



The Civic Voice



Newsletter of the Arlington County Civic Federation | March 6, 2018 | Volume 102 | Issue 7

Please join us at 6:30 pm in the Hazel Auditorium's lobby to enjoy light refreshments.

From the President's Desk....



Dear Delegates, Alternates, and Presidents of Member Organizations,

It is hard to believe that I'm now on the home stretch of my term as ACCF President. I took on this job with the objective of trying to modernize ACCF, given that as a 102-year-old organization, we were operating with by-laws adopted many decades ago, which may contain obsolete organizational presumptions that are poorly suited to the modern environment. We also face challenges in maintaining CivFed's relevance and

[Click here to register now for CivFed's 2018 Banquet on May 4. at the Rosslyn Holiday Inn. You will get the Early Bird discount and save \\$10 on your reservation.](#)

appeal to a changing demographic audience. Today, we have more young people and more renters than owners in Arlington than in years past. Whereas CivFed was initially organized around civic associations comprising primarily single-family households, today new housing units are largely multifamily buildings (apartments, townhouses, or condos).

As demographics and housing stock shifts occur, we are concerned about the role civic associations and civic groups play and how we can all better meet community needs in the years ahead. We must encourage greater participation and involvement of a younger cohort — many of whom also have children in attending Arlington Public Schools.

Likewise, the County faces similar challenges with its public engagement process.

In an effort to accomplish shared public engagement goals, County staff is reaching out to CivFed in the hope that together we can find mutually beneficial new ways to “engage” with Arlingtonians and encourage civic activism and participation — not only within our member organizations, but also in CivFed itself.

Meeting Agenda

March 6 General Meeting

- 7:00 Regular Business
- 7:10 School Board
- 8:10 Community Energy Plan Resolution Discussion Panel, and Vote
- 8:50 Old Business
- 8:55 New Business
- 9:00 Adjourn

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To this end, County Manager Mark Schwartz and I will hold a series of listening sessions with presidents of civic associations and condo boards on March 1, 3, and 8. The County Manager has stressed the importance of these meetings by mentioning them in his recently released Budget Message to the County Board. See page 26 (page 20 of PDF) of the [Manager's message](#).

I encourage all civic association and condo board presidents to participate in one of these listening sessions.

As President, I've also encouraged CivFed committees to develop programs and panels that present more than one point of view so that our delegates and alternates can appreciate all side of the important issues we face. There has been an ongoing debate within the Executive Committee as to how we can effectively fulfill the organization's commitment to nonpartisanship and respect for alternative views.

Attempts to innovate can sometimes backfire, as with the last-minute cancellation by one of our panelists last month who felt he could not participate on the redistricting panel after viewing one or more posts by individuals on the website of an Arlington organization affiliated with a statewide group that had protested at meetings organized by his employer, a sitting member of Congress.

The last-minute nature of the cancellation left me little time for investigation or reflection, and I inadvertently made a number of erroneous assumptions regarding abbreviated versions of the social media posts and other information that I received. My perception of Indivisible Arlington was mistaken, and I apologized directly to Indivisible Arlington, expressing regret for any distress my comments at the February meeting may have caused their leadership team or membership. Indivisible Arlington's leadership graciously accepted my apology, for which I'm very grateful.

For me and CivFed's Executive Committee, it was a learning experience. The matter has revealed communication and procedural issues among myself as President, the Executive Committee and the Legislative Committee that we will endeavor to address. The Executive Committee Chair has also apologized to the Legislative Committee for an inadvertent delay in timely and proper notice.

Notwithstanding these unfortunate lapses, the events provided an excellent learning opportunity. And I believe the matter has helped us develop a robust panel discussion concerning renewable electricity in March. More on this appears below.

For our March 6 membership meeting, we have scheduled two timely items: a visit by the School Board and the panel discussion on renewable electricity.

Before the School Board presentation, we will informally poll delegates and alternates concerning the possibility of meeting on a date other than the first Tuesday the month. We had meant to take this poll last month. However in dealing with the confusion over last month's program, I forgot, for which I apologize.

The School Board will use the same format as was used for the County Board's presentation — Board members will make short opening statements, and then the discussion will open up for Q&A to provide a more interactive and conversational experience.

The School Board will be followed by the renewable electricity panel discussion, for which the Legislative and Environmental Committees have assembled a formidable panel who will present various perspectives on this topic:

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John Morrill, Arlington's Energy Manager. John is widely respected for his expertise on energy use in Arlington and on plans to meet Arlington's long-term energy goals. As a County employee, John will serve as an expert resource to the Civic Federation and will not take a position on the renewable electricity resolution under consideration.

Ivy Main, the Sierra Club's Virginia Chapter Conservation/Renewable Energy Chair, energy expert and author of the blog, "Power for the People — Virginia energy policy made interesting." Ivy also serves as Conservation Issues Chair and Renewable Energy Chair of the Virginia Chapter of the Sierra Club. She is highly regarded for her energy policy expertise and her ability to explain complicated energy concepts in an entertaining way. Ivy brings expertise on renewable electricity, state policy and utility regulation.

Dean Amel, Chair of the Mount Vernon Group of the Sierra Club's Virginia Chapter. Dean has been a leader on environmental issues in Arlington for more than 25 years. He will describe how Arlington can achieve 100% renewable electricity by 2035.

Dianne O. Corsello, Director, Business Development, Dominion Energy. As Director of Business Development for the Dominion Energy Power Generation Group, Dianne is responsible for the development of new power facilities aligned with the Company's generation growth plan. Within this role, Dianne works with others across the Company in making decisions concerning new generation facilities, including solar-powered generation facilities, and the Company's long-term planning to meet its customers' needs.

