

April Membership Meeting April 20, 2021 @ 7:00PM

Delegates, Alternate Delegates, others associated with member organizations, and the public are invited to attend this virtual meeting.

Advance Registration is required and must be completed by 12 PM, Tuesday, April 20, 2021.

Please use the following Zoom registration link:

https://zoom.us/join/zoom/register/tJwkcOyupjgpGdVr59Y59JH3zPEzJmIOb_H7

A confirmation email will be sent with unique meeting log-in/phone-in details. We strongly encourage early check-in, which starts at 6 PM.

To expedite the check-in process please use your first and last name as your profile name, this will help our team ensure voting members receive electronic ballots.

If voting members register after this deadline, receipt of an electronic ballot cannot be ensured. The [Secretary](#) must be notified of voting member substitutions by **12PM, Monday April 19, 2021.

If you are not familiar with Zoom, here is [link to information and instructions on how to register and participate in CivFed's April, 2021 Membership Meeting.](#)

April 20, 2021 Membership Meeting Agenda

- 7:00 Welcome. Pledge, Approve Minutes, etc.
- 7:10 Legislative Affairs: Data Privacy & Civil Rights
- 7:50 Public Services: Current Status of the Police Practices Group
- 8:40 Old Business: Revenues & Expenditures Draft Resolution
- 8:55 New Business
- 9:00 Adjourn

2021 Nominating Committee

Last month, ACCF membership approved the following delegates to serve on the 2021 Nominating Committee. Due to unforeseen circumstances, one member has stepped down leaving a vacancy.

- Nadia Conyers, NAACP
- Mike Cantwell, Lee Highway Alliance
- [Dennis Gerrity, NoVA NORML](#)
- Juliet Hiznay, Columbia Heights - Nominations Committee Chair
- Alistair Watson, Aurora Highlands

In accordance with our bylaws and to provide this committee the ability to execute the charge to the best of its ability, the membership will be asked to approve one candidate to fill the vacancy. As efforts are now underway, the candidate will have missed initial meetings.

Delegate Stef Pryor from Penrose Neighborhood Association and former ACCF president, is willing to step forward if approved by the membership.

While candidates may be taken from the floor, please contact the president if you are interested in being considered.

For more information, contact [Juliet Hiznay](#).

President's Corner



Welcome,

Our theme this month is governance. The Civic Federation advocates for issues of importance to Arlington, including the governance of the County. This was the rationale for the Task Force on Governance and Election Reform (TiGER); and much of our work as the Federation is ultimately focused on the governance of the county.

This month, we have a panel from the Public Services Committee focused on police reforms recommended by the Police Practices Group (PPG). We also have a resolution from the Revenues and Expenditures committed regarding the County's audit function, and a panel on data privacy.

We also have several items regarding the governance of the Civic Federation itself. The new bylaws adopted in 2018 have left some areas in need of further clarification. The bylaws committee has drafted Parliamentary procedures to cover some areas. The board of directors has also come to agreement on how to handle abstentions in voting. There is a full writeup of this topic later in the newsletter. We also have a proposed amendment to the bylaws, see below for details.

Our work as the Civic Federation often involves differing perspectives on important issues. While this diversity of opinion is an aspect of the public arena, it is important to remember to treat those with different opinions and perspectives with respect. I urge everyone to remember to maintain civil discourse in all of our work.

Warmly,

[Allan Gajadhar](#)

Legislative Affairs Committee: Data Privacy and Civil Rights Presentation

The Legislation Committee will present an educational program on Data Privacy and Civil Rights on April 20, 2021.

Americans are handing over personal information to companies and local, state and federal governments, yet there have been virtually no privacy protections. Whether you are applying for jobs, making everyday purchases or browsing online, protecting your privacy is important. Discrimination in current business data practices is also a serious problem that disproportionately affects people of color, women, immigrants and other marginalized persons.

Virginia is now poised to become the second state to [enact](#) a comprehensive data privacy law regulating private companies.

Questions for [panelists](#) can be submitted through April 19, 2021, to ronhaddox@hushmail.com. Please use "Data Privacy Panel" in your subject line.

