

Arlington County Civic Federation

General Meeting, Tue 14 Sept 2021

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

President Allan Gajadhar confirmed quorum and began the meeting at 7 pm. Allan announced Candidate's Night and the rest of the meeting agenda. Allan read the meeting norms expectations.

Allan provided the Annual Dues Notice, \$65 due by December 31, 2021.

The June membership minutes were approved via a Zoom Poll.

Allan reviewed the rules for Candidates Night, and Mona Steffen served as timekeeper. Times for statements and answers were agreed to as 1 minute. The order of candidates was determined by a random number generator.

School Board Candidates

The candidates for School Board are Mary Kadera and Major Webb. The candidates provided opening and closing statements and responded to the following questions:

1st Question: How do you balance the resource needs of poor performing students versus average performing and excellent performing students?

2nd Question: What are your preferences for development of the Career Center? If not at the Career Center, how will you address the projected shortage of Middle and High School Seats?

3rd Question: Please describe your views about the process and utility of public engagement, how you would describe it, optimize it, and still allow staff to get the work done, providing options to the school board, and executing on the board's direction.

County Board Candidates

The candidates for County Board are Audrey Clement, Mike Cantwell, Adam Theo and Takis Karantonis. The candidates provided opening and closing statements and responded to the following questions:

1st Question: Do you believe affordable housing should be distributed more equitably across the county, and if so, what measures would you take to do so? What is your position on the County's missing middle initiatives?

2nd Question: ACCF has past several resolutions increasing parkland and other environmental concerns. How will you ensure Arlington's commitment to these environmental concerns?

3rd Question: Do you believe the changes to the Arlington logo and street names is helpful or not to improving racial equity or not?

Arlington County Civic Federation

General Meeting, Tue 14 Sept 2021

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

Virginia House of Delegates

The candidates for the Virginia House of Delegates answered the following questions:

1st Question: What are your plans for criminal justice reform?

2nd Question: What are your plans to reduce the corrupting influence of money in state politics?

3rd Question: The governor has made rail transit a priority – do you agree or disagree?

Virginia House of Delegates – 45th District Race

The candidates for the Virginia House of Delegates for the 45th District are Justin JD Maddox and Elizabeth Bennet-Parker. JD Maddox provided opening and closing statements and responded to the questions. Elizabeth Bennet-Parker was not able to attend due to an Alexandria City Council meeting, but, provided a recorded opening statement.

Virginia House of Delegates – 47th District Race

The candidates for the Virginia House of Delegates for the 47th District are Patrick Hope and Laura Hall. Laura Hall did not attend. Patrick Hope provided opening and closing statements and responded to the questions.

Virginia House of Delegates – 48th District Race

The candidates for the Virginia House of Delegates for the 48th District are RC Sullivan and Edward Monroe. The candidates provided opening and closing statements and responded to the questions.

Virginia House of Delegates – 49th District Race

The candidates for the Virginia House of Delegates for the 49th District are Alfonso Lopez and Timothy Kilcullen. Timothy Kilcullen did not attend. Alfonso Lopez provided opening and closing statements and responded to the questions.

Arlington County Civic Federation

General Meeting, Tue 14 Sept 2021

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

2021 School Bond

Alistair Watson provided a presentation on the 2021 School Bond. The \$23M is broken into (3) parts:

- 1) \$11M for the Heights Building (the home of HB Woodlawn & the Shriver Secondary Program) accessibility renovations, a parking garage, and a lighted turf field.
- 2) \$11M for kitchen renovations at various schools to reduce the time students wait in the lunch lines, and improvements so healthier food can be served.
- 3) \$1M for entrance renovations to direct visitors to the front desk at several schools.

Discussion

There was a discussion about why the renovations are required at the Heights Building. Barbara Kanninen explained that there is a long history regarding the project, and these improvements are the final stages of the project as originally envisioned. There are complexities because there was a fire station built on the site after the project was designed, and the site is on a slope.

Question: are the bonds fungible? Barbara Kanninen answered yes, they are, and explained that if a project is overly defined it may become possible to not be able to use funds.

Question: what are the Woodland and Shriver programs? Alistair Watson answered: Shriver is a secondary program for special needs. HB Woodlawn is a high school program where students have more control over their academic program.

Question: what proportion of the bond funds will go to the ADA expansion of the entrance at Shriver? Barbara Kanninen: The only way to build a flat field on top of accessible entrance requires a structure to be built. The field and entrance must be built together, so it is difficult to break out each piece.

Arlington County Civic Federation

General Meeting, Tue 14 Sept 2021

DRAFT Meeting Minutes

2021 Diversity, Equity, Belonging & Inclusion (DEBI) Resolution

Stacy Meyer presented the updated DEBI resolution with the friendly amendment to include the words “viewpoints” and “philosophical”.

There was discussion about the use of the resolution. Nicole and Stacy said that the resolution would be treated as a guiding document, from which there will be produced strategic plans with measurable metrics.

The resolution was voted on via a Zoom Poll and passed. The Final Adopted Resoultion is available here: <http://www.civfed.org/newContent/2021-09/2021-09%20ACCF%20DEBI%20Resolution%20APPROVED.pdf>

President Gadjahar ended the meeting at 9:20 pm.

The meeting was recorded. The meeting recording can be found on the ACCF website and at <https://vimeo.com/605735095>

Respectfully submitted,

Stacy L. Meyer
Acting Secretary