Following the panel discussion, delegates/alternates will vote on the renewable electricity resolution originally introduced in October 2017, which has been amended. The amended version can be found on pages 7 and 8 of this newsletter.

Looking ahead, we remind all delegates, alternates and their civic associations and organizations to book their reservations for our annual banquet on May 4, 2018. We have invited Michelle Winters, Executive Director of The Alliance for Housing Solutions, to speak along with Alan Ehrenhalt and Peter Rousselot on how/whether Arlington can accommodate 63,000 more residents by 2040.

[Click here to register now for CivFed's 2018 Banquet on May 4. at the Rosslyn Holiday Inn. You will get the Early Bird discount and save \\$10 on your reservation.](#)

Remember my opening remarks about the need to update and improve our by-laws and governance structure? Before I finish my term as president, my goal is to work with the Subcommittee on Incorporation, headed by Vice President Matt Wavro so that we can present the membership with a new set of by-laws that will permit the ACCF to incorporate as a nonprofit organization.

I look forward to your support in helping CivFed to reach this critical milestone in its evolution into a civic organization that is prepared to meet 21st century challenges.

Best,

Duke Banks
ACCF President

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[Register now!](#) – Friday evening, May 4, 2018

Annual Civic Federation Banquet

Holiday Inn, Rosslyn

Arlington's Growth Express - Still on track...or off the rails?

A discussion on Arlington's challenge as it transitions from a suburban environment towards a mixed urban-suburban community trying to accommodate an additional 63,000 people by 2040 when the estimated population is projected to be 283,000.

Joining us for a candid conversation:

Alan Ehrenhalt – Former Executive Editor, *Governing* Magazine, premier publication for State and Local Officials. Nationally recognized journalist on state and local government issues who brings a broad perspective of changes and challenges that American cities and towns are experiencing on how to accommodate growth. He has been a frequent contributor to *The New York Times* Book Review and op-ed page, the Washington Post Book World, *New Republic* and *The Wall Street Journal*. He is the author of four books: *The United States of Ambition*, *The Lost City*, *Democracy in the Mirror*, and *The Great Inversion*. Alan has an undergraduate degree from Brandeis University and holds an MS in journalism from Columbia. He is a long-time Arlingtonian resident living in Lyon Village.



Alan will talk about the challenges communities face as an inner suburb to a major city providing perspective of what he has seen in other jurisdictions given his over 30 years of experience observing local jurisdictions nationwide.

Michelle Winters - Michelle is Executive Director of the Alliance for Housing Solutions, an Arlington-based nonprofit organization that is working to increase the supply of affordable housing in Arlington and Northern Virginia through public education, policy development, advocacy and innovation. Prior to joining AHS, Michelle worked for two decades at the national level on housing finance, policy, and capacity building initiatives, most recently as Senior Visiting Fellow for Housing at the Urban Land Institute. Michelle has served as chair of Arlington's Housing Commission and president of the Tara-Leeway Heights civic association, and currently serves on the boards of Housing Virginia and the Lee Highway Alliance. She received her BA in Urban Affairs from Virginia Tech and her Master in City Planning from MIT.



Peter Rousselot - He currently writes a weekly opinion column, "Peter's Take", for the Arlington news blog, ARLnow.com where several of his columns have addressed the challenges Arlington faces concerning its growth. Peter has been active in Arlington civic life since he and his family moved to Arlington in 1997. Among other positions, he has served as Chair of the Fiscal Affairs Advisory Commission, Co-Chair of the Advisory Council on Instruction, Chair of the Arlington County Democratic Committee, and member of the Central Committee of the Democratic Party of Virginia. For 28 years prior to his retirement, Peter was associated with the Washington, DC law firm now known as Hogan Lovells, where he specialized in railroad mergers, acquisitions, and valuations, was an equity partner, and a member of the firm's Executive Committee. Peter has an undergraduate degree from Yale, and a JD degree from Harvard.



Michelle and Peter will follow Alan. They will offer observations on specific challenges facing Arlington County based on their experiences observing the Arlington scene.

These presentations are the entrée to a lively, thought-provoking conversation during our Q&A segment concerning Arlington's planned growth – is it on track or off the rails?

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February Executive Committee Meeting

ExCom Chair Terri Prell noted the presence of a quorum and called the meeting to order at 6:34 PM. ExCom members attending the meeting included: Terri Prell, ExCom Chair; Rick Epstein, ExCom Vice Chair; Eric Berkey; Anya Gan; Dennis Gerrity; Nicole Merlene; Sarah Shortall; and Matt Wavro. John Bloom, Boulevard Manor; Eric Brescia, Columbia Heights; Ron Haddox, Columbia Heights; Juliet Hiznay, Columbia Heights; and John Seymour, Williamsburg, were also present. The agenda for this meeting was approved without objection. Duke Banks joined the meeting shortly after it started

Reports from Officers and Committees

Secretary: The second draft of the minutes for the January 7, 2018 ExCom meeting was approved as submitted.

Treasurer: Sarah Shortall updated ExCom on her efforts to find a better rate of return on the money deposited in CivFed's savings account and her efforts to collect membership fees from member organizations in arrears. ExCom asked Ms. Shortall check on the rates offered by credit unions and report back to it. Terri Prell moved that ExCom authorize itself to vote online on investing funds in CivFed's savings account. Her motion was seconded and approved without exception.

Vice President: See below.

President: See below.

