



THE Civic Voice

ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

Newsletter of the Arlington County Civic Federation

December 2012
Volume 97, Issue 4

Meeting Notice

Tuesday, December 4, 2012
7:30 p.m.
Hazel Auditorium
Virginia Hospital Center
1701 N George Mason Drive
Arlington, VA 22205
www.civfed.org

Agenda

- 7:30 Pledge of Allegiance
Approve agenda
Officer reports
Member delegate announcements
- 7:40 Superintendent Patrick Murphy
- 8:40 Election of Awards Committee
- 8:50 Old Business

Resolution Regarding Proposed Revisions to Chapter 15 of the Arlington County Code ("Noise Ordinance")

- 9:20 New Business
- 9:25 Adjourn

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Executive Committee News

Jim Lantelme, Chair jim@civfed.org
Terri Prell, Vice-Chair terri@civfed.org

The Executive Committee met on November 18, 2012 to plan the agenda for the December 4, 2012, meeting general meeting and discussed the agenda for future meetings (www.civfed.org/officers.htm).

The Executive Committee will meet on December 9, 2012, at 7:30 p.m. at 4805 Wilson Blvd, Arlington VA 22203 (Fire Station 2) to coordinate committee work, plan future meeting programs.

Committee News

Dues Reminder

Dues for Civic Federation member organizations were due on July 1. Article III Section 7 of the bylaws states ". . . Organizations whose dues are more than six (6) months in arrears shall be dropped from membership in the Federation . . . ". If your organization is dropped, you will not be able to speak or vote at our meetings.

We have not received dues payment from the 22 organizations listed below as of November 19, 2012. Please contact your association Treasurer to remedy this problem. If you have any questions, contact our Treasurer Peter Olivere at peterolivere@civfed.org.

Organizations Which Have NOT Paid Dues as of November 19 are:

Arl Gay & Lesbian Alliance
Alcova Heights
Arl County Taxpayers Assn
Arl Heights
Arl Heritage Alliance
ArlingtonDogs
Arlingwood
Astoria Condo Assoc
Carlton Condo Assn
Cherrydale
Civic Coalition Minority Affairs
Claremont
Col Village II
Columbia Forest
Columbia Heights West
Friends of GMU
Leeway Overlee
Long Branch Creek
North Highlands
Penrose Neighborhood
Tara-Leeway Heights
Westover Village

Working Group for Neighborhood Insurance

Many delegates and organizations have been concerned about the County requirement to procure insurance for neighborhood and community events. Paul Svercl will lead a working group to investigate possible options for the Federation to provide private insurance to its member organizations. The working group will

provide a recommendation, but no action will be taken until the Executive Committee and Federation has had an opportunity to consider said recommendation. If you are interested in participating in the working group, please contact Paul at pvsvercl@yahoo.com.

Rep Needed for Traffic Calming Committee

The Federation is looking for a representative to serve on the County's Traffic Calming Committee meets on the first Wednesday of the month at 7:30pm. If you are interested in serving in this capacity, or have a name to suggest, please contact James Schroll at james@civfed.org.

Work on New Website

The Federation has begun updating the Federation's website. This will be a long process and we would like your input. If you would like to participate in the discussion or would like to volunteer your time with this effort, please contact James Schroll at james@civfed.org. Additionally, if you would like to suggest websites that you feel work well, please send those ideas to James.

Meeting Program

Superintendent Patrick Murphy

Dr. Patrick Murphy, the Superintendent of Arlington County Public Schools, will be our guest at the December 4 general meeting of the Federation. Dr. Murphy will give a 15 minute presentation and then answer questions from member delegates. This will be an hour-long program.

Awards Committee

Pursuant to subsection (ii) of Section 7 of Article VII of the Federation's bylaws, the Federation shall elect five delegates to serve as the Awards Committee. It shall be the duty of this committee to seek and make recommendations for persons, committees, or members to receive the Sun Gazette Cup and Certificates of Appreciation. Election shall be by ballot from nominations from the floor and a plurality shall

elect. Should there be only five nominees, voting may be by voice.

