



## Community Energy Plan Update

Richard Dooley, who heads the Community Energy Plan initiative for Arlington County will give an update on this program. This effort came out of the community wide collaborative effort involving more than 40 organizations--including the Arlington County Civic Federation--and which was led by Jay Fisette in 2013 and 2014. Efforts are now focused on implementing the various elements of the 40 year energy plan that includes, among other factors, renewable energy, passive energy efficiency, district energy systems, and transportation efficiency. This will be an opportunity to ask about the various elements of the program and the timetable for implementation. Joseph Pelton who represents the Arlington County Civic Federation on the implementation committee for the Community Energy Plan and co-chairs the Environmental Committee for the Federation with John Seymour will introduce Richard Dooley.

## ACCF 99th Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony

The Arlington County Civic Federation's 99th Annual Banquet and Awards Ceremony is Friday, April 17, 2015.

Our guest speaker is Congressman Don Beyer who is serving his first term as the U.S. Representative from Virginia's 8th District, representing Arlington, Alexandria, Falls Church, and parts of Fairfax County. He serves on the House Committee on Natural Resources and is a member of the New Democrat Coalition. He was the Lieutenant Governor of Virginia from 1990 to 1998, and was Ambassador to Switzerland and Liechtenstein under President Obama.

If you did not get an invitation you can print one from our website: go to Latest News - Arlington County Civic Federation's 99th Annual Banquet. **Your RSVP with a check MUST be received no later than April 7th . If you have questions please contact Jesse Boeding at [jesse@civfed.org](mailto:jesse@civfed.org) or at: 703-343-3432.**

## GENERAL MEETING NOTICE

Tuesday, April 7, 2015

7:30 p.m.

Hazel Auditorium  
Virginia Hospital Center  
1701 N George Mason Drive  
Arlington VA 22205

## Agenda

- 7:30 Meeting called to order
- 7:40 Community Energy Plan Update
- 8:10 R&E & Schools Budget Program
- 8:40 Nominating Committee
- 8:45 Bylaws Resolution Introduction
- 8:55 Old Business
- 9:10 New Business
- 9:15 Adjourn

## Inside this issue:

Meeting Program .....	1
99th Banquet .....	1
From the President .....	2
It's Budget Time Again! .....	2
Federation Letter .....	3
R&E Tax Pate Resolution.....	3,4
Parliamentary Maneuvers .....	4,5
Community Discussion on Affordable Housing.....	6
Committee opportunities & Calendar of Future Meetings.....	7



## From the President

*Mike McMenamin*

Come one come all to the most lively Federation meeting of the year, the annual budget. We have a Resolution regarding the real estate tax rate on the agenda. The Schools and the Revenues & Expenditures Committees are scheduled to report on the 2015-16 budget.

We will also have an informative update presentation on the Community Energy Plan.

Please remember to send in your RSVP to the banquet by April 7, 2015. We have a great speaker this year and very deserving awardees, so please plan to attend.

Finally, with Larry Mayer leaving the county, we have a need to fill his Co-Chair position to the Planning & Zoning Committee. If you are interested, please contact Martha Moore at [martha@civfed.org](mailto:martha@civfed.org). or me at [mike@civfed.org](mailto:mike@civfed.org).

I look forward to seeing you at the meeting.

---

## News From the Executive Committee

---

Terri Prell, Chair [Terri@civfed.org](mailto:Terri@civfed.org)

The Executive Committee met on March 8, 2015, to plan the agenda for the April 7, 2015 general meeting and future meetings.

The Executive Committee will meet on April 12, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. at 4805 Wilson Blvd, Arlington VA 22203 (Fire Station 2) to coordinate committee work, and plan future meeting programs. Elected officers and Executive Committee Members should attend. In addition, we would like for Committee Chairs to attend this meeting.

## It's Budget Time!

The Revenues and Expenditures Committee will present a report on the 2015-16 Arlington County Budget. The committee will also present a report on Federation member Tim Wise's resolution that urges the Arlington County Board to prioritize county spending in order to balance the FY 2016 county budget with a real property tax rate of no more than \$0.996 per \$100 of assessed value. The Schools Committee will also present their report of its respective budget at the meeting.

