

Acting County Manager and Stratford

Stefanie Pryor

On Tuesday, December 1, Arlington County's Acting County Manager, Mark Schwartz, will be presenting and answering questions from our member organizations' delegates and alternates.

As part of presenting various views behind complex issues in our community, supporters of the historic designation will be presenting why and what should receive historical designation for the Stratford school. Joan Lawrence, Chairman of the Historic Affairs and Landmark Review Board (HALRB) has confirmed her participation. Invitations have also been extended to Eric Dobson, one of the four original requesters of the designation; Chris Forinash, Commissioner and Chair of the Arlington County Planning Commission; and Susan Cunningham, School Board Stratford Building Level Planning Committee (BLPC) chair.

Please refer to the HALRB website for multiple, in depth reports. In particular, the November 18, 2015 meeting provides Designation Report, Design Guidelines, and the Staff Report:

<http://commissions.arlingtonva.us/historical-affairs-landmark-review-board/>

June 6, 2015 - County Board Stratford School Guiding Principles

<http://arlingtonva.s3.amazonaws.com/wp-content/uploads/sites/5/2013/11/Stratford-School-Guiding-Principles-Adopted-Final-6-16-15.pdf>

August 13, 2015 - School Board Stratford Historic Designation http://www.apsva.us/cms/lib2/VA01000586/Centricity/Domain/105/150813_F-1_School_Board_Stratford_Presentation.pdf

BLPC Recommendation Letter:

<http://www.apsva.us/cms/lib2/VA01000586/Centricity/Domain/105/0000%202015-1103%20Stratford%20BLPC%20Concept%20Recommendation%20or%20School%20Board.pdf>

BLPC Clarification Letter:

<http://www.apsva.us/cms/lib2/VA01000586/Centricity/Domain/105/15-1116%20Stratford%20BLPC%20letter%20to%20SB%20final.pdf>

Planning commission presentations:

<http://commissions.arlingtonva.us/planning-commission/public-facilities-review-committee-pfrc/>

APS Staff Concept Design:

http://www.apsva.us/cms/lib2/VA01000586/Centricity/Domain/105/151116-Stratford_Concept_Design_Report-FINAL.pdf

The Schools Committee resolution against the historic designation was introduced at our October 2015 meeting. That version is reprinted in this newsletter for reference on page 6.

GENERAL MEETING NOTICE

Tuesday, December 1, 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 Acting County Manager, Mark Schwartz
- 8:15 Stratford Historic Designation Presentation and Schools Committee Resolution Vote
- 9:00 Unfinished Business
- 9:15 New Business: Parks Resolution
- 9:30 Adjourn

Inside this issue:

| | |
|-------------------------------------|---|
| Open Data Recap..... | 2 |
| ACCF Dues Reminder..... | 3 |
| Parks & Rec Resolution..... | 3 |
| Metro Washington Airport Authority | 4 |
| ACCF History | 5 |
| Committee News | 6 |
| Parks Resolution on Stratford | 6 |
| FGCA / AMCA Boundaries | 7 |
| 100th Anniversary Gala | 7 |
| Committee Chairs | 9 |

Open Data Recap

Duke Banks

Our November program provided an opportunity for Delegates to learn about efforts to promote governmental transparency through what is called Open Data.

Because of a schedule conflict with a joint County/School Board meeting, officials from the County and Arlington Public Schools could not be present for the program, yet they were interested in the program given the email responses that we received. ACCF is working on recording all programs for those not able to participate in person the night of sessions as part of efforts to take ACCF into the next 100 years of relevancy.

Mr. Tom O'Day, Multimedia Instructor at the Arlington Career Center, provided a student crew to film the event. We are grateful to the following students who made this possible: Flor Caceres-Godoy, Alex Pageotte, and Kiyam Muainudeen. For the students it was a unique opportunity to see civic activism in person.

Refer to these links to see the meeting and these students' hard work:

Part A: <https://vimeo.com/146737735>

Part B: <https://vimeo.com/146739080>

Stephen Larrick, Open Data Project Lead, for the Sunlight Foundation. He provided an overview of the Sunlight Foundation and what is Open Data, how it promotes transparency and efforts and trends in the US to implement Open Data at the local government level. He emphasized need for local governments to develop appropriate policies concerning Open Data as a first step towards moving forward.