Banquet Committee: Duke reported that Michelle Winters had agreed to serve on the 2018 ACCF Annual Banquet discussion panel.

Incorporation and By-laws Subcommittee (IBC): Matt Wavro, chair of the (IBC), reported that the committee met on January 16, but was unable to agree unanimously to move forward with documents received from Bean Kinney. Matt asked for directions from ExCom on it would like the IBC to move forward

Housing Committee: Eric Brescia, Chair of CivFed's Housing Committee, gave a report Arlington County's plans to use a mix of tools and regulations to preserve and encourage construction of additional market-rate rental units in eleven neighborhoods outside of the planning corridors. These neighborhoods are designated as Housing Conservation Districts. Eric Berkey tentatively agreed to represent the Civic Federation on a Housing Conservation District Advisory Group that would report to County staff. If Mr. Berkey was unable to serve on this advisory group, then Steff Pryor would be asked to fill this slot. Mr. Brescia said he was willing to make an informational presentation at one of the remaining 2017-2018 CivFed meetings. Terri suggested asking County Staff and P&Z Committee members to participate in a 15 to 20-minute presentation in April. No one was asked to co-ordinate the panel or invitations to the panel.

March Meeting: ExCom decided that the School Board would go first at the March meeting with one hour allocated to their presentations and Q&A. Duke said that the School Board had agreed to follow the same format used for the January meeting with County Board: three to four minutes for introductory comments by School Board members and then open the floor to Q&A. Rick asked and Terri agreed that CivFed's Schools Committee would submit questions to the School Board in advance of the March meeting. The Legislative Committee's Resolution in favor of Arlington's Transition to Renewable Electricity by 2035 was scheduled for the second half of the March Meeting. John Bloom said that John Morill, Arlington County's Energy Manager, Ivy Main of Power for the People VA, and Dean Amel of the Sierra Club had agreed to participate in the panel discussion of the resolution in Favor of Arlington's Transition to Renewable Electricity by 2035. Mr. Bloom said that he was also trying get someone from either Dominion Power or a commercial supplier of solar panels to serve on this panel. Duke asked, and Mr. Bloom agreed to include a footnote to the resolution citing a May 2011 CivFed resolution supporting community energy and sustainability goals.

April Meeting: Ron Haddox said that Julia Tanner asked the Legislative Committee to sponsor a resolution urging the Virginia General Assembly and the Arlington County Board to approve the pending Equal Rights Amendment to the US Constitution. Ms. Hiznay spoke in support of scheduling the ERA resolution for April. Matt Wavro and Eric Berkey said Michelle Winter of the Alliance for Housing Solutions, if available, could make an informative presentation on housing for the "Missing Middle" at the April meeting. Allocating time for panel discussion and Q&A on Ms. Winter's presentation was discussed.

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Terri Prell recommended the agenda for the April Membership meeting include presentations on housing for the “Missing Middle”; Arlington County’s plans for Housing Conservation Districts; and a report, panel discussion, and vote on an ERA Resolution. Including a Revenue Expenditures Committee Report and Resolution on FY2019 Budget on the April agenda and moving the ERA Resolution to May was discussed, but there was no decision on making this change.

Old Business

February Membership Meeting: After discussion, Mr. Epstein moved that ExCom wait at least one week to see if a letter arrives from Indivisible Arlington before sending an apology to Invisible Arlington for comments made about it at the ACCF February 6 Membership Meeting, and regardless of any communications from Indivisible Arlington, there will be a statement in the March newsletter that makes things right by apologizing to all that might have been offended by comments made at the ACCF February 6 Membership Meeting. Any and all communications to or from ExCom members on this incident will be shared with all members of ExCom. Mr. Epstein’s resolution was seconded and approved by a vote of six ayes, two nays and one abstention. Terri Prell, ExCom chair, will write a letter of apology to the Legislative committee for not giving clear direction to the committee and for interfering with their organizing of a program on gerrymandering.

New Business:

Changing Membership Meeting Date: Matt Wavro agreed to check on how flexible Virginia Hospital Center could be if CivFed decided to hold its meetings on a different day of the month.

Participation CivFed Representatives on Arlington County Working Groups and Commissions: Nicole Merlene suggested that Excom set up a formal system that would allow CivFed representatives on Arlington County Working Groups and Commissions to report to ExCom or Federation Membership on what the working groups or commissions on which they served were doing. Rick Epstein recommended that ExCom clarify the role of CivFed Representatives on Arlington County Working Groups and Commissions.

Committee Chairs and ExCom Meetings: Rick Epstein recommended that ExCom be proactive in encouraging Committee Chairs to attend its meetings.

Guidelines for Presentations at Membership Meetings and Resolutions: There was discussion of establishing guidelines for Committees to make presentations at Membership Meetings and submit resolutions to the membership. Terri recommended that ExCom start an email chain to discuss member’s recommendations for these guidelines.

Ms. Prell adjourned the meeting at 8:55 pm.

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The Arlington County School Board

In compliance with state and federal laws, the School Board establishes policies and regulations by which Arlington Public Schools is governed.

