

Minutes of the meeting of September 6, 2005

John T. Hazel Auditorium, Arlington Hospital

President Smaldore called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm.

1. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance.
2. Approval of Agenda. The agenda was approved.
3. Approval of Minutes. The minutes from June 7, 2005 were not formally distributed for approval, but had been posted to the ACCF web site.
4. Treasurer's Report. Balances: Checking \$1759.50, Savings \$3379.86, Combined \$5138.36, Reserved for 9-11 Scholarship Fund \$864.97, Net Available \$4273.39, Separate US Postal Bulk Mail Account \$431.25. Dues for the current fiscal year have been paid by 50 out of 82 member organizations.
5. Membership. Frances Finta, Membership Chair, presented the application for membership by the Chatham Condominium Unit Owners Association. Members of the Membership Committee were polled by phone and voted unanimously to accept this application.

A brief discussion followed. It was noted that the Chatham was within the boundary of the Buckingham CA, and the question was offered as to whether admission of various condo and homeowner's associations within the boundaries of civic associations would lead to a dilution or 'balkanization' of their functions. A number of speakers noted the long participation of various condo and homeowner associations within their respective civic associations and the Civic Federation without any particular problems.

The application of the Chatham Condominium Unit Owners Association was then submitted for a vote to the membership and was approved unanimously.

6. Announcements and Reports.

- A. Jim Pebley announced the conduct of a girl's fast pitch softball tournament involving teams from Pennsylvania, New York and Arlington to be held September 16-18 at the Virginia Highlands with proceeds going to the 9/11 Scholarship Fund. He noted that 5 new scholarships had been provided, along with the renewal of 9 scholarships.

- B. Kathryn Scruggs, Chair of the Housing Committee and CivFed representative to the Roundtable on Affordable Housing provided a report on the status of the Roundtable. The Roundtable began meeting May 31 and has 23 members, including representatives from developers and affordable housing advocates. They met weekly from June to July and held a community forum for citizen input. It was generally agreed that Arlington has lost approximately half of its 'affordable housing' stock since the year 2000. Land in Arlington is scarce and very expensive.

Contributions are being sought from developers similar to the 12% and 15% contributions made in Montgomery County and Fairfax County. Any decision recommended by the Roundtable and approved by the County Board will need to be reviewed in Richmond.

Kathryn also mentioned a forum to be held on October 1 entitled 'Wake Up Arlington – New Ideas on Affordable Housing.

- C. Lot Coverage Proposal – a meeting to discuss this topic was to be held Sept 13t Bill Gearhart's house. Contact Bill or Martha Moore for details. This topic will be discussed at the October CivFed meeting and information is posted on the CivFed web page.
- D. Events – The Rosslyn Jazz Festival, proceeds going to the victims of Katrina, will be held September 10 from mid-afternoon to evening. Contact Jackie Snelling for details.

6. Candidate's Night Presentations

The following candidates made presentations and answered questions from the audience:

David L. Englin (D) and Chris J. Gregorson, (R), House of Delegates, 45th District

Albert C. Eisenberg (D), unopposed candidate for House of Delegates, 47th District

Robert H. Brink (D), unopposed candidate for House of Delegates, 48th District

Adam P. Ebbin, unopposed candidate for House of Delegates, 49th District

G. N. "Jay" Fisette, Jr., unopposed candidate for Arlington County Board

William S. "Bill" Barker, Cecelia M. Espenosa, Edward J. Fendley, candidates for Arlington County School Board.

Presentations, questions and answers were made under rules adopted by the ACCF Executive Committee.

Arlington County Board Members Barbara Favola, Walter Tejada and Chris Zimmerman also attended the proceedings. Arlington County School Board Members Elaine Furlow and Mary Hines also attended.

7. New Business

Kathryn Scruggs and Peter Owen introduced a motion requesting ACCF support of the Oct. 1 forum 'Wake Up Arlington - Affordable Housing Crisis'. Member Randy Swart noted that except under special or emergency circumstances as provided in the ACCF Bylaws it was inappropriate for the membership to take action on the motion at a General Membership Meeting. It was suggested and approved that the proposal be referred to the Executive Committee for consideration.

Delegate Stan Karson introduced a motion requesting ACCF approval, which stated "The strong desire of many civic associations to maintain the economic and ethnic diversity in their areas confronts the reality of ever-increasing development, particularly along the Metro corridor. Therefore, it should be County policy, when deciding on site plan projects, to ensure that the affordable housing resulting from the project should be either on site or as close as possible to the development."

The motion was referred for action to the Housing Committee.

The meeting was adjourned at 9:45 PM

Recorded by Burt Bostwick, Secretary