



# THE Civic Voice

ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

Newsletter of the Arlington County Civic Federation

Volume 98, Issue 9 April 29, 2014

## Annual Legislative Program

The Federation will host Arlington's legislative delegation that includes members of the House of Delegates and State Senate for our annual Legislative Program. Arlington's legislative delegation will give a brief update regarding the legislative session, upcoming special session, and address key issues that might be coming up in next year's session.

After their remarks, they will field member delegate questions. Delegates are reminded to keep their questions to 30 seconds in length. Delegates may only ask one question and in the interest of time follow-up questions will not be permitted. Delegates are also reminded that statements are not questions. This will be an hour long program.

## Federation Priorities Survey

After our successful fall hearing from you about the priorities that the Federation should engage in, we have now completed the survey. The survey can be accessed directly at: <https://www.surveymonkey.com/s/ArlCivFed2014>.

The survey can also be accessed at the Federation website: [www.civfed.org](http://www.civfed.org).

Please fill out the survey, as we plan to use it for our forthcoming strategic plan and agenda for the remainder of 2014 -15. This is your Federation and we want to represent the priorities of our members.

## GENERAL MEETING NOTICE

Tuesday, May 6, 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 R&E Committee Rpt
- 7:50 Resolution Long Bridge Park
- 8:15 Legislative program
- 9:15 Announcements
- 9:20 Old Business
- 9:25 New Business
- 9:30 Adjourn

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## From the President

*Mike McMenamin*

This month we have a Resolution on our agenda for containing costs of the Long Bridge Park development that has been in the news lately, as costs projections were greater than the county's proposed budgeted costs. So please come out to learn and vote on this highly debated project.

We will also hear from our delegation in Richmond, as they will present on the recent legislative session, the proposed special session, and their legislative agenda for next year.

As we all know, the Civic Federation's role is to influence opinion in the county on issues reflecting the needs and opinions of our constituent organizations. The role of the Civic Federation is to ensure oversight and advocacy, both supportive and critical. We are in sum the voice of our community.

Recently, the Washington Post and the Sun Gazette took note of our recent vote to recommend cutting the property tax rate by 3 cents. R&E committee believed and was supported by the membership that the County had sufficient funds to permit such a cut without significant cuts to core operations." We were the only body in the county to support a tax decrease and the County Board did lower the rate by 1 cent. A victory for the residents of Arlington!

Finally, the filling of vacancies of Committee Chairs is still a top priority, as we currently have vacancies on the Audit, and 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](mailto:mike@civfed.org).

## News From the Executive Committee

*Terri Prell, Acting-Chair [terri@civfed.org](mailto:terri@civfed.org)*

The Executive Committee met on April 6, 2014, to plan the agenda for the May 6, 2014 general meeting and discussed future meetings. ([www.civfed.org/officers.htm](http://www.civfed.org/officers.htm)). The Executive Committee will meet again on May 11, 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 .**

### Potholes!

It's pothole season and should you need to report a potholes on our streets.



Work crews have already fixed potholes in some areas, but to report potholes in your area, use the new on-line reporting system on the County website: <http://topics.arlingtonva.us/reportproblem/> or search for

## ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

**ACCF**

**1209 N Fort Myer Drive Apt 3B**

**Arlington, VA 22209**

**[www.civfed.org](http://www.civfed.org)**

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

**<https://twitter.com/CivFed>**

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



## Affordable Housing Update

**May 14, 2014** "Great Spaces/Happy Faces" on the benefits of density and the State of Affordable Housing, 4:30–7:30 p.m. at the Walter Reed Community Center. The event is organized by the Alliance for Housing Solutions.

## Housing Affordability Telephone Poll

Arlington County is conducting a telephone poll about affordable housing costs and needs from late April throughout the month of May to inform the Affordable Housing Study. Telephone callers will identify themselves as calling on behalf of Frederick Polls. If you are randomly selected, please participate. Responses are completely confidential. No personal information will be included in the results.