Public Services Committee: Current Status of the Police Practices Group

The Panel will provide the current status update on the [Police Practices Group](#) (PPG) overall recommendations and also recommendations from the Alternative Dispute Resolution and Civilian Review Board Subcommittees. The discussion will be based on the recently released Police Practices Group Report and County Manager budget recommendations.

Program Topics:

- Current status of the Police Practices Group recommendations; timeline and process for completing PPG reports, County Manager's recommendations and Board actions; and opportunities for public input
- Summary of crucial PPG Recommendations on Alternative Dispute Resolution and the Civilian Review Board; related budget recommendations by the Manager; and next steps

Panelists:

[Christian Dorsey](#), Arlington County Board;

[Bryna Helfer](#), Assistant County Manager & Director of Communications and Public Engagement;

Devanshi Patel, Police Practices Group, Alternative Dispute Resolution Subcommittee, Chair;

Rodney Turner, Police Practices Group, Civilian Review Board Subcommittee, Chair;

Allison Carpenter, Police Practices Group, Traffic Enforcement Subcommittee, Chair.

Please send panel questions to [Stef Pryor](#).

Revenues & Expenditures Committee - DRAFT Resolution

This [resolution](#), which was introduced by the Revenues & Expenditure Committee at the March 2021 Membership Meeting, is an update to the [resolution approved by ACCF membership in 2020](#). The reason is best expressed by the following statement from the [accompanying report](#) (highly recommended for reading!):

"a robust internal audit function increases the public's confidence in the sufficiency of the county's financial safeguards and controls, which ensure that money is being handled properly and safeguards are in place and working as intended".

Please direct questions to the Revenues & Expenditures Committee contact: [Burt Bostwick](#)

April Ballot

In accordance with our Bylaws, voting delegates must be present at the meeting to receive a ballot. Electronic Ballots will be emailed shortly before the end of the meeting to email addresses provided by member organizations.

Delegates and alternates are designated by the member organization. Please contact your organization if you are uncertain of your voting status.

The [Secretary](#) must be notified of voting member substitutions or updates by 12PM,

Monday April 19, 2021.

Voting will close at 9PM on Wednesday, April 21. Results will be announced via email to the membership on the evening of Thursday, April 22, 2021.

Voting members will receive a ballot to vote on the following:

- [Draft March 16, Membership Meeting Minutes](#)
- [Draft Revenues & Expenditures 2021 Resolution](#)
- [Nominations Committee Candidate: Stef Pryor](#)

If you are a voting delegate and do not receive a ballot, please contact [Allan Gajadhar](#).

Monthly Membership Meeting - CHANGE?

In 2018, the membership introduced reasons for moving monthly meetings from the first to now the third Tuesday. This topic was introduced in the May 2018 Civic Voice: ["The Arlington County Civic Federation Is Considering Changing Its Meeting Night" By Lois Koontz](#)

Implementation began October 2019 and while issues were raised about potential conflicts, we could not foresee the challenges of this year.

Monthly meetings now conflict with County Board work sessions impacting our ability to communicate decisions and have substantive dialogues with county officials.

ACCF members, leadership and the broader community are not able to participate at both monthly membership meetings and also provide ACCF reports or comment at County work sessions simultaneously. Conversely, County officials are not able to accept our invitations and weigh in on important topics.

As we approach June and end this fiscal year, member input is needed. Please let us know your thoughts and more importantly suggestions and reasons.

Send your comments to [Eric Cassel](#).

ACCF Voting Clarification on Abstentions

After the scheduled board meeting on March 21, 2021, more discussion was needed around the role of abstentions in the ACCF voting process.

With nine of eleven board members in attendance, the ACCF Board conducted a special meeting on March 28, 2021, to air concerns as well as clarify the voting process for our membership.

While it has been ACCF past practice to call for and record abstentions, our current bylaws and other guiding documents do not address nor define abstentions when voting. This lack of clarity has created confusion.

After more substantive discussion on the topic, the board voted to clarify the voting process going forward.

The motion passed with 6 yes and 3 no responses. The board decided that votes will be tallied by reporting: the number of yes votes; the number of no votes and the number of abstentions. The number of abstentions will be recorded as a choice to abstain from voting and reported as a number that stands alone and not used in calculating votes to meet percentage thresholds.

For transparency and consistency, it is also necessary to further define calculations so percentage thresholds are understood especially when voting results are close, as experienced in March. To determine this value, the calculations will involve using the total numbers of YES and NO votes while excluding the total number of ABSTENTIONS.