The School Board is responsible for:

- employing the superintendent and setting policy for hiring other personnel;
- overseeing the development of and adopting policies;
- setting a direction for and adopting the curriculum;
- establishing budget priorities, adopting the budget and overseeing facilities issues; and providing direction for and adopting collective bargaining agreements

School Board's 2017-18 Priorities



New Policies and Policy Revisions

- ✓ Options & Transfers Follow Up
- Acceptable Use (1:1 Devices for Instruction)
- Inclusion (students learn in shared environment)
- School/Facility Naming Policy*

Operational Planning

- Strategic Plan
- FY19 Budget
- AFSAP Update/CIP Framework
- Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for FY19-28

Prep for New Schools and Program Moves (2019)

- Middle School Boundaries
- Elementary School Boundaries
- Montessori Move

Capital Initiatives

- Career Center
- Education Center
- Reed Building

Engagement

- Support and empower teachers and staff
- Strengthen school-family-community relationships

Each year the School Board establishes annual priorities to assist in keeping the Board's work focused, effective and aligned with its Strategic Plan goals. Areas of focus for this year's priorities are displayed on the left.

Visit www.apsva.us/engage/ for additional information on the School Board's Priorities and to stay abreast of opportunities for community involvement.

Please visit <https://www.apsva.us/contact-the-school-board/> to learn how to contact School Board members. Information about School Board meetings and agendas is available at <https://www.apsva.us/school-board-meetings/>.

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RESOLUTION IN FAVOR OF ARLINGTON'S TRANSITION TO RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY BY 2035

[Drafting note: No substantive changes have been made to the *resolved* clauses since the resolution was first introduced at the October 3, 2017 ACCF meeting. *Whereas* clauses and *footnotes* have been updated and revised to reflect Committee input and new information.]

Whereas, Arlington County desires to protect and enhance the quality of life for all residents of Arlington, as well as for their children and grandchildren; and

Whereas, climate change has been widely recognized by government, business, academic and other entities as a local and worldwide threat to our economy, safety, public health and quality of life; and

Whereas, Arlington County is a signatory of the Global Covenant for Mayors for Energy and Climate, committing to track and reduce greenhouse gas emissions and plan for climate adaptation; and

Whereas, Arlington County has adopted a Community Energy Plan as an element of its Comprehensive Plan to reduce greenhouse gas emissions by 75% or more by 2050;¹ and

Whereas, the Arlington Civic Federation has endorsed the goals of the Community Energy Plan;² and

Whereas, Arlington County recently issued a "Climate Action Resolution" re-affirming its commitment to the Community Energy Plan, supporting the principles of the Paris Agreement's global plan to address climate change, and agreeing to act in accordance with the goals of that Agreement; and

Whereas, meeting Arlington's Community Energy Plan goals will require a substantial transition to renewable energy in all sectors of the County; and

Whereas, electricity accounts for approximately two-thirds of energy use in Arlington;³ and

Whereas, renewable electricity⁴ costs in Arlington and nationwide have fallen sharply, and are now competitive in cost with fossil fuel-based electricity for many homeowners, businesses, and County government facilities⁵; and
Whereas renewable electricity costs are expected to continue to fall for the foreseeable future,⁶ while the cost of fossil fuel-based electricity is expected to rise, making it cost-effective for Arlington to transition to renewable electricity; and

1 [Arlington County Community Energy Plan](https://environment.arlingtonva.us/energy/community-energy-plan-cep/), <https://environment.arlingtonva.us/energy/community-energy-plan-cep/>.

2 [Arlington County Civic Federation, Membership Meeting Minutes, May 3, 2011, noting passage of a resolution in support of the Community Energy and Sustainability Task Force Report](#).

3 [Arlington County Community Energy Plan, supra, p. 6](#).

4 Renewable electricity is electricity produced from renewable energy sources. Renewable energy sources "capture their energy from existing flows of energy, from on-going natural processes, such as sunshine, wind, flowing water, biological processes, and geothermal heat flows." Science Daily, reference terms, "renewable energy," available online at https://www.sciencedaily.com/terms/renewable_energy.htm.

5 Deutsche Bank Securities, Inc., *Solar Grid Parity in a Low Oil Price Era*, February 2015, available online at https://db.com/cr/en/docs/solar_report_full_length.pdf.

6 Bloomberg News, "Wind and Solar are Crushing Fossil Fuels," April 6, 2016, available online at <https://www.bloomberg.com/news/articles/2016-04-06/wind-and-solar-are-crushing-fossil-fuels>.

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Whereas 44 cities and counties have committed to achieve 100% renewable electricity by 2035 or sooner, including large metropolitan areas such as Atlanta, Orlando, Salt Lake City and San Diego, and including 5 cities that already have reached 100% renewable electricity;⁷ and

Whereas, achieving 100% renewable electricity in Arlington by 2035 is feasible through a combination of measures by individuals, businesses and the County government, including taking energy conservation actions identified in the Community Energy Plan, promoting solar installations in Arlington, and purchasing renewable electricity generated outside of Arlington;⁸ and

Whereas, the U.S. Conference of Mayors has determined that “renewable energy represents an enormous economic opportunity for our nation and our nation’s communities to create jobs in an emerging industry, increase economic security, expand prosperity for local residents, reduce air pollution and associated public health risks, reduce strain on water resources, save consumers money and address environmental justice challenges to communities.”⁹

Now, therefore, be it *resolved* that:

1. The Arlington Civic Federation supports the transition to 100% renewable electricity¹⁰ in Arlington by 2035; and
2. Encourages the Arlington County Board to adopt this important goal and to develop appropriate plans and programs to achieve it; and
3. Encourages That the Arlington County Board to pursue appropriate state and federal laws and policies supportive of Arlington’s the transition to renewable electricity.

7 “Is Your City Ready for 100?” A list of cities committed to 100% clean energy. Available online at: <http://www.sierraclub.org/ready-for-100/cities-ready-for-100>.

