

Minutes
Arlington County Civic Federation
John T. Hazel Auditorium, Arlington Hospital
May 6, 1997

The meeting was **called to order** at 7:40 p.m. by President Bill Nolden

1. Agenda was amended, placing items 5 & 6 (Executive Committee Report and Committee Reports) after item 8 (Programs 1 & 2) and was approved as amended.

2. Minutes of the April 1, 1997, meeting were approved after the Secretary noted and corrected three typographical errors on page 1.

3. Treasurer's Report (by Treasurer Ed McWethy): Current balance is \$3,161.24.

4. Special Order: Election of Nominating Committee

The following delegates were nominated from the floor to serve on the five-member committee, which is charged to present to the June Federation meeting a slate of candidates for 1997-98 ACCF Officers and Executive Committee: Amy Appelbaum, Jim Charlton, David Foster, David Jones, Scott McGeary, Jean Mostrom, and Ernest Ragland. Ballots were distributed, and the President appointed Terri Prell and Nancy Graham to serve as Election Tellers. The following nominees were elected to serve on the Nominating Committee: **Ernest Ragland** (requested by the President to convene the Committee), **Amy Appelbaum, Jim Charlton, David Foster, and David Jones.**

5. Announcements:

- ♦ (by President Nolden) The County is hosting a short course on land-use planning on May 14 and 21 at the Central Library. (Handouts available).
- ♦ (by Rohan Samaraweera) In accordance with a decision by the Executive Committee, the ACCF's June newsletter will have a new format and expanded information. Comments and suggestions for future content were requested. (A sample of layout and potential content was distributed.)
- ♦ (by Ditty Boaz) The League of Women Voters is holding a Public Forum on Drinking Water, June 3, 7:00 p.m. at the National Rural Electric Cooperative Assoc. (Handouts available)

6. Program I: Report from Legislators

ACCF's Legislation Committee Chairman **Amy Appelbaum** opened the Program with a brief report on how the Federation's 1997 Legislative Package fared in this year's Virginia General Assembly. (A copy of the report is filed with the Secretary's Minutes.) Chairman Appelbaum then introduced the Legislators who were present: State Senator **Mary Margaret Whipple**; State House Delegates **James Almand, Judy Connally and Karen Darner**; and U.S. Congressman **James P. Moran.**

Each of the Legislators presented a brief report, and an extensive question/answer period followed. Topics and issues discussed from the **Virginia General Assembly session included:** approval of study on **youth gangs**; funds allocated for a consortium at UVA on **gang prevention**; new comprehensive legislation on **guardians and conservators** to go in effect Jan. 1; proposed bills to increase **cigarette taxes** and to repeal **food tax** didn't make it; **seat belt** legislation in regard to children strengthened, and revised **disabled parking** legislation increases penalties for parking abuses; **commercial driving courses** targeted for study; new legislation

improving **complaint system in HMOs** to go into effect July 1 with an 800 number available to call about quality of care issues; legislation to ban **tent automobile sales** did not pass; **clean water** bills passed to reduce pollution of Chesapeake Bay and its tributaries and for more stringent monitoring of toxic pollutants; bill to require that **industrial heavy users of water** pay more of their share did not pass; phone number provided (804-786-3591) for those interested in being on mailing list for and **possibly participating in specific studies**.

Topics discussed by **Congressman Moran** included: the **Budget Agreement**; **pediatric research**, especially in regard to environmental risks to children; his concern over **automobile particulates** polluting Arlington's air; his opposition to **handguns and assault weapons**; an **amendment to the Housing Bill** that he's offering with a provision to screen and evict anyone who's degrading the living standards of others and to expand accessibility to housing.

Topics discussed during the **question/answer period** included: **judicial reform**; **baseball stadium funding**; **the national debt**; **the proposed boathouse on Arlington's shore**; **MWAA appointments**; **Medicare in the Compromise Budget Bill**; and **charter schools**.

Program II: Parks and Recreation Committee Updates

Parks and Recreation Committee Chairman **Robert Nester** provided an update on four topics of interest being watched by his Committee. He invited comments, suggestions and participation by interested delegates. The report covered: **Fort C.F. Smith**, **the Park Trail Sign Project**, erection of communication facilities (**monopoles**) on County property, and the proposed **Boathouse** on the Arlington shore.

7. Executive Committee Report (by Exec. Comm. Chairman Frances Finta): Business at the Committee's April meeting was reported (full report is on file with Secretary's records). Next meeting of the Committee: May 15, 1997.

8. Banquet Committee Report (by Frances Finta, for Special Events Committee Chairman John Nicholas): The Federation's Annual Banquet was held April 26, 1997, at the Fort Myer Officers' Club. Because of special contributions this year, the event ended up \$440.09 in the black. The Arlington Journal Cup was presented to **Tommye Ring Morton**; **Sherwin Landfield** received the Distinguished Meritorious Service Award; and Certificates of Appreciation were presented to **Frances M. Finta**, **Edward McWethy**, **Robert Nester**, **Sue Super** and the **Barcroft School and Civic League**. (Note: Edward McWethy was unable to attend the Banquet, and his Certificate was presented to him at this meeting.) The full report is on file with the Secretary's records.

9. Membership Committee Report (by Membership Committee Chairman Frances Finta): ****MOTION:** To accept the application for readmittance to membership into the Federation of the **Columbia Forest Civic Association**. **PASSED** (by unanimous voice vote)

(The Columbia Forest President, **Susan Johnson**, was introduced to delegates.)

10. With no additional business, the **meeting was adjourned at 10:45 p.m.**


Tommye Morton, Secretary

Date Approved: 3 June 97