For more information on the Sunlight Foundation, go to: <http://sunlightfoundation.com/>

Victoria Lewis, dataMontgomery Project Manager – Montgomery County. She provided a history of Montgomery County's involvement with open data, including developing appropriate policies, legislation and a countywide dataset inventory. She also provided an overview of the dataMontgomery site with a virtual tour of their website and initiatives that make use of open data to further engage with residents. Success factors that are necessary to launch and responsibly maintain a successful open data program were covered, as well.

Montgomery County has received several awards for its cutting edge implementation of Open Data for a local government.

For more information go to: <https://data.montgomerycountymd.gov/>

ARLINGTON COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

ACCF
PO Box 42091
Arlington, VA 22204
www.civfed.org

Now Accepting PayPal!
<http://www.civfed.org/pay-dues/>

Zaki Barzinji – Deputy Director, Intergovernmental Affairs, Office of Governor. McAuliffe. Mr. Barzinji provided an overview of Gov. McAuliffe's efforts on promoting Open Data in the Commonwealth of Virginia, especially efforts to engage with youth and the use of non-traditional efforts of citizen engagements, including "datatrons" to develop unique user friendly apps, plus promote transparency. Given that success is dependent on engagement with civic activist groups, he suggested ways that citizens could encourage their local officials to implement an Open Data initiative in their localities, and provided a "Recipe for an open data program" to do so.

For more information go to: <https://data.virginia.gov/>

The program has resulted in several interesting emails stating that it was one of the most interesting programs ACCF has offered. One guest, Michael Shea, who working with Arlington Independent Media, filmed a Transparency Camp conducted by the Sunlight Foundation here in Arlington in 2012. Link to the Transparency Camp video is here: <https://www.youtube.com/watch?v=eNiFoZU-q2I>

He also filmed eight other segments concerning need for more transparency.

For those interested in an additional information concerning developments in Open Data world wide, the November 21, 2015 Economist has a very interesting article that is recommended: <http://www.economist.com/news/international/21678833-open-data-revolution-has-not-lived-up-expectations-it-only-getting>

ACCF Dues Reminder

Pat Spann

Annual membership fees for the 2015-2016 year are due. Cost is \$50.00 per organization. Multiple methods for payment:

snail mail at PO Box 42091, Arlington, VA 22204; PayPal at <http://www.civcfed.org/pay-dues/>; or Via check at the December 1, 2015 meeting.

The following organizations still owe dues for 2015-2016 as of November 18:

American Association of University Women
Arlington Coalition of Police
Arlington East Falls Church
Arlington Education Association
Arlington Gay & Lesbian Association
Arlington Heights
Arlington Interfaith Council Inc
Ashton Heights CA
Astoria Unit Owners Association
Ballston-Virginia Square CA
Black Oak Cluster CA
Boulevard Manor CA
Buckingham CA
Buyers & Renters Arlington Voice (BRAVO)
Cathcart Springs Homeowners Association
Center for Urban Education
Chatham Condominium
Cherrydale CA
Civic Coalition for Minority Affairs
Clarendon-Courthouse CA
Colonial Village II
Columbia Heights CA
Dominion Hills CA
Dover-Crystal CA
Forest Glen CA
Foxcroft Heights Neighborhood Association
Frederick Courts CA
Friends of Arlington Parks
Glebeewood CA
Gulf Branch CA
John M. Langston CA
League of Women Voters of Arlington, VA, Inc.
Madison Manor CA
North Highlands CA
Rivercrest CA
Spout Run Homeowners Association Inc.
Westover Village
Westwind Homeowners Association

Please note that if dues are not paid, then organizations' delegates cannot vote on resolutions. Only delegates or alternates can ask questions of our speakers.

For additional inquiries, please contact:
membership@civfed.org and treasurer@civfed.org.