The [Civic Federation bylaws](#), section 2.04(b) state that;
"All issues to be voted on will be decided by simple majority of the Members present and voting at a meeting of the Members at which a quorum is present."

In the case of the approval of a new member organization, section 2.01 (a)(3) of the bylaws requires approval by two-thirds of the members present and voting at a meeting where quorum has been established.

When determining a simple majority, or a two-thirds majority; the majority is calculated by counting the number of members present and voting, which is defined as the total number of members voting yes and of members voting no. In either case, anyone who abstains is not counted in the total number of votes that is used to determine a majority.

Finally, Section 2.05 (a) of the bylaws defines a quorum as: "The presence of at least one-tenth (1/10) of the current Voting Members".

Questions? Please contact [Allan Gajadhar](#).

May 2021 Membership Meeting

Our May membership meeting agenda is shaping up to feature the latest update from Arlington Public Schools: [Dr. Durán, Superintendent APS](#); and our elected [School Board Members](#): Chair O'Grady, Vice Chair Kanninen; Member Diaz-Torres, Member Goldstein, and Member Priddy. National Landing has been buzzing with activity. We'll have an update from the [Livability 22202 ad hoc Committee](#) on the latest happenings. The meeting will begin at approximately 7 PM on May 18.

More details will follow in the May newsletter. Questions: please contact [Tina Worden](#)

Board of Directors

In an effort to strengthen our organizational procedures, the Board of Directors is currently focused on clarifying the resolution process. The intent is to replace current Board Procedures [BR 2019-20-3 "Resolutions and Motions"](#) with a more descriptive and transparent version.

Details or Questions? Please contact [Eric Cassel](#).

Bylaws & Rules Committee Update

ACCF Membership Meeting processes structuring how we discuss, debate and make decisions are being recreated. Members are invited to comment on the creation of DRAFT Parliamentary Procedures to replace Robert's Rules of Order. Before presentation for board approval, the Committee requests Membership input.

Please contact [Allen Norton](#) to request a copy.

Environmental Affairs Committee Update

Public Collaborative Phase 2:

Preserving Arlington's Tree Canopy

In May, we're kicking off Phase 2! This event encourages a broader group of stakeholder interests.

Starting with a brief overview of Phase 1 Results, each participant will move into breakout rooms. Smaller groups will maximize efforts as participants bounce ideas and generate

strategies for mitigating key causes of Arlington's tree loss. Each facilitated breakout room will address one of six topics:

- Improving Arlington's urban forest management
- Financial and other resourcing for tree programs and activities
- Targeted developer incentives
- Focused zoning
- Enhancing enforcement under current regulations
- Tree equity in Arlington

Results will be shared with ACCF members and participants.

Please volunteer, attend and share this event with your networks. All perspectives welcome. Preserving our tree canopy benefits us all and all are stakeholders.

For more information, please contact [Mary Glass](#) and/or [Eric Ackerman](#)

Taskforce in Governance and Election Reform (TiGER)

The Task Force has developed its work plan to study and examine potential reforms in Arlington's form of government and its electoral system. The Task Force mandate is to consider all aspects of the current form of Arlington County Government, and to evaluate and offer recommendations on the County's form of government and electoral system.

The workplan ([summary here](#)) outlines a series of public forums and meetings regarding the current state of Arlington's form of government and electoral system that TiGER will conduct. The Task force will regularly report to the CivFed Membership, member organizations, and the County and School Boards.

Also, one of the appointed members of the TiGER, Chanda Choun, has announced a run for County Board, and is stepping aside from TiGER's work during his candidacy.

Diversity Committee Update

The Diversity Committee understands the power of social media as a way to bring in more engagement. More unique voices is the key to diversity! We want to provide the rest of the CivFed with tips on how to boost social media presence. These metrics are from Arlington Neighborhood College.

Facebook's peak hours are:

Tuesday 10AM and 1-2PM

Wednesday 11AM

Thursday 10AM - 3PM

Friday 9AM-12PM

And Instagram's peak hours are:

Tuesday 7PM

Wednesdays 11AM and 1-3PM

Thursday and Friday 10AM-12PM

Questions? Contact [Allan Gajadhar](#)

ACCF Bylaws Section 2.03: Proposed Amendment

The following [proposed amendment](#) will be introduced under new business at April's Membership Meeting.