See R&E Committee Resolution at pages 3,4.

## Articles for the Newsletter

If you have information which should be included in the Civic Voice, sent it to

[CivFed@gmail.com](mailto:CivFed@gmail.com).



---

## ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

ACCF

1209 N Fort Myer Drive Apt 3B

Arlington, VA 22209

[www.civfed.org](http://www.civfed.org)

<https://www.facebook.com/pages/Arlington-County-Civic-Federation/519681588064729>

<https://twitter.com/CivFed>

<http://feeds.feedburner.com/CivFed>



## Civic Priorities Letter

April 2, 2015

Arlington County Board  
1 Courthouse Plaza  
Suite 300  
Arlington, Virginia 22201

Re: *Arlington County Civic Federation's Civic Priorities Survey*

Dear Chairman Hynes:

The Arlington County Civic Federation ("Federation") has concluded its Civic Priorities Survey ("CPS") that it initiated in 2014. The intent of the CPS was to elicit from our members the leading issues confronting our communities, so that the Federation could advocate before key stakeholders a unified position (please find the attached presentation deck that summarizes the CPS).

The Federation received 132 responses from 63 member organizations. The survey was completed by 43% of Federation delegates and 20% of alternative delegates. Interestingly, 37% of non Federation members completed the survey.

The CPS found that Capital Infrastructure and Maintenance, Preserving a Sense of Space, Investment in Appropriate Priorities and Transportation were the top priorities amongst those surveyed. In addition, the following priorities were of particular interest to our members: Residential Coding and Zoning; Infrastructure; Transportation; Public Safety; Health and Human Services and Preserving Arlington. We also learned what the Federation could do to improve its mission. All in all, we believe that the CPS was a success and we seek your consideration of the Federation's priorities on issues that are pertinent to the county, e.g. county budget.

Thus, the Federation seeks County Board consideration of its findings from the CPS when it

deliberates and prioritizes funding of programs in this year's budget, and future capital improvement and maintenance plans.

As always, we appreciate the consideration of our views, resolutions, and positions. Please feel free to contact me via telephone at 571.213.4827, or email at [mike@civfed.org](mailto:mike@civfed.org), if you should require any additional information pertaining to this letter.

Sincerely,



---

Michael McMenamin  
President  
Arlington County Civic Federation

Cc: Walter Tejada  
Jay Fisette  
Libby Garvey  
John Vihstadt  
Hope Halleck  
Barbara Donnellan

### **ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION Proposed Real Estate Tax Rate Resolution April 7, 2015**

Whereas the Arlington County Manager has offered a FY 2016 budget that balances with no increase in the current real property tax rate of \$0.996 per \$100 of assessed valuation;

Whereas under the proposed budget, the average homeowner will see their tax and fee burden rise from \$7,286 to \$7,567 – a four percent increase – about \$23 a month, or \$281 a year;

Whereas the Arlington County Board voted to advertise a maximum real property tax rate of \$1.011 per \$100 of assessed valuation, an increase of 1.5 cents;

Whereas the average assessed value of real property, excluding new growth, exceeded last year's assessed value of real property by 2.7%;

Whereas the tax rate, which would levy the same amount of real estate tax as last year, when multiplied by the new total assessed value of real estate, less new growth, would be \$0.974 per \$100 of assessed value;

Whereas the “effective tax rate increase” of the rate advertised by the County Board would be 2.5%;  
Whereas the Manager’s proposed total budget increase will exceed last year’s by 1.7%;

Whereas, the County needs to prioritize spending to focus on essential services and maintenance of existing facilities;

Whereas information provided to the County/ Schools Community Facilities Study group on March 11, 2015 showed “the household income effects of structural change in the Washington Metropolitan Area” for Arlington County was a negative change of \$1,675 from 2009 to 2013’ and,

Whereas the December 2013 to December 2014 inflation rate, using the CPI-U index was 0.8%.

