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Newsletter of the Arlington County Civic Federation | November 2021 | Volume 106 |  
Number 4

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## November 2021 Membership Meeting November 9, 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, November 9, 2021.**

Register in advance for this meeting:

<https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZUsdeysrjkqEtWq6ImhuuoOnWx9qFwCZlCj>

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 identify participants.

**\*\*The *Secretary* must be notified of voting member substitutions by 12 PM Monday, November 8, 2021.**

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

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## November 9, 2021 Membership Meeting Agenda

- 7:00 - Regular Business, pledge, approve minutes
  - 7:10 - Special Election
  - 7:20 - Civic Association President's Roundtables
  - 7:45 - Race and Equity Presentation
  - 8:30 - TiGER Update
  - 8:50 - Old Business
  - 9:05 - New Business
    - Bylaws updates
  - 9:10 - Adjournment
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## President's Corner

Election day is upon us, we will know the winners by the time of our November membership meeting.

Best of luck to all the candidates!

For our membership meeting this month

we have several presentations highlighting our work to achieve our mission to Create an Arlington that works for everyone.

First, we welcome Dr. Samia Byrd, the County's Chief Race and Equity Officer. She will present the status of the County's DRE workplan, and ongoing efforts to promote diversity and equity in Arlington. Thanks to our Diversity Committee for their work on this topic.



We have relaunched our outreach to Civic Association Presidents. Nicole Merlene will provide an overview of our plans for outreach in conjunction with Mark Schwartz.

Finally, we will have a presentation from Chris Wimbush, ACCF Board member and Chair of TiGER as they move to the recommendation phase of their workplan. Their recommendations will ultimately lead to a better, more responsive government in Arlington.

The Civil Rights working group has submitted a FOIA request to the County for information regarding the deaths of inmates in the County Jail. We continue to closely monitor this situation as further information comes to light.

In COVID news, the County has begun to administer booster shots to those eligible, we will also soon see the availability of initial vaccine doses for children as young as 5 years old. Stay tuned as the County and Schools continue their work to respond to the pandemic.

Warmly,

[Allan Gajadhar](#)

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## Special Election for ACCF Secretary

ACCF will have an election for the position of Secretary. As mentioned last month, the incumbent's eligibility lapsed due to a gap in time in his transition from one member organization to another. We have received one nomination as of this writing, we will also be accepting nominations from the floor during the meeting. The President will make the announcement and open the floor for the election.

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## Legislative Committee Updates

The Civil Rights Working Group of the Civic Federation Legislation Committee has submitted a records request to the sheriff and the county seeking information relating to 6 deaths of inmates in custody at the Arlington Detention Center since 2015.

[CRWG FOIA Detention Records Request](#)

[ACPD CRWG FOIA Detention Records Response](#)

Arlington County provided the following demographic information in response to an inquiry from the Arlington branch of the NAACP:

<b>Name</b>	<b>Date of Death</b>	<b>Race</b>	<b>Age</b>
Clyde Spencer	October 2, 2021	Black	58
Darryl Becton	October 1, 2020	Black	46
Jitesh Patal	November 11, 2019	White*	43
Bernie Turner	April 20, 2017	Black	40
Anthony Gordon	August 22, 2015	Black	48

*\*Data collection on demographic categories were recently expanded under state law. Past Arlington data is often reported inaccurately, in terms of both race and ethnicity.*

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## **Bylaws Committee Update: Proposed Bylaws Amendment Regarding the Nomination Committee**

The Nomination Committee of the Arlington County Civic Federation is an annual short-fused committee tasked with recruiting nominees from amongst the Voting and Alternate Members of ACCF to serve as Officers and Directors of the organization for the upcoming fiscal year.

In recent years, ACCF has been constrained by a strict number of Nomination Committee members under our Bylaws. As a now-incorporated organization, the Nomination Committee has also been time-constrained to recruit sufficient nominees within the short window afforded by the Bylaws. Last year's Nomination Committee, chaired by Juliet Hiznay, published an extensive list of recommendations for future Nomination Committees based on their experiences. The ACCF Bylaws and Rules Committee (Bylaws Committee) has reviewed and updated these recommendations and is now putting forth an Amendment to the Bylaws to allow greater flexibility in the structure and service time of the Nomination Committee. In addition, the Bylaws Committee has worked with the ACCF Board of Directors to develop a standing Procedural Document to implement other recommendations of the FY2021 Nomination Committee and the best practices exemplified by their tenure.

The proposed Amendment will be introduced at the November 2021 General Meeting with a discussion at the December 2021 General Meeting.

The key elements of the Amendment are:

- Moving the creation of the Nomination Committee to a period ninety (90) to one hundred twenty (120) days before the annual Member meeting (typically June) from the current sixty (60) days.
- Modifying the membership of the Nomination Committee from five (5) to three (3) to seven (7) members.
- Augmenting the reporting requirements of the Nomination Committee to the General Membership.
- Codifying the responsibilities of the Nomination Committee to act in accordance with the Bylaws of ACCF and the Procedural Document.

The full text of the enabling Resolution is available [here](#).

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## **November 2021 Meeting: 2021 Civic Association Presidents Roundtable Preview**

During the November 2021 Membership Meeting, we will announce and discuss our 2021

Civic Association Presidents Roundtables. As we develop the scope of these roundtables we will be looking to you, our membership, as to what you would like out of these discussions with the county managers office. Please come to our next meeting with ideas to spark discussion.

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## **November 2021 Meeting: Arlington County Chief Race and Equity Officer Presentation Preview**

Dr. Samia Byrd will give an update on the work plan and next steps from DRE as well as tools for promoting racial equity in the county. Q&A period will follow the presentation.

