

Minutes of the meeting of October 4, 2005

John T. Hazel Auditorium, Virginia Hospital Center

President Smaldore called the meeting to order at 7:30 pm.

1. The meeting began with the Pledge of Allegiance led by Al Warner of Arlingwood CA.

2. Approval of Agenda. The agenda was approved.

3. Approval of Minutes. The minutes from the September 6, 2005 were distributed for approval, and approved as presented.

4. Treasurer's Report. Balances: Checking \$1042.29, Savings \$3379.80, Combined \$4422.09, Reserved for 9-11 Scholarship Fund \$864.97, Net Available \$3557.12 Separate US Postal Bulk Mail Account \$287.33. Dues for the current fiscal year have been paid by 60 out of 83 member organizations. The ACCF Treasurer's Report for 2005 and Budget for 2006 were also presented and approved by the membership.

7. Announcements and Reports.

- A. Beth Wolffe advised that the ACCF Schools Committee was preparing questions to be submitted to the School Board on December 6. She asked members to submit their questions by Friday.
- B. Jackie Snelling, ACCF representative to the Arlington Response to Katrina Task Force ('ARK') said the task force had their first meeting. Deliberations were just beginning and input was being sought from members and their civic associations, particularly what civic associations are doing individually. Comments and suggestions should be sent to Jackie@civfed.org.
- C. Tim Wise, Chair of the Legislation Committee, provided a preview of the program to be presented at the November Membership meeting. This program, an ACCF tradition, permits members and their organizations to highlight proposed legislative changes that are considered desirable. Items to be considered in this year's presentation include tax relief, two terms for governor and use of cell phones while driving. ACCF members will be given the opportunity to vote on both a package of proposals, as well as selected individual proposals.

5. ACCF Planning and Zoning Committee Lot Coverage Proposals

Martha Moore, co-chair of the committee, presented the recommendations of the committee. The committee's recommendations are in response to the request of the Civic Federation at its April 23rd meeting to 'refer the matter back to staff and a community committee to examine how the zoning rules might be changed with more equitable effect,

including to take into account the special circumstances of individual neighborhoods.” Ms. Moore noted that the County had now considered three options to deal with this subject. The recommendation of the committee was for the County Board to not adopt the lot coverage option advertised on July 9, 2005; to refer the matter back to staff; and to make certain technical revisions to the County Code regarding rebuilding of destroyed homes, and expansions of homes on undersized lots.

After the initial presentation and prior to discussion of the topic, a poll was taken of all members present asking their views with respect to the County’s ‘option 3’ as advertised 7/9/2005.

[While the poll was being conducted, Jackie Snelling and Marjorie Hobart made a presentation and provided updated information on emergency preparedness in Arlington. Of note, in response to a member question, Jackie noted that Arlington’s policy with regard to evacuation was for citizens to ‘shelter in place.’]

Following the poll, debate and discussion of the resolution was conducted. Given the level of interest in the topic and several proposed amendments, several extensions of time for discussion were allowed. A motion was made and approved allowing separate consideration of parts 1 and 2 of the resolution, and part 3. Parts one and two were amended, and part 3 was approved as proposed. The membership voted to allow the committee leeway to frame the ‘whereases’ in response to the amended resolution. The final approved resolution may be found on the ACCF web site at <http://www.civfed.org/resz0510.htm>.

Note: Representatives of the Washington Post, Sun Gazette and Arlington Connection were present to cover this discussion, given its community interest.

6. Unfinished Business

Kathryn Scruggs, Chair of the Housing Committee, presented a resolution entitled “ACCF Principles for the Affordable Housing Roundtable.” After considerable discussion, it was determined that only one part of the resolution, part of paragraph three, had been duly presented to the membership for consideration at the September meeting. Therefore, that paragraph was separated, voted on and approved. It appears on the ACCF web site as “Affordable Housing Program” at <http://www.civfed.org/reshousd.htm>. A motion to delay consideration of the balance of the proposed resolution was passed, and it was referred back to the Housing Committee for consideration, with a recommendation that it be coordinated with the Planning and Zoning Committee.

The meeting adjourned at 10:30 PM.

Submitted: Burt Bostwick, Secretary, ACCF