Parks and Recreation Committee Resolution

WHEREAS over the last quarter century Arlington County added 45,500 population, but acquired only 76 acres of parkland—only 1.67 acre per each additional 1,000 population.

WHEREAS Arlington's population is expected to grow by up to 31% in the next 25 years, adding 66,000 people to reach a population of 283,000 by 2040 and requiring hundreds of acres of additional parkland to maintain the current level of service.

WHEREAS parks provide economic benefits, enhancing property values, increasing tax revenue, and attracting businesses, workers, homebuyers and retirees.

WHEREAS parks are an important element of smart growth, strengthening the urban core, enhancing mixed development and redevelopment strategies, and mitigating the effects of increasing density.

WHEREAS the level of park bond funding approved by the County Board dropped from an average of \$8.5 million per two-year bond cycle between 1995 through 2008, to \$2.8 million per two-year bond cycle between 2008 to 2014;

WHEREAS the cost of land in Arlington continues to increase, and

WHEREAS the Community Facilities Study recommends a robust County public land acquisition program, including for the acquisition of parkland, to ensure adequate land to meet growing demand for services;

THEREFORE BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Arlington County Civic Federation recommends that the County Board authorize a minimum of \$15 million for parkland acquisition in the November 2016 Parks and Recreation bond referendum.

Michael D. Thomas, Chair
Rick Epstein, Co-Chair
Bernard H Berne
Char Mahoney
Dean Foster
Duke Banks
Edie Wilson
Jay Jacob Wind
Mark Antell
Mark Haynes
Suzanne Sundburg

Note that this resolution will be introduced as new business for December 1, 2015 with a vote in 2016.

Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority (MWA)

Joe Pelton

The Reagan National Community Working Group on Noise held its second meeting on November 12, 2015 at the Reagan National Airport with representatives from the FAA and the Metropolitan Washington Airport Authority (MWA). The group received a detailed presentation on the take-off and landing patterns both from the North and the South. The many constraints that exist due to safety and national security were noted and various quite limited options explained regard to both the North and the South because of the White House and restricted area P56A, Andrews, Quantico, Dulles, etc.

Three options that have been identified by FAA analysis known as LAZIR A, B and C were presented. LAZIR B seemed the most achievable in terms of safety and flyability, while also staying the longest over the Potomac. Flight path options to the North and South, as well as possible changes to the P56A boundary were discussed, but FAA officials largely noted the constraints that limit changes.

Other items that were discussed included the plans by carriers to upgrade to quieter aircraft that would be discussed at the December 10th Meeting. It was suggested that a Survey Monkey questionnaire be developed and distributed prior to the next meeting to see if there is agreement on any points or to explore areas of disagreement. The Charter of the Working Group is shown below.

Reagan National Airport Community Working Group Organizational Charter

The Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority is establishing the Reagan National Airport Community Working Group in response to increasing community concerns regarding aircraft noise affecting residential areas in the District of Columbia, Virginia and Maryland along the Potomac and Anacostia rivers.

The Working Group includes community representatives from Wards 2, 3, 6, 7 and 8 of Washington, D.C.; from the Virginia jurisdictions of Arlington County, the City of Alexandria and the Fairfax County Supervisor Districts of Dranesville and Mount Vernon; and from the Maryland jurisdictions of Montgomery County Council District 1 and Prince George's County Council District 9. An elected official representing each community selects citizens to represent the jurisdiction in the Working Group. The Working Group also includes two representatives of airlines serving Reagan National Airport.

The Working Group is designed to inject broad-based community input into noise-related discussions, and to move the noise discussion beyond the airing of individual and neighborhood complaints toward a cooperative effort to identify practical solutions and recommend those solutions to the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority for submission to the Federal Aviation Administration for consideration and action. Therefore, the Working Group's meetings will be technically focused working sessions rather than public participation forums.

The Working Group will be joined at its meetings by representatives of the Federal Aviation Administration and airlines operating at Reagan National, as well as representatives of the Metropolitan Washington Airports Authority and its Noise Information Office. Elected officials who selected the Working Group members, as well as members of the elected official's staff, also are welcome to attend Working Group meetings.