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## **November 2021 Meeting: Task Force in Governance and Election Reform (TiGER) Presentation Preview**

ACCF's Task Force in Governance and Election Reform (TiGER)'s Chair, Chris Wimbush, will provide the Civic Federation Membership an update on the work of the Task Force to date and the problem statements recently adopted by the Task Force.

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## **Civic Federation Appointments**

The Civic Federation has traditionally appointed representatives to several County and Schools commissions, including the County's Emergency Preparedness Advisory Commission (EPAC), the School Boards Budget Advisory Council (BAC), and others. We are in the midst of updating the full list of all appointments CivFed makes. Please send [Allan Gajadhar](#) a note with any appointments where you serve as the CivFed representative or appointments that you are aware of in addition to the list below so that we can update our records and appointments accordingly.

Here is our working list:

- Neighborhood Conservation Plan Evaluation Working Group
  - Police Chief Advisory Commission
  - SPR – Planning Commission
  - Emergency Preparedness Advisory Commission
  - Open Data Advisory Group
  - Utility Rate Study
  - Form-Based Codes Advisory Working Group
  - School Board Budget Advisory Council
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## **2021 ACCF Dues Information**

On August 29, the Arlington Civic Federation Board of Directors approved the 2021 – 2022 budget which will be used to pay for administrative and web services for the organization.

**Membership Dues for 2021 – 2022 are \$65 per member organization. Dues should be sent in as soon as possible, and are due by December 31, 2021.**

Dues may be paid by check or by Zelle.

If paying by check:

- Send check to Arlington Civic Federation, PO Box 42091, Arlington Virginia, 22203.
- Please be sure to include the name of the organization on the check as a memo.
- Please send an updated list of delegates to [tosecretary@civfed.org](mailto:tosecretary@civfed.org).

If paying by Zelle, please email [treasurer@civfed.org](mailto:treasurer@civfed.org) including the following information:

- Name of Organization
- Name of Payer
- Phone Number for Payer (for questions)
- Zelle ID (email address or phone number)
- The treasurer will then respond with the ACCF Zelle payment information.
- Please also email [secretary@civfed.org](mailto:secretary@civfed.org) with the updated list of delegates.

Thank you to the following organizations for making their due's payments:

- Friends of Aurora Highlands Parks
- Arlington Tree Action Group
- Bluemont Civic Association
- Lyon Village Citizens Association
- Yorktown Civic Association
- Arlington Forest Citizens Association
- Foxcroft Heights
- Arlington Ridge Civic Association
- Arlington View Civic Association
- Arlington Branch AAUW
- Glen Carlyn Citizens Association
- Arlington Education Association
- Tara Leeway Heights Civic Association
- John Langston Civic Association
- Radnor Ft Myer Heights Civic Association

If you have questions, please email [treasurer@civfed.org](mailto:treasurer@civfed.org) for payment information and [secretary@civfed.org](mailto:secretary@civfed.org) for any other questions. Thank you!

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## [The Civic Federation's Website](#)

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### **2021-2022 Board of Directors**

#### **Officers**

President, [Allan Gajadhar](#)  
 Vice President, [Nicole Merlene](#)  
 Secretary, Vacant  
 Treasurer, [Stacy Meyer](#)

#### **Board of Directors**

Board Chair, [Nicole Merlene](#)  
 Board Vice-Chair, [Chris Wimbush](#)  
 Member at Large, [Mary Glass](#)  
 Member at Large, [Julia Tanner](#)  
 Member at Large, [Nadia Conyers](#)  
 Member at Large, [Mona Steffen](#)  
 Member at Large, [Eric Cassel](#)

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

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### **2021-2022 ACCF PUBLIC INTEREST COMMITTEES**

Cultural Affairs – [Chair Tina Worden](#)  
 Diversity Committee – [Chair Alistair Watson](#)  
 Environmental Affairs – [Chair Mary Glass](#)  
 Housing – [Chair John Vihstadt](#)  
 Legislation – [Chair Ron Haddox](#)  
 Parks and Recreation – Chair TBD

- Planning and Zoning – [Chair Ben Keeney](#)  
Public Services – [Chair John Ford](#)  
Revenues and Expenditures – [Suzanne Sundberg \(POC\)](#)  
Schools – [Chair Allan Gajadhar \(POC\)](#)  
Transportation – [Co-chairs Jerry Auten and Joe Pelton](#)
- Airport Noise Subcommittee – [Chair Joe Pelton](#)

## **2020-2021 ACCF SUPPORT COMMITTEES**

- Audit – [Chair Jay Wind](#)  
Awards – TBD  
Bylaws and Rules – [Chair Adam Henderson](#)  
Banquet – TBD  
Communications – [Chair Chris Wimbush](#)  
Membership – [Chair Eric Cassel](#)  
Nominations – TBD

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.

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## **LINKS TO MEETING DOCUMENTS**

- [Link to Draft October 2021 Meeting Minutes](#)

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## **Interested in being an Arlington County Civic Federation Delegate**

The Arlington County Civic Federation was founded in 1916. Today, it has 85 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 its 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.

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## **ACCF Calendar FY2022**

### **November 2021**

- GENERAL MEETING: Tuesday, November 9, 2021, 7PM, via Zoom; Registration begins: 6PM
- BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Sunday, November 14th, 4PM via Zoom

### **December 2021**

- NEWSLETTER DEADLINE: December 2, 2021 by 6:00 PM
- GENERAL MEETING: Tuesday, December 14, 2021, 7PM, via Zoom; Registration begins: 6PM
- BOARD OF DIRECTORS: Sunday, December 19, 4PM via Zoom

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Subscribe to our  
emails!

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