## Potential Fairlington Community Center Farmer's Market Survey

The community is thinking about having a farmers' market at Fairlington Community Center by taking this [survey](#). (You can also access the survey at [www.arlingtonva.us/dpr](http://www.arlingtonva.us/dpr).)

The first community meeting to review the request for a farmers' market at [Fairlington Community Center](#) was Monday, April 21. Community members learned about the request and were briefed on the process that the County is undertaking to review the request. Community members shared their ideas regarding the benefits of a farmers' market as well as concerns. They provided ideas on what would make a market successful and what issues needed to be addressed.

Save the date for the follow-up meeting to learn more about what we heard on Wednesday, May 13, 6:30-8:30 p.m. at [Fairlington Community Center](#).

## Resolution June Meeting-Environmental Affairs Committee-Regarding Planning for New School Construction

Whereas Arlington Public Schools is currently conducting studies to identify and evaluate potential locations for new or expanded schools;

Whereas some of the locations under consideration, including a new Lubber Run Middle School, could involve the transfer of lands that are currently managed by Arlington County's Department of Parks and Recreation, and represent some of the last remaining County-owned undeveloped Open Space;

Whereas the development of some of the locations under consideration , including for example the proposed Lubber Run Middle School near Lubber Run and expansion of the Williamsburg Middle School near Pimmit Run, could cause significant additional storm flooding concerns;

Whereas previous redevelopment such as at Yorktown High School has caused or exacerbated storm water runoff problems and contributed to flood conditions and stream bank erosion at Pimmit Run;

The Arlington County Civic Federation hereby urges the Arlington County Board and County Manager as well as the Arlington County School Board and Superintendent, in evaluating school locations for development or expansion, to select sites that will minimize the degradation or reduction of existing park, recreation, resource, wildlife and open space and preferably find a way to repurpose existing county or school facilities if at all possible; and

The Arlington County Civic Federation also urges the Arlington County School Board and Superintendent to carry out at the earliest stages environmental impact assessments and design reviews aimed at evaluating, among other impacts, how best to minimize the discharge of additional storm water to the Chesapeake Bay watershed projected to result from school redevelopment or new construction.

## **Long Bridge Park Resolution-Parks & Recreation Committee**

Whereas, in 2012, Arlington County's voters approved \$42,500,000 for completion of Long Bridge Park including an aquatics center; and

Whereas, Arlington's county manager has received bids for that construction significantly higher than expected.

Be it resolved that Arlington County Civic Federation recommends that Arlington County stay within the budgeted bonding authority approved by the voters in 2012 for completion of Long Bridge Park, and not consider further bond issues for the aquatics center at Long Bridge Park.

## **Noise Ordinance**

Last week, the County Board voted to advertise the 4/7/14 staff version of the Noise Control Code, but added some options. If you'd like a copy, call the County Board office at 703 228-3130. The County Board is scheduled to vote on the language and select options at its May 10th meeting. The Planning & Zoning Committee is looking for ways to gather input about the options. Please email your thoughts to [martha@civfed.org](mailto:martha@civfed.org) and/or [larrymayer@civfed.org](mailto:larrymayer@civfed.org) ASAP.

## **Planning Commission-Site Plan Process**

The Planning Commission and Arlington CPHD is planning a meeting on May 31st (Saturday) morning (Projected from 9 to 11 AM) on the subject of proposed changes to the Site Plan Process. The SPRC (Site Plan Review Committee) is under the auspices of the Planning Commission through a Commission committee. All Civic Association Presidents (or their designee) will be invited as well as members of the Civic association Planning and Zoning Committee. Further details will be forthcoming and will be posted on the Civic Federation website when available. If you have an

interest please contact either Martha Moore ([Martha@civfed.org](mailto:Martha@civfed.org)) or Larry Mayer ([larrymayer@civfed.org](mailto:larrymayer@civfed.org)) so we can email you details when available.

## Civic Federation Tentative Meetings Schedule and Programs for 2013 - 2014

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

**May 6th**– Inspector General Report, Long Bridge Park Resolution, and State Legislative Delegation presentation

**June 3rd** - Election of officers

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## 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 McMenamin at [mike@civfed.org](mailto:mike@civfed.org)

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