

**Minutes**  
**Arlington County Civic Federation**  
**John T. Hazel Auditorium, Arlington Hospital**  
**April 1, 1997**

The meeting was **called to order** at 7:37 p.m. by President Bill Nolden

- 1.. **Agenda** was approved as presented.
2. **Minutes** of the March 4, 1997, meeting were approved as presented.
3. **Treasurer's Report** (by Treasurer Ed McWethy): Current balance is \$1,729.51.
4. **Executive Committee Report** (by Exec. Comm. Chairman Frances Finta): Business at the Committee's March meeting was reported (full report is on file with Secretary's records). Next meeting of the Committee: April 17, 1997.
5. **Membership Committee Report** (by Membership Committee Chairman Frances Finta):  
**\*\*MOTION:** To accept the application for membership into the Federation of the **Arlington Coalition of Police (ACOP)**. **PASSED** (by unanimous voice vote)  
(ACOP Executive Director Chris Strobe was present <sup>and</sup> introduced to delegates.)
6. **Announcements**
  - ♦ (by Bettie Keiger, North Highlands delegate): Volunteers are needed for the Meal on Wheels program. Telephone 522-0811.
  - ♦ (by Andrew Keyes, A-SPAN): An informational handout on Arlington Street People's Assistance Network is available to delegates.
  - ♦ (by Bill Nolden, President): The Federation's Annual Banquet will be held April 26 at the Koran Room of the Fort Myer Officers Club. Tickets are \$32.50 each, and invitations will be received by delegates shortly. Francine Zorn Tractenberg, Vice President for Educational Outreach for WETA, will be <sup>the</sup> ~~feature~~ <sup>d</sup> speaker.
7. **Program I: "Neighborhood Day"**

Guests **Sandy Sweitzer** and **Sally Michael** provided information on Arlington's first "Neighborhood Day," which is being planned for September 27, 1997. This "ambitious project" will involve neighborhoods as well as local businesses and government agencies in a "neighbor to neighbor" event designed to enhance community spirit. A public meeting on the event is scheduled April 24, 7:30 p.m. in the County Board Room.

**Program II: Arlington County Fire Department**

**Stanley Schachne**, Co-Chairman of the ACCF Public Affairs Committee, introduced **George Lyon**, Assistant Fire Chief of the ACFD, who presented an overview of the County's Fire Department. Information provided included: 1) requests for emergency medical services have had a 25% increase in the past 3 years (21,000 incidents in 1996); 2) ACFD plans an increase to 60 fire fighters trained for EMS with advance life support capabilities; 3) 10 fire stations provide coverage for 28 square miles in Arlington and Falls Church; 4) renovations are under way and ongoing to upgrade the stations with community rooms and suitable facilities for female firefighters <sup>are somewhat</sup> outdated, and it may take 7-8 years to have all stations the way they want them; 5) all trucks have a minimum of three firefighters, but four per truck is the goal; two trucks always respond to every call, which puts 6 fighters at every scene; OSHA requires 4 firefighters on the scene of a structure fire before anyone may enter the structure; 6) high-rise

operations depend on built-in standpipe systems, alarm systems, etc.; ACFD currently hoping to hire one new position to witness testing of these systems and to follow-up on compliances, etc.; 7) "Operation Life Safety" is in effect -- a drive for effective, working smoke detectors in every residence (phone 358-4646 for help with installation and servicing of smoker detectors); all detectors more than 10 years old should be replaced!)

In the question/answer period, subjects covered included hard-wire smoke detectors; length of longest aerial ladder (105' -- up to approximately the 8th floor of a high rise); plans for "total disaster" situation; retirement system; and hydrant colors.

**Program III: 1998 Draft Plan for Planning, Housing and Development.**

County Staff members **Reggie Nixon, Fran Lunney** and **Wayne Rhodes** provided information on the draft plan, an action plan describing the proposed allocations of FY 1998 federal funding to meet the five major goals identified in the Three-Year Consolidated Plan for 1996-98. The goals address affordable housing, homelessness, community development, citizen participation and institutional structure. Almost \$4 million in federal funds will come to the County in 1998. (Handouts provided by guests are included in Secretary's records.)

8. With no additional business, the **meeting was adjourned at 10:20 p.m.**

  
Tommye Morton, Secretary

Date Approved: \_\_\_\_\_