Due to the uniqueness of civic association engagement and activity, some civic or neighborhood associations may experience a period of inactivity. [ACCF Bylaws](#) fail to provide an exception for situations of inactivity resulting in membership termination and separation.

Due to potential issues that may arise, a gap in membership may cause continuity issues for the civic association/s involved as well as any subsequent impacts to ACCF and relevant Arlington County entities.

An ACCF traditional function is to approve boundary changes, resolve boundary disputes and approve name changes with regard to civic associations, irregardless of membership status. Examples in the recent past:

- [Name Change Nauck to Green Valley \[Apr 2019\]](#)
- Adding specific areas to Douglas Park [Jul 2016] ([see attachment](#))
- Merge [Arlington Ridge and Forest Hills \[Mar 2012\]](#)

The [proposed amendment](#) seeks to preserve ACCF traditional functions serving neighborhood or civic groups and associations during periods of inactivity.

Questions? Comments? Please contact [Tina Worden](#).

Airport Noise Subcommittee - Update

As previously reported, Arlington and Montgomery counties have jointly funded a consultant to explore ways to mitigate the noise from flights at Reagan National Airport. The latest report ([see full report here](#)) occurred virtually on 5 April 2021.

It included:

- The findings from the community questionnaire
- The report summarizing the current flight and noise environment,
- The draft flight path approaches and departures now being tested by FAA

The major elements of the proposed changes that FAA is testing now are;

- Major reduction in overflights of MoCo
- Using the CIA property as a flyover point rather than private residential areas, and a raising of the altitude of approach flights

While there are only modest flight path adjustments that may reduce aircraft noise in Arlington, the process could thus take several years to complete.

More details? Contact [Joe Pelton](#).

MEMBER ORGANIZATION ANNOUNCEMENTS:

Green Valley Civic Association: Cleanup Events

[Earth Day Clean-Up](#)

April 24, 2021 11:00AM to 1:00PM

- 4 or 5 "targeted areas" will be cleaned up by volunteers

Green Valley Neighborhood Clean-Up Day

May 15, 2021 7:00AM to 11:00AM

- Residents can clean out their garages, sheds, basements, etc.

Questions? Please contact [Portia Clark](#), President of the [Green Valley Civic Association](#)

American Association of University Women

[Arlington Branch AAUW](#) will celebrate APS young women middle and high school Science Fair winners and hear a presentation, "Girls and STEM" by Dr. Argie Kavvada, NASA Earth Science, April 12, at 7pm, via zoom. Interested guests may RSVP to presarlvaauw@gmail.com and will receive the link to the program.

On May 17th, at 7 pm, the branch will award the Elizabeth Campbell Arts Scholarship,

Arlington Community High School Lunch Bunch Scholarship and the Educator of the Year award!

RSVP: presarlvaauw@gmail.com to receive the link to the program.

Arlington Public Library Time Capsule

The [Center for Local History](#) will curate a time capsule, “[2020 UnBoxed](#),” which will contain objects and material representing the major events and themes of 2020 in Arlington County covering five themes:

- **The 2020 Census**
- **The COVID-19 Pandemic**
- **Racial Justice and Civic Unrest**
- **Arlington County’s Naming Centennial**
- **The 100th Anniversary of Women’s Suffrage**

[CLH](#) is reaching out to community organizations and leaders over the next 9 months to obtain items that represent the major events of 2020. The time capsule will also draw from items donated to the [COVID-19 Archives Project](#).

The time capsule collection will be exhibited online in October during American Archives Month, which celebrates and raises awareness about the value of archives and archivists. The items will then be sealed and deposited in the [Arlington Community Archives](#) for preservation and future research.

Donations? Questions? Contact a [Librarian](#).

The Civic Federation’s Website

2020-2021 Board of Directors

Officers

President, [Allan Gajadhar](#)
Vice President, [Tina Worden](#)
Secretary, [Allen Norton](#)
Treasurer, [Burt Bostwick](#)

Board of Directors

Board Chair, [Eric Cassel](#)
Member at Large, [Jesse Boeding](#)
Member at Large, [Michael Cantwell](#)
Member at Large, [Mike McMenamin](#)
Member at Large, [Nicole Merlene](#)
Member at Large, [Stacy Meyer](#)
Member at Large, [John Vihstadt](#)

Voting delegates and alternate delegates who are interested to serve on the Civic Federation’s Board of Directors should contact [President Allan Gajadhar](#).