The Airports Authority will convene the Working Group and serve as facilitator for the group's meetings and its formulation of recommendations. The Airports Authority and FAA will serve as non-voting advisory members of the Working Group, which will conduct meetings using Robert's Rules of Order. The Working Group will meet regularly to share ideas, discuss potential strategies and evaluate potential solutions in consultation with the FAA and other participants. Recommendations approved and endorsed by the Working Group will be forwarded periodically by the Airports Authority to the Federal Aviation Administration for consideration and action.

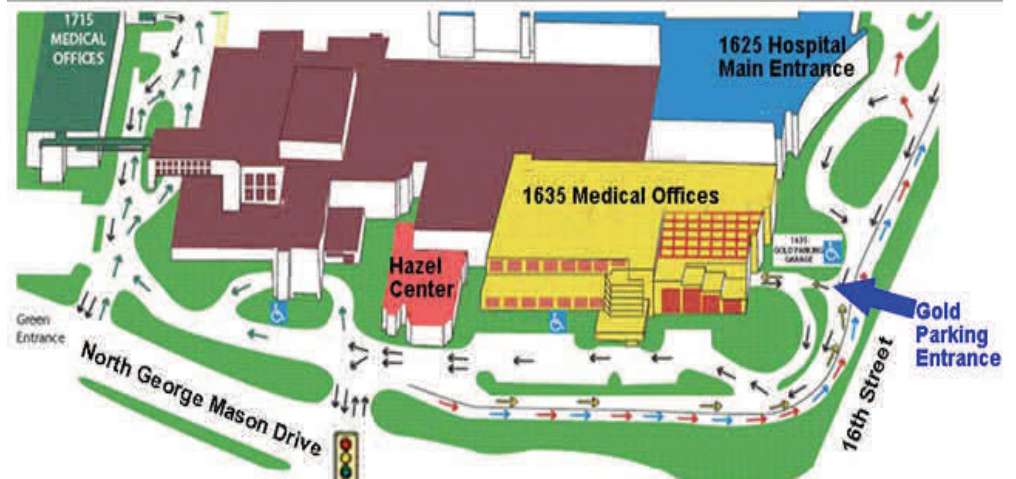
Topics considered by the Working Group could include air safety requirements, current operating conditions affecting air traffic patterns occurring at Reagan National, existing and emerging technologies that affect aircraft movements and performance, roles and responsibilities of government and business entities related to aircraft noise, noise monitoring systems, airline fleet mixes, and experiences of other airport communities in addressing noise issues.

The Working Group will complete its work by the end of 2016 by presenting its final recommendations to the Federal Aviation Administration. (rev 10/28/15)

For details contact: joepelton@verizon.net.

Parking Reminder

Remember to park in the GOLD LOT . On nights of the Civic Federation meeting, the gates of the GOLD Parking lot, which is located under the 1635 Medical Offices, will be open and there is no charge for parking. If you use another lot, you will have to pay the regular rate to exit.



When a committee to clean up the county failed to act in 1929, it was time to make a clean sweep

Anthony B. Toth

Some of the properties in Arlington were looking rough around the edges in 1929, so members of the Civic Federation decided to do something about it. As usual, the path to solving a problem was to appoint a committee. But when it was time to get things done, the chairman of the committee found that his team was unwilling budge. What's a farmer do when the mule won't plow? Get a new mule, of course.

This tale of community action nearly thwarted appears in the September 3, 1929 report of the County-wide Cleanup Campaign Committee, George M Yeatman, Ashton Heights, Chairman. A resolution to promote a cleaner county was approved at the May meeting of the federation, and in the following month the cleanup campaign committee members were appointed. Yeatman was the gung-ho leader who took the initiative and mailed each member of his committee a letter asking them to survey conditions in their district with the help of others and then write up reports to be discussed at a future meeting.

Yeatman waited "a number of weeks" but received "not even a reply from a large majority" of his committee. "I used the phone," he wrote, "and received very discouraging replies." So Yeatman called the federation's president, who told him to put whomever he wanted on the committee. This hand-picked group made the difference. In short order they made a survey of the condition of properties in the county during July, which to the surprise of the chairman showed

that a "very small percentage of places needed attention."

