



THE Civic Voice

ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

Newsletter of the Arlington County Civic Federation

Volume 98, Issue 7 February 25, 2014

School Board Program

The School Board will be our guest at the March meeting of the Federation. The Board will give opening remarks for 20 minutes. Following opening remarks, the Board will be asked questions submitted in advance by the Federation’s School’s committee. At the meeting the Schools Committee will be asking questions on a wide array of issues such as, pre-K population increase, cost per pupil in Arlington, transportation issues, computers in the classrooms and the problem of concentrating low income students in a few enlarged elementary schools.

After these prepared questions, the floor will be open for member delegate questions for the remainder of the program. This program will be 55 minutes in length.

Member delegates and alternates are reminded that their questions should be questions and that position statements are not questions. In addition, questions shall be thirty seconds in length. Finally, in the interest of fairness and an effort to make sure that all member delegates may ask a question, follow up questions will not be allowed.

Candidates Night Arlington County Board Special Election

The second part of the March program will be a debate between the candidates for the County Board seat recently vacated requiring a Special Election on April 8, 2014. The debate is open to all candidates on the ballot and they are: Democrat Alan Howze, Independent John Vihstadt, Independent Green Janet Murphy and Independent Stephen Holbrook. The debate including opening and closing remarks and questions and answers will be approximately 40 minutes in duration.

GENERAL MEETING NOTICE

Tuesday, March 4, 2014

7:30 p.m.

Hazel Auditorium
Virginia Hospital Center
1701 N George Mason Drive
Arlington VA 22205

Agenda

- 7:30 Meeting Called to Order
- 7:35 School Board Presentation
- 8:30 Candidates Night, Special Election County Board
- 9:10 Announcements
- 9:15 Old Business
- 9:25 New Business
- 9:35 Adjourn

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From the President

Mike McMenamin

The Arlington County School Board will be our guests at our next meeting. They will present a prepared presentation and there will be time allowed for questions and answers. So please come and hear what the Board's plans are in the coming year, especially in light of possible redistricting and potential building of new schools because of over population in the system.

We will also have the County Board Special Election debate. Please come out and hear the four contenders for the vacant seat.

Moreover, we will release the Federation Priorities survey at the March meeting.

Finally, the filling of vacancies of Committee Chairs is a still a top priority, as we currently have vacancies on the Audit, Revenues and Expenditures Committees. We also seek one executive committee member. If you are interested in serving or know of someone who might be interested, please contact me at: mike@civfed.org.

News From the Executive Committee

Terri Prell, Acting-Chair terri@civfed.org

The Executive Committee met on February 9, 2014, to plan the agenda for the March 4, 2014 general meeting and discussed future meetings. (www.civfed.org/officers.htm). The Executive Committee will meet again on March 9, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. at **4805 Wilson Blvd, Arlington VA 22203 (Fire Station 2)**, to coordinate committee work, plan future meeting programs. **In addition to officers and Executive Committee members, we ask Committee Chairs with business to come before the Federation soon to attend this meeting.**

Planning for Video coverage of March 4th Arlington County Civic Federation Program

Planning continues for video coverage of future Arlington Co. Civic Federation programs. We are in discussions with Arlington Independent Media to see if the equipment and volunteers might be available to start with the candidates night program for March 4th. If there are any ACCF delegates or alternate that has experience with cameras and lighting or are active with AIM please contact Joe Pelton at [703 536 6985](tel:7035366985).



Articles for the Newsletter

If you have information which should be included in the Civic Voice, sent it to CivFed@gmail.com.

ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

ACCF

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Arlington, VA 22209

www.civfed.org

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Arlington-County-Civic-Federation/519681588064729>

<https://twitter.com/CivFed>

<http://feeds.feedburner.com/CivFed>



Noise Control Code

The Planning and Zoning (P&Z) Committee anticipates that a Request to Advertise the new Noise Control code language will be on the County Board's March agenda. P&Z hopes to meet with Staff one more time to ensure that we are correctly interpreting their revisions to the current Noise Control Code and to advocate for the items in the resolution that we presented after our report and the Staff presentation at the February 4th ACCF meeting.

We are emphasizing in our advocacy that the noise protections given only to "R" zoning districts be expanded to all "residential uses." Furthermore, the co-chairs are concerned that without such broadening that the entire provision could be subject to legal challenge under equal protection provisions of Virginia law.