Unfinished Business

A Motion For The Arlington County Civic Federation (ACCF) Resolution Regarding Proposed Revisions to Chapter 15 of the Arlington County Code ("Noise Ordinance")

WHEREAS in April 2009, a Virginia Supreme Court decision voided the portions of Arlington's noise ordinance that used the "reasonable person" standard to define a noise disturbance; and

WHEREAS since April 2009, the ACCF Planning & Zoning Committee has provided suggested changes and tracked the progress of the revisions; and

WHEREAS County staff's proposed revisions to the noise ordinance were made public on 10/17/12 via a Request to Advertise (RTA) and placed on the consent agenda for the 10/20/12 County Board meeting; and

WHEREAS ACCF President James Schroll successfully requested deferral of the RTA in a letter to the County Board on 10/22/12 and in public testimony on 10/23/12; and

WHEREAS since the release of staff's proposed revisions, members of the ACCF Planning & Zoning Committee have carefully reviewed those revisions; submitted written comments and questions to staff on 10/31/12, to which staff responded in writing on 11/7; met with staff to review issues on 11/7/12; and on 11/12/12 prepared a report that documents changes that should be considered; and

WHEREAS the schedule for adoption of the revisions provides for two public meetings (11/13/12 and 11/14/12), County Board advertisement in December, and County Board action in January; and

WHEREAS the above referenced documents are on the ACCF Website.

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the advertisement of the proposed changes to the noise ordinance should include within

its scope the changes recommended in "Noise Ordinance Revisions_11-12-2012" document posted on the Civic Federation's website, so that the public can discuss and debate their merits;

That in presenting the noise ordinance to the public and the Board, staff should clearly enumerate and justify the major policy changes proposed within the advertisement including the fundamental change to the definition of "noise disturbance" and the elimination of standards based on the zoning category of the noise-receiving site;

That County should clearly notify the public what the enforcement plan is for the revised ordinance including, specifically, that Police Officers will not be equipped or trained to use noise meters, and that Code Enforcement Inspectors will not respond to new calls during nights and weekends (and the implication of this for the use of decibel levels for nighttime enforcement); and

That upon advertisement, the County Board should allow ample time for a public process that will allow sufficient discussion and resolution of these important and complex issues.

General and Executive Committee Meeting Dates

Month	Primary Program Topic	General Meeting	Executive Committee Meeting
December	Superintendent Patrick Murphy	Tuesday 4	Sunday 9
January	To be determined	Tuesday 8	Sunday 13
February	County Board Program	Tuesday 5	Sunday 10
March	School Board Program	Tuesday 5	Sunday 10
April	R&E and Schools Committees Budget Program	Tuesday 2	Sunday 7
May	To be determined	Tuesday 7	Sunday 12
June	To be determined & Civic Federation election	Tuesday 4	Sunday 9

Executive Committee meetings will be held on the Sunday following the General Meeting. They will be held at 7:30pm at 4805 Wilson Blvd (Fire Station 2).

Civic Federation Committee Chairs

Civic Federation committees study community-wide policy issues in their jurisdiction and report to the Civic Federation's member organization delegates. All Civic Federation delegates and alternate delegates should serve on a committee. If you are not already serving on a committee, please review the jurisdictions (www.civfed.org/committe.htm) and email the committee chair to sign up.

Committee	Chair(s)	Email Address
Executive	Chair Jim Lantelme; Vice Chair Terri Prell	jim@civfed.org ; terri@civfed.org
Airport	<i>Chair(s) needed</i>	steveg@civfed.org
Awards	Elected by membership December 7, 2011	to be determined
Audit	Bob Atkins	luddite2003@yahoo.com
Bylaws	Jean Mostrom	703-532-0452
Community Relations	Sharon Rogers	sharon@civfed.org
Cultural Affairs	Barbara Olivere	barbara@civfed.org
Emergency Preparedness	Jackie Snelling	jackie@civfed.org
Environmental Affairs	Joe Pelton	joepelton@civfed.org
Housing	Kathryn Scruggs	kathryn@civfed.org
Legislation	<i>Chair(s) needed</i>	to be determined
Membership	Mileva Hartman	mileva@civfed.org
911 Scholarships	Jim Pebley	jim@civfed.org
Nominating	Stan Karson, Larry Finch, Mark Antell, Gerry Auten, and Jim Pebley.	to be determined
Parks and Recreation	Jay Wind	jay@civfed.org
Planning and Zoning	Martha Moore and Larry Mayer	martha@civfed.org , larrymayer@civfed.org
Public Services	<i>Chair(s) needed</i>	to be determined
Revenues and Expenditures	Wayne Kubicki	wayne@civfed.org
Schools	Michael Beer and Sany Munnell	michaelbeer@civfed.org ; smunnell@gmail.com
Special Events	<i>Chair(s) needed</i>	to be determined
Transportation	Jerry Auten	jerry@civfed.org