8 “Arlington’s Energy Future,” presentation by Dean Amel, Chair, Mount Vernon Group, Virginia Sierra Club, Arlington Energy Forum, Nov. 16, 2016.

9 The United States Conference of Mayors, 85th Annual Meeting, June 23-26, Miami, FL, 2017 Adopted Resolutions, “100% Renewable Energy in American Cities,” available online at: http://legacy.usmayors.org/resolutions/85th_Conference/proposedcommittee.asp?committee=Energy.

10 100% renewable electricity means Arlington County will generate or purchase renewable electricity in an amount equal to or greater than 100% of usage on an annual basis

ARLINGTON CIVIC FEDERATION RESOLUTION IN FAVOR OF ARLINGTON'S TRANSITION TO RENEWABLE ELECTRICITY BY 2035

Procedural History

On September 26, 2017, the Legislative Committee of the Arlington Civic Federation met to consider a proposed Resolution in Favor of Arlington's Transition to Renewable Electricity by 2035. The draft resolution was unanimously approved. The resolution was introduced to membership on October 3, 2017, at which time members had an opportunity to ask questions. In February, 2018, the resolution's footnotes and "whereas" clauses were revised to reflect new information and input from Environmental Committee and Legislative Committee members. No substantive changes were made to the "resolved" clauses. The revised text was circulated to both committees for comment on February 8, and shared with the Executive Committee at its February 11 meeting. Two additional revisions were made in response to comments received and the text was recirculated to both committees on February 16 for final approval, which was achieved without dissent on Wednesday, February 21, 2018. Legislative Committee and Environmental Committee members participating in the review were: Ron Haddox (Chair, Legislative Committee), John Seymour (Chair, Environmental Committee), Juliet Hiznay, Takis Karantonis, Rick Keller, Barbara Swart, Sarah Shortall, and Andy Ludwig.

Common Questions and Answers:¹

Reading the Resolution text is highly recommended. It includes helpful background and citations to more detailed information.

What does this resolution ask the County Board to do?

The resolution calls on the County Board to set a goal for the County to reach net 100% renewable electricity community-wide by 2035; to ask staff to develop appropriate plans in support of this goal; and to pursue appropriate policies supportive of this goal at the state and federal levels. There is often confusion about certain aspects of the proposal. It is limited to electricity only, not all forms of energy, and is strictly a local proposal. It does not depend on or call for the entire grid to be carbon free, or for Virginia or any other jurisdiction to adopt this goal. It does not in any way require Arlington to leave the grid or establish its own utility. This resolution helps clarify a desired long-term goal, but does not call for or create an obligation to spend public or private funds.

What does "net" 100% renewable electricity mean?

The proposal relies on the ability of the County government, businesses, and residents to offset non-renewable electricity use by generating or purchasing an equal or greater amount of renewable

¹ In developing these questions and answers, the Legislative Committee relied significantly on the findings, analysis and language of the Arlington Environment and Energy Conservation Commission (E2C2) in its letter to the County Board of December 20, 2017, entitled "E2C2 Position in Favor of Arlington County Commitment to 100% Renewable Electricity by 2035." The E2C2 letter is available online at <https://commissions.arlingtonva.us/letters/>.

electricity and placing it on the grid. This is the only practical approach to take given the high likelihood that the grid serving Arlington will continue to deliver some electricity from non-renewable sources in 2035. This is the same approach widely used in the business world,² higher education, municipal governments, and other institutions.³ It provides the same greenhouse gas reduction benefits as if renewable electricity had been supplied to Arlington through the grid.

What are the main benefits of the proposal?

The two main benefits are (a) addressing climate change in a meaningful way locally by meeting Arlington's greenhouse gas emission reduction goals, and (b) economic benefits described in greater detail below.

Meeting Arlington's greenhouse gas emission reduction goals

There is overwhelming scientific consensus that we must sharply reduce fossil fuel-based energy use to avoid catastrophic climate change. Arlington has established itself as a leader in this effort in many ways, and has set a goal of reducing greenhouse gas emissions by 75 percent by 2050. Because Arlington relies on electricity for about two-thirds of its energy use, the transition to renewable electricity will make an enormous contribution toward achieving our established goal.

Economic benefits

Economic benefits fall into several categories:

- **Low cost electricity.** The dramatic and ongoing drop in renewable electricity prices is driving the transition to renewables. In fact, renewable electricity already is the lowest-cost form of new electricity generation in Virginia, according to Dominion Energy Virginia. This price advantage is small now but growing each year, creating a strong basis for the 21.5% average annual growth rate in adoption of renewable electricity in Arlington needed to reach 100% in 2035.
- **Enhancing Arlington's economic competitiveness.** Major businesses are increasingly considering local commitments to renewable energy as an important factor in siting their offices. This is especially true in the technology sector, which is vitally important to Arlington's economic future, and is becoming the norm in other sectors as well. Sixty-three percent of Fortune 100 companies now have set clean energy targets.⁴

² See, e.g., standards used by RE 100, available online at <http://there100.org/going-100>

³ For the EPA's list of 995 institutions that already have achieved 100% offsets, totaling 21.2 billion KW hours per year, see <https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-partnership-100-green-power-users>

⁴ World Wildlife Fund, Ceres, Calvert Investments, CDF, Power Forward 3.0 Report, April 2017, available at <https://www.worldwildlife.org/publications/power-forward-3-0-how-the-largest-us-companies-are-capturing-business-value-while-addressing-climate-change>

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- **Energy security and resilience.** Renewable electricity is sourced from many locations, and increasingly will involve energy storage and, where appropriate, microgrids that are able to “island” themselves from the grid in emergencies. This less centralized and more flexible approach to generation provides many advantages in the event of a disaster affecting the power grid.

