

Arlington County Civic Federation

John T. Hazel Auditorium, Arlington Hospital

Minutes - November 14, 2000

1. The President called the meeting to order just after 7:30PM.
2. Approval of the Agenda: Approved unanimously.
3. Approval of Special Rule: Passed 34-10; however, the Special Rule was amended towards the end of the meeting by a vote of 26-12.
4. Approval of Minutes from October 3, 2000 Meeting: Approved after correctly noting that the October minutes were approved rather than the approval of the October minutes were deferred.
5. Treasurer's Report: The Treasurer's written report, dated November 14, 2000, shows that 60 of the 74 member organizations have paid their 2000/2001 dues. The report also shows the combined Checking and Savings account balance was \$4,132.76, with an additional balance of \$112.60 available in the U.S. Postal Service bulk mail account. The treasurer then presented an annual budget. After a motion to reject the budget was defeated 24-20, primarily because it contained a deficit, the budget passed, the budget passed 29-16.
6. Special Recognition. John F. Nicholas was recognized posthumously.
7. President's Report. The president noted: 1) the Federation would test a "public comment" period before the start of the regular meetings, beginning at 7:00 PM at the December meeting. The primary rules are that a speaker cannot speak for more than five minutes and that the public comment period must end before 7:30 PM; 2) a letter has been sent to Virginia's Secretary of Transportation regarding the Federation's position on I-66; 3) discussed his meeting with the County Board chair; and, 4) discussed formation of a Finance committee in an effort to bridge the deficit in the annual budget.
8. Committee Reports: Reports were provided by the Schools committee regarding the December meeting; Transportation committee regarding the snow removal ordinance; and the Banquet committee regarding the date (March 30, 2001) and need for members.
9. Program: The "basic" portion of the legislative package passed by a vote of 26-11. Votes on the items in the "addenda" portion of the legislation committee's package were: 1) Office of Inspector General (11-16); 2) 21-Day Rule (18-9); unconcealed weapons (17-11); Standards of Learning (13-15); housing partnership fund (15-16); third-party notification (17-9) after wording amendment passed (19-8) changed "incapacitated" to "vulnerable;" local zoning authority (16-7); and ban on smoking (passed by voice vote). In the "additional items" category, the votes were: sexual orientation (17-10); County Manager form of government (11-17) after motion to amend failed 10-16; fines at pedestrian crosswalks (x-y); conviction for forcible rape (x-y); and incentives for police to live in Arlington (18-11). In a tabulation of the ballots for the "top five" items in the Federation's legislative package, they were: 1) oppose changes to I-66 unless part of comprehensive package (18 votes); no local income tax (16); protest expansion of flights at National Airport (16); mandatory background checks (16); and repeal of sodomy laws (15).
10. New Business: Mr. Lowry urged that the Federation become more involved in major real estate developments in the county.
11. Adjournment: The meeting adjourned at approximately 11:55 p.m.

Recorded by Timothy Wise, Secretary