2020-2021 ACCF PUBLIC INTEREST COMMITTEES

Cultural Affairs – [Chair Tina Worden](#)
Community Relations – [Chair Nicole Merlene](#)
Equity, Diversity, and Inclusion – [Chair Alistair Watson](#)
Environmental Affairs – [Chair Mary Glass](#)
Housing – [Chair John Vihstadt](#)

- Legislation – [Chair Ron Haddox](#)
Parks and Recreation – [Chair Duke Banks](#)
Planning and Zoning – [Chair Ben Keeney](#)
Public Services – [Chair John Ford](#)
Revenues and Expenditures – [Burt Bostwick \(POC\)](#)
Schools – [Chair Michael Beer](#)
Transportation – [Co-chairs Jerry Auten and Joe Pelton](#)
- Airport Noise Subcommittee – [Chair Joe Pelton](#)

2020-2021 ACCF SUPPORT COMMITTEES

- Audit -- [Chair Jay Wind](#)
Awards – Chair – TBD
Bylaws and Rules – [Chair Allen Norton](#)
Banquet – TBD
Communications – [Chair Tina Worden](#)
Membership – [Chair Dennis Gerrity](#)
Newsletter -- [Stephen D'Alessio](#)
Nominations -- Juliet Hiznay

Any Delegate, Alternate Delegate, or member of a Member Organization may participate on any Public Interest or Support Committee. Please contact the applicable Committee chair, point-of-contact, or [President Allan Gajadhar](#) if you are interested in participating on ACCF Committees.

LINKS TO MEETING DOCUMENTS

- [Draft March 16, 2021 Membership Meeting Minutes](#)
[February 16, 2021 Membership Meeting Minutes](#)
[March 2021 Treasurer's Report](#)

Interested in being an Arlington County Civic Federation Delegate

The Arlington County Civic Federation was founded in 1916. Today, it has more than ninety member organizations dedicated to advocacy and community involvement. The Federation membership reflects the broad array of interests and talents found in the County and is open and welcoming to all groups within Arlington, firmly believing that a broader range of groups creates better problem-solving outcomes for Arlington and its residents. Our 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.

Arlington County Civic Federation Delegates enjoy the full benefits of participation, voting and serving in Civic Federation leadership positions. If your organization is a member of the Civic Federation, ask if it has open slots for delegates. If it is not a member organization of the Civic Federation, encourage it to join. Here is a [link](#) to our website for more details.

ACCF Calendar FY2021

April 2021

- NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Tuesday, April 6, 2021
- GENERAL MEETING: Tuesday, April 20, 2021, 7PM, via Zoom; Registration begins: 6PM
- BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Sunday, April 25, 2021, 6PM, via Zoom

May 2021

- NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Tuesday, May 4, 2021
- GENERAL MEETING: Tuesday, May 18, 2021, 7PM, via Zoom; Registration begins: 6PM
- BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Sunday, May 23, 2021, 6PM, via Zoom

June 2021

- NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: Tuesday, June 1, 2021
- GENERAL MEETING: Tuesday, June 15, 2021, 7PM, via Zoom; Registration begins: 6PM
- BOARD OF DIRECTORS: *TBD*

!Please Remember!

Advance Registration for the April 20, 2021 Membership Meeting is required and must be completed by 12PM, Tuesday, April 20.

To register in advance for this meeting use the following link:

https://zoom.us/meeting/register/tJwkcOyupjgpGdVr59Y59JH3zPEzJMlOb_H7

After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing unique log-in/phone-in details for the meeting. We encourage you to check-in **between 6PM and 7PM**. To expedite the check-in process, please use your first and last name as your profile name so that we can confirm electronic ballots for delegates. The check-in process may take some time and we ask for your patience.

If you are not familiar with Zoom, here is a [link to information and instructions on how to register and participate in CivFed's March 16, 2021 Membership Meeting.](#)

Subscribe to our emails!