Where will all this renewable energy come from?

There are three main categories of renewable electricity available to Arlington:

- **Off-site utility-scale renewable electricity generation.** The proposal relies substantially on the availability of large-scale renewable electricity generated outside of Arlington. These large-scale operations are the lowest-cost providers of renewable electricity, and already are economically viable in Virginia.⁵ Some solar developments are being built by Dominion Energy, which is beginning to offer renewable electricity to its customers through a variety of initiatives. Dominion has requested that it be allowed to charge its residential customers a net premium of about 1.5 cents per kilowatt hour for a new “community solar” program,⁷ which relies exclusively on smaller, less efficient solar facilities. That premium, if approved, would be recalculated annually and would decline significantly over time as the cost of generating solar electricity continues to fall, and as the costs of administering the program decline. Other solar developments are being built by independent businesses that can sell solar electricity via power purchase agreements (PPAs) and virtual power purchase agreements (VPPAs). One example of how the “VPPA”⁸ approach can work is the current initiative by the Northern Virginia Regional Commission (NVRC) exploring the possibility of a large-scale VPPA to offset usage by government operations of member jurisdictions, such as Arlington County.
- **Solar power generated in Arlington on rooftops and other surfaces.** Generating solar electricity on rooftops and other surfaces in Arlington is expected to grow dramatically as solar technology continues to advance in efficiency and drop in price. New rooftop solar products are expected to appeal to a wider range of customers, and to provide energy storage options for backup power and added flexibility. It will become cost effective to cover more surfaces, and easier and more economically compelling for property owners to do so, especially in connection with new building, renovation, and roof replacements.

5 Currently, solar developers have filed a Notice of Intent for projects totaling more than 2,500 MW in Virginia, up from 22 MW two years ago. A current list of projects is available online at <http://www.deq.virginia.gov/Programs/RenewableEnergy/RenewableEnergyProjectsNoticesofIntent.aspx>

6 Dominion’s description of its proposed “Community Solar” program is available online at <https://www.dominionenergy.com/communitysolar>. A more detailed description, including rate proposals, is available from the State Corporation Commission, Case Number PUR-2018-00009, linked to this Webpage: <http://www.scc.virginia.gov/case/PublicComments.aspx>.

7 For a general description of PPAs, VPPAs and other renewable power contracts, see <https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-supply-options>

8 For an overview of the NVRC initiative, see “Northern Virginia Governments Look at Major Renewable Energy Purchase,” available online at <https://powerforthepeopleva.com/2017/11/17/northern-virginia-governments-look-at-major-renewable-energy-energy-purchase/>

Use of Renewable Energy Certificates (RECs). The proposal allows for the purchase of renewable energy certificates (RECs) to correct any unanticipated shortfall as Arlington approaches its 100% goal. RECs are tradable energy instruments representing proof that electricity has been generated from a renewable source.⁹ They are available at modest wholesale prices and are a widely accepted method of offsetting non-renewable electricity use.¹⁰ For example, Georgetown University offset its electricity use in 2016 by 129% primarily through the purchase of RECs.¹¹ In 2016, Montgomery County, Maryland also began to obtain 100% of its electricity supply from renewable sources, partially through RECs.

What are the main concerns people have with this proposal?

The number one concern, not surprisingly, is: “How much will this cost?” Variations of the question ask whether it would cost less to make the change more gradually, and, if so, whether the extra cost is “worth it.” These are good questions. There are two main responses:

First, the transition to renewable electricity is driven by widespread expectations of very low renewable prices combined with large gains in social welfare from addressing the threat of catastrophic climate change and reducing the public health burdens associated with fossil fuel use. So the “costs” incurred, for example, in placing solar panels on a public building, or establishing a program to encourage renewable electricity, are expected to be offset many times over in lower energy bills and other gains.

Second, this resolution does not require or call for any specific expenditures beyond engagement by Arlington County staff in developing a long-term plan to reach the goal. The resolution does not pre-judge the details of that plan, and it leaves determinations of what is necessary and “worth it” to the normal political and budgetary process. Every energy-related expenditure should be subject to open debate. This resolution helps clarify a desired long-term goal, but does not otherwise create an obligation to spend public or private funds.

More information on RECs is available online at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Renewable_Energy_Certificate_\(United_States\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Renewable_Energy_Certificate_(United_States)).

For a general description of RECs and other renewable power contracts, see <https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-supply-options>

For a list of major universities that have offset some or all of their electricity use, see <https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-partnership-top-30-college-university>

10 More information on RECs is available online at [https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Renewable_Energy_Certificate_\(United_States\)](https://en.wikipedia.org/wiki/Renewable_Energy_Certificate_(United_States)).

11 For a general description of RECs and other renewable power contracts, see <https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-supply-options>

12 For a list of major universities that have offset some or all of their electricity use, see <https://www.epa.gov/greenpower/green-power-partnership-top-30-college-university>

The Civic Voice

The ACCF Treasurer's Report for February 1 – 28, 2018 will be available at the March 6 meeting. The January 2018 report is shown below.

