



## **Minutes – November 12, 2013** **ACCF Membership Meeting**

The meeting was called to order at 7:30 pm at Hazel Auditorium by President Mike McMenamin, who led the Pledge of Allegiance. The agenda was approved after discussion of the wording of the Wilson School item. Minutes of the October meeting were approved. The Treasurer's report was approved, showing a balance of \$20,492. Nine organizations still have not paid their dues for this year. Executive Committee Chair John Vihstadt announced that the Excom will meet on November 17, 2013, at 7:30 p.m. at 4805 Wilson Blvd (Fire Station 2) to coordinate committee work and plan future meeting programs.

### **Announcements**

John Vihstadt announced that the County Board had made decisions on recommendations of the Urban Agriculture Task Force. The County Manager recommended against liberalizing regulations on keeping hens, citing staffing for code enforcement, staffing for the zoning redraft, and controversy about the issue. Expanded community gardens, etc were approved. Our CivFed survey showed members heavily opposed to backyard chicken zoning changes, with 79% opposing any change, 19% for reducing required clearance to 20 feet, and the remainder split in favor of more liberal change or more restrictive.

Neighborhood College is organizing a new session of preparing citizens to participate in Arlington civic life. Opera Nova and Committee of 100 have programs coming up.

### **Program: Civic Association Priorities**

CivFed members presented their priority issues for Federation action. Delegates from AGLA, Arlington Education Association, Arlington Ridge, Barcroft, The Chatham Condo, Douglas Park, Leeway, Long Branch Creek, Nauck, Old Glebe, Penrose and Waverly Hills made statements. Issues included preserving neighborhood sense of place, walkable urban villages, infrastructure and park maintenance, tree canopy preservation, single family housing without oversize infill, appropriate mixed use development along Columbia Pike and Lee Highway, control of redevelopment in Crystal City and Pentagon City, services for aging in place, access to County meeting rooms for events, a legislative package to facilitate lobbying in Richmond, traffic management including "Smart Traffic," adequate Metro trains and parking, code enforcement, inadequate permitting, affordable housing, rising housing prices, public safety issues and sound walls along major highways. The Federation is preparing a written survey of members' priorities.

### **Lee Highway Re-Visioning**

Sandie Chesrown from Waverly Hills presented information on the process launched in 2011 by Waverly Hills and now including 12 or more civic associations along Lee Highway to promote an improved sense of place, the urban village concept, enhanced park facilities and facilitation of aging in place. A grassroots strategic partnership for re-visioning Lee Highway is moving forward with Presidents of all 11 of the Lee Highway civic associations involved, including Waverly Hills, East Falls Church, John M. Langston, GlebeWood, Yorktown, Leeway Overlee, Old Dominion, Donaldson Run, Cherrydale, Maywood, and Lyon Village. The County is assisting. The group will develop a community vision and will recommend in early 2015 that the County Board appoint a Task Force to develop a Lee Highway Sector Plan.

### **Wilson School Grounds**

Mark Antell presented a motion to reaffirm a 2007 CivFed resolution calling for Wilson School property to be used as parkland. The Schools Committee supported the motion with reservations about its presentation and other issues. Planning and Zoning considered it routine. There was a reminder that affordable housing and other issues had changed. Pete Olivere moved to direct the President to send a letter to the County Board reaffirming the CivFed position expressed in our 2007 resolution requesting that Wilson School grounds be dedicated to greenspace. The motion passed 34 to 0 with 10 abstentions.

There was no unfinished business and no new business. The meeting adjourned at 9:17 pm

Respectfully submitted: Randy Swart, Secretary