Yeatman highlighted the "high type of civic duty and pride" of the county's residents, and their willing cooperation with the cleanup committee's efforts. "This was one of the pleasing experiences of the whole campaign," he wrote. He added that more than 75 percent of residential properties were attractive and well kept.

But the other 25 percent required some work, including weed removal from vacant lots, clearing of rubbish from premises, "tearing down of unsightly sheds and abandoned buildings", and "painting of broken down fences." In addition to approaching property owners directly, the committee took out ads in local papers with the message: "It's your county, help make it beautiful." Yeatman concluded his report by stating, "The committee knows of no higher civic duty which could be performed by our citizens than the duty of keeping their premises in a sanitary and attractive condition."

As this episode of the federation's history shows, it is often through the determined efforts of a small group of residents that progress has been made in Arlington County. The key is not the size of the team, but dedication of its members.

Anthony B. Toth is a writer and historian who lives in Alcova Heights.

ACCF November 10 Results

Stef Pryor

ACCF's November 10 meeting was not heavily attended, most likely due to the competing Community Facilities School Board and County Board work session, as well as a Route 7 working group. The great news is that our students from the Career Center recorded the meeting so you can watch via YouTube. Refer to Duke Banks' article for additional information.

The bylaws amendment to clarify language for membership dues passed.

We welcome our newest member, the Northern Virginia chapter of the National Organization for the Reform of Marijuana Laws (NORML). Membership was approved with overwhelming majority and a few abstentions.

Awards Committee Needed

The nominations to staff the awards committee is held during our December meeting. This group determines who receives awards at our spring banquet, which is our culmination celebration of 100 years of history. If you have suggestions for award recipients, please contact:

Stefanie@civfed.org or joe.pelton@verizon.net.

From the Executive Committee

Jesse Boeding

The Executive Committee met on Sunday, November 15, 2015 to plan the agenda for December 1, 2015 general meeting and discuss future meetings.

The Executive Committee will meet on Sunday, December 6, 2015, at 7:30 p.m. at 4805 Wilson Blvd, Arlington VA 22203 (Fire Station 2) to coordinate and plan future meeting programs.

The deadline for newsletter articles is Thursday, December 24, 2015 due to the meeting date of Tuesday, January 5. Newsletters are published approximately 1 week before the meeting.

SCHOOLS COMMITTEE DRAFT RESOLUTION OPPOSING HISTORIC DESIGNATION FOR STRATFORD

Whereas in 1959 Stratford School was the first school in Arlington and Virginia to desegregate on the basis of race.

Whereas Arlington played a leading role to end segregated education;

Whereas the historic value of Stratford's bricks and mortar are modest and there are 14 other schools in the area built by the same architect;

Whereas there were already 3 major additions and modifications made to the building;

Whereas the school system is in urgent need of additional seats for students throughout Arlington;

Whereas APS may need the option to expand the school beyond 1,000 students to accommodate the number of students (1,300) housed in the 1960s;

Whereas the historic designations generally require additional maintenance expenditures and current funding for capital expenditures is in short supply;

Whereas the disappearance of green space is a disturbing trend in Arlington, and historic restrictions on the height of needed additions might lead to construction that impinges more on green space than would otherwise be the case;

Whereas a majority of the civic federation delegates are older than Stratford school;

NOW THEREFORE, BE IT RESOLVED, THAT

The Arlington County Civic Federation calls on the County Board and the Arlington County Board to reject a historic designation for the Stratford School Building. The ACCF further resolves that the Arlington County Board and School Board to use plaques, monuments, and/or art to both honor and ensure that all will remember the historic contribution of the people, and their rectitude, that contributed to desegregating the Stratford School.

Note that this resolution will be presented for member organization vote on Tuesday, December 1, 2015.



Forest Glen and Arlington Mill Boundary Clarifications

Membership Committee

Shawn M. Brown, President of Forest Glen Civic Association, and Ric Birch, President of Arlington Mill Civic Association, provided a letter for clarification of the boundaries shown during our September 8, 2015 membership meeting.

