manager</li> <li>• Management &amp; Finance</li> <li>• Technology Services</li> <li>• Human Resources</li> <li>• County Attorney</li> </ul>
February 24 (Thursday)	4:30 – 6:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Fire</li> <li>• Police</li> <li>• Office of Emergency Management</li> <li>• Sheriff</li> </ul>
March 1 (Tuesday)	3:00 - 5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Circuit Court</li> <li>• General District Court</li> <li>• Juvenile &amp; Domestic Relations District Court</li> <li>• Commonwealth's Attorney</li> <li>• Commissioner of Revenue</li> <li>• Treasurer</li> <li>• Electoral Board</li> <li>• Magistrate</li> </ul>
March 3 (Thursday)	2:00 – 4:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Arlington Economic Development (General Fund, Travel &amp; Tourism Fund, Rosslyn BID, Crystal City BID, Ballston BID)</li> <li>• Libraries</li> </ul>

March 8 (Tuesday)	2:00 - 5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Department of Environmental Services (General Fund, Transportation Investment Fund, Stormwater Fund, Utilities Fund, Auto Fund, Printing Fund, Ballston Garage funds, Crystal City TIF)</li> <li>• Metro</li> </ul>
March 9 (Wednesday)	6:30 - 9:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Commissions</li> </ul>
March 17 (Thursday)	10:00 a.m. - 12:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dept. of Community Planning, Housing &amp; Development (General Fund, Community Development Fund, CPHD Develop. Fund)</li> <li>• Housing</li> <li>• Non-Departmental</li> <li>• Compensation</li> </ul>
March 22 (Tuesday)	7:00 p.m.	<b>Public Budget Hearing</b>
March 24 (Thursday)	7:00 p.m.	<b>Public Tax Rate Hearing</b>
March 31 (Thursday)	2:00 - 5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Parks, Recreation and Cultural Resources</li> <li>• Pay-As-You-Go Capital</li> <li>• Debt Service</li> </ul>
April 1 (Friday)	2:30 - 4:30 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Dept. of Human Services</li> <li>• Regionals</li> </ul>
April 4 (Monday)	6:30 - 9:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Schools</li> </ul>
April 5 (Tuesday)	3:00 - 6:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wrap-up – Board direction to staff on what info they still need for decision making</li> <li>• Written questions due from Board members</li> </ul>
April 8 (Friday)	2:00 - 4:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Wrap-up – final follow-up provided by staff</li> </ul>
April 12 (Tuesday)	3:00 – 5:00 p.m.	<ul style="list-style-type: none"> <li>• Final budget decisions / Mark-up</li> </ul>
April 16 (Saturday)		Arlington County Board Budget Adoption

# Unfinished Business

Mark Antell (North Rosslyn) introduced a motion for resolution about community benefits information at the February 1, 2011, Civic Federation meeting. At the March 1, 2011, Civic Federation meeting, member delegates will hear a report from the Civic Federation Planning and Zoning Committee on the matter and then discuss and consider the motion and committee report.

The motion for resolution, as introduced by Mr. Antell and referred to committee, is listed below:

*Whereas, Arlington County grants additional bonus density, building height and similar concessions to builders in exchange for providing community benefits such as affordable housing, traffic mitigation or meeting energy efficiency standards,*

*Whereas, builders can often meet these requirements by a payment of cash rather than by direct provision of the community benefit,*

*Whereas, the community benefit or cash payment in lieu of the community benefit may be used anywhere in the community rather than in the neighborhoods most immediately affected by the bonus density,*

*Whereas, no public accounting is made after-the-fact of the how the community benefit requirements have been met,*

*Whereas, it is good public policy for government to inform civic associations, interested citizens and the press to be information about the outcomes and effects of government decisions about economic development, and*

*Whereas, in some cases, there have been reports that builders have not actually met the terms of the community benefit requirements.*

*Therefore, be it resolved, that the Arlington County Civic Federation requests that the County Manager provide a list with specific information about community benefits provided to the County in exchange for a specified increase in density for development projects in the County for the last five years including:*

- 1. A description of the community benefit provided,*
- 2. If the requirement is met by a payment of cash, the amount of such cash payment and its use by the County,*
- 3. The location of the community benefit provided (i.e., whether it is within the same neighborhood area such as within 3-blocks, or the specific location if it is not provided within the same neighborhood),*
- 4. The amount of additional density in square feet and or building height above by-right requirements, and above the site plan for projects subject to site-plan rules,*
- 5. In cases where the county staff has prepared an estimate of the cost to the builder of providing a community benefit met in kind (such as on-site affordable housing units, meeting energy efficiency standards, etc), the county staff estimate should be provided, and*
- 6. If available, the current rental rates per square foot for retail/commercial space and the average rent for apartments, and monthly condo fees when applicable.*