Checking

Beginning Balance 2/1/2018		\$	8,031.39
Deposits -Dues		\$	148.25
Checks	\$	100.00	
PayPal	\$	48.25*	
Expenses/Payments		\$	155.89
Supplies	\$	15.89	
Dues Overpayment	\$	50.00	
2018 P.O. Box Rent	\$	90.00	
Ending Balance 2/28/2018		\$	8,023.75

Savings

Beginning Balance 2/1/2018	\$	18,619.13
Deposits		.00
Interest		.48
Expenses/Payments		.00
Ending Balance 2/28/18	\$	18,619.61

* - PayPal charges a fee of \$1.75 for every \$50 electronic dues payment

Membership Fees can be paid in person at Civic Federation Membership Meetings with a check made out to:

Arlington County Civic Federation

Checks can also be mailed to the Civic Federation at

PO Box 42091 Arlington, VA 22204.

The Civic Federation accepts PayPal at <http://www.civfed.org/pay-dues/>

The Civic Voice

2017-2018 Officers and Executive Committee Members

President Duke Banks
Vice President Matt Wavro
Secretary Dennis Gerrity
Treasurer Sarah Shortall

Executive Committee Chair Terri Prell
Executive Committee Vice Chair Rick Epstein
Executive Committee Member Eric Berkey
Executive Committee Member Anya Gann
Executive Committee Member Nicole Merlene

2017-2018 General Meetings

March 6 General Meeting

7:00 Regular Business
7:10 School Board
8:10 Community Energy Plan Resolution Discussion Panel, and Vote
8:50 Old Business
8:55 New Business
9:00 Adjourn

April 3 General Meeting (tentative)

7:00 Regular Business
7:10 "Missing Middle" Presentation by Michelle Winters
7:30 Housing Conservation Districts Presentation by County Staff and/or Eric Brescia
8:00 Revenue Expenditures Committee Report and Resolution on FY2019 Budget
8:50 Old Business
8:55 New Business
Nominating Committee
9:00 Adjourn

May 2 General Meeting (tentative):

7:00 Regular Business
7:10 ERA Resolution Report, Panel Discussion, and Vote
8:50 Old Business
8:55 New Business
9:00 Adjourn

June 5 General Meeting (tentative)

Legislative Panel
Election of Officers and ExCom members

2017-2018 Executive Committee Meetings

March 11, 2018
April 8, 2018
May 6, 2018
June 10, 2018
July 8, 2018

September 9, 2018
October 7, 2018
November 18, 2018
December 9, 2018

Executive Committee Meetings are held at Fire Station #2, 4805 Wilson Boulevard. They begin at 6:30 PM.

The Civic Voice

Why Civic Federation Committees Matter and What They Can Do for You

Have you ever been surprised to discover that something in your neighborhood is changing? Maybe a new high-rise is going up around the corner, or perhaps school boundaries have changed. It could be your tax bill is going up, or a new County ordinance now affects your business. Time and time again, folks come to the Federation only after the change is well under way. By then, it's often too late to make a difference.

The Federation's committees serve to keep such surprises at bay by educating, involving and empowering our member organizations. Committees educate by hosting speakers from County staff, holding programs, disseminating information, and fostering discussion. Committees involve our members by providing opportunities to participate in local and regional commissions and organizations. Committees empower by recommending resolutions to the Federation, which, in turn, can publicize these positions in the community and with our elected officials.

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 Duke Banks at duke@civfed.org

Committee	Chair	Email Address
Executive	Terri Prell	terri@civfed.org
Awards	Elected at the December 2017 General Meeting	
Audit	Jay Wind	jay@civfed.org
Bylaws	Sarah Shortall	sarah@civfed.org
Community Relations	Nicole Merlene	Nicole@civfed.org
Cultural Affairs	Chair needed	TBD
Emergency Preparedness	Jackie Snelling (POC)	jackie@civfed.org
Environmental Affairs	John Seymour	john@civfed.org
Housing	Eric Brescia	ericbrescia@civfed.org
Legislation	Ron Haddox	ron@civfed.org
Membership	Stefanie Pryor	membership@civfed.org
911 Scholarships	Stefanie Pryor (POC)	Stefanie@civfed.org
Nominating	Elected at the April 2018 General Meeting	
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	Burt Bostwick (POC)	burt@civfed.org
Schools	Michael Beer	michaelbeer@civfed.org
Special Events	Joe Pelton	Joepelton@civfed.org
Transportation	Jerry Auten	jerry@civfed.org

The Civic Voice

North Highlands Citizens' Association Boundaries Arlington County Civic Federation Membership Committee As of February 25, 2018

The North Highland Citizens' Association (NHCA) requested a boundary adjustment in fall 2015 to include an area not covered on existing [Arlington County map](#). The area is bound by Lee Highway, Route 66 and North Cleveland Street. This area is not part of a CA and community members there have expressed interest in joining the NHCA.

As the process spanned 2 years, the area is shown again. The boundary shall be presented at the April 3, 2018 meeting with request for general membership vote on the revised boundaries. Timing allows for additional public notification.

The Arlington County Civic Federation (ACCF) Membership Committee posted the request for North Highlands boundary via our [October 2015 newsletter](#), with a direct email distribution over of 900 active community members and access via public website. The change was brought up at the October 2015 meeting, as well. In September 2015, ACCF received confirmation of support to expand North Highland's boundaries from the Lee Highway Alliance received per Sandra Chesrown. Lyon Village confirmed their existing boundaries October 2015 via Martha Moore and Jim Lantelme; however, some residents in the area under question had reached out in past to be part of Lyon Village. A resident of the area reached out to County Board in 2016 asking how she should form her own neighborhood association since the area was not within any boundaries of existing groups. As of February 2018, ACCF received emails from the Maywood Community Association President, Amanda Davis, and the Woodmont Civic Association President, Richard McNamara, confirming their existing boundaries.