Specifically, the northern side of 7th Road South between South Greenbrier Street and South Florida Street, and the southern side of 7th Street South to the west of the Greenbrier Baptist Church are in FGCA. Both civic associations are in agreement for the boundary.

100th Anniversary Gala

Joe Pelton

The design concept on the following page are under development for transportable banners that are to be produced for the Arlington Central Library. Copyrighted materials are being addressed via library. We would appreciate additional photographs of any past ACCF volunteers or events, with copyright permission granted or not applicable. Also, there is to be an Arlington Map for citizens to put in a push pin showing where they live or organizations to which they belong.

Reservations for the Gala on April 8, 2016 for tables are now being taken at \$400 for a table or corporate sponsorships for \$500 up to \$2500. Please contact Joseph N. Pelton at joepelton@verizon.net for details.

1916



Historic Wilson School in 1916



Columbia Pike Traffic Jam



Ft. Myer Streetcar Terminal



Entrance to Luna Park-Now Crystal City

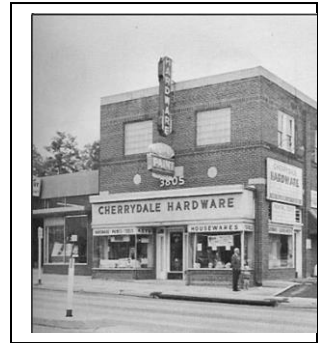


Historic Glebe House



Ft. Myer 1917

The Arlington County Civic Federation
 was founded in 1916. Arlington then consisted of 7500 households & 16,000 people. The earliest members-- neighborhoods of Clarendon, Hume. Cherrydale, Bon Air, Lyon Park, Lyon Village plus the Jefferson District Woman's Club--voted in favor of a sewerage tax to create the first county wide sewerage system in the U.S. The Federation now 100 years young is why Arlington smells so good today!



Cherrydale Hardware



Seeley McIntyre House



Penrose Streetcar--Rosslyn to Nauck



Ballston founded ca 1900

Civic Federation Meetings Schedule and Programs for 2015 - 2016

Meeting are the 1st Tuesday of each month (except September and November)

December 1— Acting County Manager; Stratford Presentation; Schools Committee Resolution Against Stratford Designation vote; and Election of Awards Committee from nominations from the floor

January 5—APS Superintendent (Tentative) and Facilities Study (Tentative)

February 2 —County Board invited and NCAC Changes (Tentative)

March 2 —School Board (Tentative)

April 5 Election of Nominating Committee

(Note - Friday, April 8 - Civic Federation Award Banquet 100th Anniversary)

May 3 — Legislative Program

June 7 - Election of officers

Arlington County Civic Federation Mission

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, non-sectional, 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 Stefanie Pryor at stefanie@civfed.org

| Committee | Chair(s) | Email Address |
|---------------------------|--------------------------------------|--|
| Executive | Jesse Boeding | jesse@civfed.org |
| Awards | Elected at Dec 2015 Membership Mtg | |
| Audit | Chair Needed | |
| Bylaws | Sarah Shortall | sarah@civfed.org |
| Community Relations | Duke Banks | duke.banks@gmail.com |
| Cultural Affairs | Chair(s) needed | TBD |
| Emergency | Jackie Snelling | jackie@civfed.org |
| Environmental Affairs | John Seymour | john@civfed.org |
| Housing | Chair(s) needed | TBD |
| Legislation | Chair(s) needed | TBD |
| Membership | Chair needed | membership@civfed.org |
| 911 Scholarships | Chair(s) needed | TBD |
| Nominating | Elected at April 2016 Membership Mtg | |
| Parks and Recreation | Michael Thomas | michaelthomas@civfed.org |
| Planning and Zoning | Martha Moore | martha@civfed.org |
| Public Services | Jackie Snelling (POC) | jackie@civfed.org |
| Revenues and Expenditures | Chair(s) needed, | TBD |
| Schools | Michael Beer | michaelbeer@civfed.org |
| Special Events | Joe Pelton | joepelton@civfed.org |
| Transportation | Jerry Auten | jerry@civfed.org |