Zoning Ordinance Changes

Standby for an Arlington staff presentation projected at the April ACCF meeting on additions to the Zoning Code. Committee members have been attending ZOCO meetings and have prepared points relative to concerns for the ZOCO committee's consideration.

ACCF 98th Annual Banquet

The Arlington County Civic Federation's 98th Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony is Friday, April 4, 2014.

Our guest speaker is Mr. John Shooshan CEO and President of The Shooshan Company, a management and construction firm. Mr. Shooshan was recognized as Washington DC Metro Area Chapter of the Association of Fundraising

Professionals 2013 Outstanding Philanthropist of the year for his active and dedicated leadership in generating business opportunities and fostering community relationships.

Invitations to the banquet will be mailed to every association's president, delegates and alternates at the end of February. If you do not get one you can print one from our website; go to Latest News - Arlington County Civic Federation's 98th Annual Banquet. Your RSVP with a check MUST be received no later than March 27.

If you have any questions contact Pete Olivere at peterolivere@civfed.org or [703-626-2520](tel:703-626-2520).

Arlington Affordable Housing Study

Arlington County has been undertaking a study to understand better its housing needs and to reassess its housing principles, goals and targets. An 18-member citizen advisory group was appointed by the County Manager representing a diverse set of stakeholders with interests in housing issues. Kathryn Scruggs represents the Civic Federation on the Affordable Housing Study Working Group. After months of deliberating and seeking public input, the Working Group approved a new set of housing principles in January. These principles will eventually be considered by the County Board as part of the Affordable Housing Element of the County's Comprehensive Plan.

What's next?

The County recently signed a contract with George Mason University to provide additional analysis to determine housing needs at varying income levels. As part of this process a survey of 1700 Arlington residents will be conducted in the spring. So, if you get a phone call asking for a few minutes of your time for the survey, please stay on the line. You will help the County understand better the housing needs in Arlington. You can sign up for monthly updates to stay informed on the study as it progresses at housing.arlingtonva.us/affordable-housing-study.

Civic Federation Tentative Meetings Schedule and Programs for 2013 - 2014

Meeting are the 1st Tuesday of each month (except November)

March 4th– Arlington County Board Special Election Debate; School Board

April 1st- Budget; Residential Zoning; Election of Nominating Committee.

(Note - Friday, April 4 - Civic Federation Award Banquet)

May 6th- State Legislative Delegation

June 3rd - Election of officers

Arlington County Civic Federation

The ACCF is dedicated to advocacy and community involvement. Its purpose continues to be promoting the general welfare of Arlington County and vicinity in a non-partisan, non-sectarian, non-sectional, and non-political manner.

Committees of the Civic Federation

The committees provide the basis for most actions of the Federation. We strongly encourage every delegate and alternate to serve on at least one committee. If you have an interest in any topic please contact the chair. If a chair is not listed, contact our President Mike McMenamain at mike@civfed.org

Committee	Chair(s)	Email Address
Executive	Terri Prell (Acting chair)	terri@civfed.org
Awards	Elected at the December 2013 membership meeting	
Audit		luddite2003@yahoo.com
Bylaws	Sarah Shortall	
Community Relations	James Schroll (POC)	james@civfed.org
Cultural Affairs	Karen Rosenbaum	TBD
Environmental Affairs	Joe Pelton	joepelton@civfed.org
Housing	Kathryn Scruggs	kathryn@civfed.org
Legislation	Chair(s) needed	TBD
Membership	Kim Klingler	kim@civfed.org
911 Scholarships	Jim Pebley	jim@civfed.org
Nominating	Elected at the April 2014 membership meeting	
Parks and Recreation	Jay Wind	jay@civfed.org
Planning and Zoning	Martha Moore, Larry Mayer	martha@civfed.org larrymayer@civfed.org
Public Services	Jackie Snelling (POC)	jackie@civfed.org
Revenues and Expenditures	Chair(s) needed, Burt Bostwick (POC)	burt@civfed.org
Schools	Michael Beer, Sandy Munnell	michaelbeer@civfed.org smunnell@gmail.com
Special Events	Peter Olivere	peterolivere@civfed.org
Transportation	Jerry Auten	jerry@civfed.org