



Minutes – March 4, 2014 ACCF Membership Meeting

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm by President Mike McMenamin at Hazel Auditorium. After the Pledge of Allegiance the agenda and minutes for the February membership meeting were approved. The newly-formed Crystal City Civic Association was admitted as a new member by unanimous vote. Larry Mayer was elected to the Executive Committee. The Executive Committee will meet on March 9, 2014, at 7:30 p.m. at 4805 Wilson Blvd (Fire Station 2) to coordinate committee work and plan future meetings. Arlington Independent Media videotaped the program sections of this meeting for rebroadcast on channel 38/69 and on arlingtonmedia.org.

Program:

School Board Presentation

Michael Beer introduced the School Board: Abby Raphael, Chair, James Lander, Vice Chair, Emma Violand-Sanchez, Sally M. Baird and Noah Simon. Board members updated the Federation on the schools current situation, trends and strategic plan. High per pupil costs are driven by staff, class size and other services. A recent economic impact study showed that the investment in schools pays well, and property tax revenues are higher due to the quality of our schools. Challenges remain, including racial gaps. Enrollment continues to increase, leaving a budget gap for next year of 1 to 10 million dollars. The School Board has asked for \$4.8 million above the County Manager's proposal for next year. The proposed budget totals \$539.4 million, a 3.2% increase. Federal funding has decreased. Working now on the CIP, community outreach. Questions covered a broad range of issues. HB Woodlawn's location may be reconsidered during the CIP process.

Candidates Night, Special Election for County Board

The candidates included Democrat Alan Howze, Independent John Vihstadt, Independent Green Janet Murphy and Independent Stephen Holbrook. The debate included opening and closing remarks and questions from delegates. The tape will be repeated on Channel 38/69 and arlingtonmedia.org

Announcements

The new Civfed Priorities Survey is ready and available. It will be sent to delegates.

Unfinished business

The Federation adopted by a 44-0-0 vote a Planning and Zoning Committee resolution urging the County to adopt more comprehensive language for the application of some provisions of the noise ordinance, expanding it from R districts to all residential districts.

New Business

Tim Wise introduced a resolution to recommend that the County cut the tax rate by 3 cents per hundred. It was referred to the Revenues and Expenditures Committee.

Jay Wind introduced a resolution recommending that the 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 project. It was referred to the Parks and Recreation Committee and to Revenues and Expenditures.

The meeting adjourned at 9:40pm until the next membership meeting on April 1, 2014.

Respectfully submitted by Randy Swart, Secretary