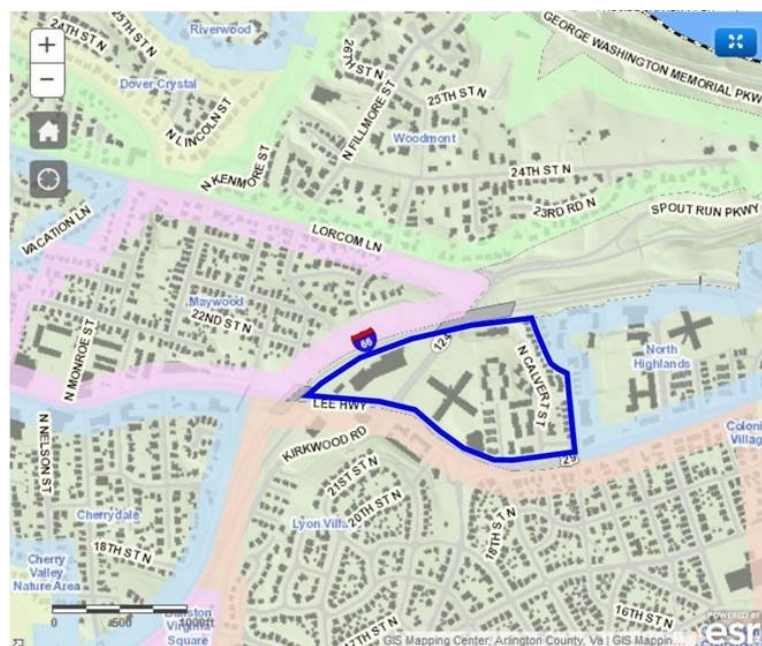
For additional information, please contact Antoinette Quagliata, President North Highlands (Antquagtt@gmail.com) or Benjamin Keeney, Vice President North Highlands, BenjaminKeeneyAIA@gmail.com. You can also reach out to membership@civfed.org.

The Arlington County Civic Association map developed over time based on street or other dividing lines, such as Four Mile Run Stream. The boundaries also provide framework for the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Committee (NCAC). The ACCF works with groups and county staff to ensure public notice of any changes or adjustments. Other examples of recent boundary changes:

Douglas Park: <http://www.civfed.org/newContent/2016-10/CivicVoice%202016-10.pdf>

Shirlington: <http://www.civfed.org/newContent/2015-09/CivicVoice%202015-09.pdf>.

Please note that condominium associations and other organizations can overlap boundaries. For example, the Colonial Village boundary encompasses Colonial Villages I, II and III, each of which are separate member organizations within ACCF. The Spout Run Homeowners Association is a townhome community within the North Highlands Citizens' Association.



Announcements

Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for FY 2019-2028: Arlington County is interested in its citizens' priorities for the county's Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) for FY 2019-2028. Please use this [link](#) to do so.

4MRV Working Group: A meeting will be held from 7:00 pm to 10:00 pm on Tuesday, March 6, at the Park and Natural Resources Operations Building, 2700 S. Taylor Street.

NCAC: The Neighborhood Conservation Advisory will meet from 7:30 pm to 9:30 pm on March 8 in the Navy League Building at 2300 Wilson Blvd. For information about this meeting here is a link to the NCAC [website](#).

Transportation Commission: The Transportation Commission's February meeting will be held on Thursday, March 1st, starting 7:30 p.m. in Room 307 at 2100 Clarendon Boulevard. Click here for this meeting's [agenda](#).

Planning Commission: The Planning Commission's February meeting will be held on Monday, March 5th, starting 7:00 p.m. in Room 307 at 2100 Clarendon Blvd. Click here for this meeting's [agenda](#) a few days before March 5. The Commission's Carryover Meeting will be held on Wednesday, March 7, starting at 7:00 p.m.

Housing Commission: The Housing Commission's February meeting will be held on Thursday, March 8 starting 7:00 p.m. in Room 715 at 2100 Clarendon Boulevard. Click here for information on this meeting's [agenda](#).

Arlington County Board: The County Board's February meeting will be held on Saturday, March 17 starting 8:30 a.m. Click here for this meeting's [agenda](#) a few days before March 17th. The Board Recessed Meeting will be held on Tuesday, March 20, starting at 3:00 p.m.

March Executive Committee Meeting: The CivFed November Executive Committee Meeting will be held from 6:30 to 8:30 on Sunday, March 11, in the community room of Fire Station 2 located at 4805 Wilson Blvd. Committee chairs, delegates and alternates are welcome to attend.

FY19 Budget & Tax Rate Hearings

Tuesday, Apr. 3 and Thursday, Apr. 5 (both at 7:00 p.m.)– The County Board will be meeting at 7:00 PM on April 3 to hear citizens' thoughts on the FY19 proposed budget and again on April 5 to discuss tax rates. Both meetings will be held in the County Board Room of the Court House Plaza building (2100 Clarendon Blvd. rm. 307). Here is a [link](#) to learn how to sign up to speak at an upcoming County Board Budget or Tax Hearing. The County Board has scheduled work sessions with the County Manager on the FY2019 Budget on March 6, 9, 13 and 19 and April 3, 6, 10 and 19. For more information about these meetings use this [link](#).

Parking at the Virginia Hospital Center

Remember to park in the **B/Gold** Garage. On Civic Federation meeting nights, the gates of the **B/Gold** Parking Garage, will be open, and there will be no charge for parking there. The **B/Gold** Parking Garage is located under the 1635 Medical Office Building. If you use another lot, you will have to pay the regular rate to exit.