Therefore, be it resolved the Arlington County Civic Federation urges the Arlington County Board to prioritize county spending in order to balance the FY 2016 county budget with a real property tax rate of no more than \$0.996 per \$100 of assessed value, less if possible.

**Parliamentary maneuvers – moving right along**

*By Sarah Shortall, ACCF By-laws Committee Chair*

The heart of meetings of membership organizations is the “deliberative process” – members debating an issue/motion and determining a course of action. “Debate,” according to *Robert’s Rules of Order, Newly Revised (11<sup>th</sup> Edition)*(Section 43, p. 385), “is an essential element in the making of rational decisions of consequence by intelligent people.”

This issue of Civic Voice includes a table of some common parliamentary motions that are applicable to and used during the deliberative process. The

table starts with the main motion, which, when seconded, starts the deliberative process. The motions that follow in the table generally are used to help shepherd the main motion through deliberations. (The motions listed in the table are not an exhaustive list of motions that *Robert’s Rules* cover.)

Some of the motions included in the table (e.g., discharge from committee, limit debate, suspend the rules) may be used to expedite consideration of the main motion, particularly when time is of the essence or where there are certain time constraints. However, there also is potential these motions could be misused (abused) to deny members the opportunity to have meaningful debate or to ram through votes on motions before members have an opportunity to fully consider their import.

Fortunately, *Robert’s Rules* favors full debate and has built into these and other motions certain safeguards designed to protect the deliberative process and protect minority members. For example, motions to limit debate, suspend the rules and call the previous question will prevail only if two-thirds of the membership vote in in favor. Similarly, none of these are “privileged” motions; therefore, they are not in order when another member has the floor. This means those motions can be made only if the chair first recognizes the maker. (A future article will discuss privileged motions.)

Any table that reduces the characterization of parliamentary motions to “YES” and “NO” answers must carry a caveat. Inevitably, there will be instances or special circumstances where the answers in this table of parliamentary motions will not apply. For example, *Robert’s Rules* identifies one situation in which a motion to postpone requires a two-thirds vote. However, it is unlikely that any ACCF delegate will ever move to postpone a pending motion to a time certain and make it a special order! And, if a delegate ever makes that motion, I will be the first to raise Point of Information and ask the chair “What in the heck is that?”

## Common Parliamentary Motions Applicable to and Used in the Deliberative Process

Motion (“I move”)	Purpose	Second required?	Debatable?	Amendable?	Vote required?
Main motion	Puts new business before the membership.	Y	Y	Y	Majority
Amend motion	Revises or changes wording or elements of the main motion.	Y	Y	Y	Majority
Discharge issue from committee	Takes/keeps issue from committee and brings before membership before/without committee report/consideration.	Y	Y	Y	Majority, 2/3rds – if no prior notice
Limit or extend debate	Changes amount of time normally permitted for debate/discussion.	Y	Y	N	Two-thirds
Suspend rules	Sets aside normal operating rules, suspends standing rules without previous notice.	Y	N	N	Two-thirds
Table the motion	Stops debate and vote on motion.	Y	Y	N	Majority
Postpone to time certain or indefinitely	Delays deliberation to specific future time or kills motion (postpone indefinitely).	Y	Y	Y	Majority
Appeal decision of the chair	Disagrees with chair and lets members decide. Must appeal immediately.	Y	Y	N	Majority - sustains chair
Previous question	Cuts off debate. Maker of motion first must be recognized by chair.	Y	N	N	Two-thirds
Reconsider	Reconsiders vote taken at same meeting. Maker must be on prevailing side.	Y	Y, if original motion is	N	Majority
Recess	Interrupts meeting for a short break.	Y	Y	Y	Majority
Adjourn	Ends meeting immediately.	Y	N	N	Majority

## **Arlington County Board Invites Community Conversation on Housing Needs and Affordability**

*Board deems draft Affordable Housing Master Plan and Implementation framework ready for broad public review*

*Multiple ways for public to weigh-in between now and June 2015*

The public will have multiple opportunities in the coming months to weigh-in on a draft Affordable Housing Master Plan and Implementation Framework through a series of meetings, events and on-line engagement, the Arlington County Board agreed during a recent work session.

The County is seeking a comprehensive approach to providing the full range of housing affordability in Arlington. Ensuring a range of housing options, affordable to persons of all income levels and needs throughout the County, creates community sustainability because it supports our people, improves our neighborhoods and strengthens our economy.

“The Working Group has done a terrific job of quantifying the critical housing gaps we face, identifying the issues surrounding affordable housing in our community, and crafting both a vision for the future of affordable housing in Arlington and a framework for implementing that vision,” said Arlington County Chair Mary Hynes.

“While many of the ideas in the report build on our current affordable housing practices, the Board discussion highlighted several new suggested strategies – using proximity to reliable multi-modal transportation as a critical factor when siting new affordable units, considering whether to explicitly build in preferences for Arlington residents and workers in our programs, exploring adjustments to our existing accessory dwelling ordinance and other single family home regulations that could better serve aging owners and provide smaller units while respecting existing neighborhood character. Now we need to engage the broad community in a robust conversation on these ideas.”

## Civic Federation Tentative Meetings Schedule and Programs for 2014 - 2015

**Meetings are the 1st Tuesday of each month** (except November)

**April 7, 2015**– Community Energy Plan, Schools & R&E Budget Reports

**(Note - Friday, April 17 - Civic Federation Award Banquet)**

**May 5, 2015**- State Delegation

**June 2, 2015**- Election of officers

## Arlington County Civic Federation

The ACCF is dedicated to advocacy and community involvement. Its purpose continues to be promoting the general welfare of Arlington County and vicinity in a non-partisan, non-sectarian, and non-political manner.

## Committees of the Civic Federation

The committees provide the basis for most actions of the Federation. We strongly encourage every delegate and alternate to serve on at least one committee. If you have an interest in any topic please contact the chair. If a chair is not listed, contact our President Mike McMenamin at [mike@civfed.org](mailto:mike@civfed.org)

Committee	Chair(s)	Email Address
Executive	Terri Prell	<a href="mailto:terri@civfed.org">terri@civfed.org</a>
Awards	Elected at the December 2013 membership meeting	
Audit	Chair Needed	
Bylaws	Sarah Shortall	<a href="mailto:Sarah@civfed.org">Sarah@civfed.org</a>
Community Relations	James Schroll (POC)	<a href="mailto:james@civfed.org">james@civfed.org</a>
Cultural Affairs	Chair(s) needed	TBD
Emergency Preparedness	Jackie Snelling	<a href="mailto:jackie@civfed.org">jackie@civfed.org</a>
Environmental Affairs	Joe Pelton	<a href="mailto:joepelton@civfed.org">joepelton@civfed.org</a>
Housing	Kathryn Scruggs	<a href="mailto:kathryn@civfed.org">kathryn@civfed.org</a>
Legislation	Chair(s) needed	TBD
Membership	Kim Klingler	<a href="mailto:kim@civfed.org">kim@civfed.org</a>
911 Scholarships	Jim Pebley	<a href="mailto:jim@civfed.org">jim@civfed.org</a>
Nominating	Elected at the April 2014 membership meeting	
Parks and Recreation	Jay Wind	<a href="mailto:jay@civfed.org">jay@civfed.org</a>
Planning and Zoning	Martha Moore, Larry Mayer	<a href="mailto:martha@civfed.org">martha@civfed.org</a> <a href="mailto:larrymayer@civfed.org">larrymayer@civfed.org</a>
Public Services	Jackie Snelling (POC)	<a href="mailto:jackie@civfed.org">jackie@civfed.org</a>
Revenues and Expenditures	Chair(s) needed, Burt Bostwick (POC)	<a href="mailto:burt@civfed.org">burt@civfed.org</a>
Schools	Michael Beer, Sandy Munnell	<a href="mailto:michaelbeer@civfed.org">michaelbeer@civfed.org</a> <a href="mailto:smunnell@gmail.com">smunnell@gmail.com</a>
Special Events	Chair Needed	
Transportation	Jerry Auten	<a href="mailto:jerry@civfed.org">jerry@civfed.org</a>