



Arlington County Civic Federation

Adopted ACCF Committee Charges and Year-End Reports for FY2023

Reports submitted to Board Chair for FY2023 as of 24 June 2023.

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a. **Cultural Affairs.** It shall be the duty of this committee to study, report, and make recommendations on all matters pertaining to cultural affairs, including the establishment and maintenance of facilities and the extension of public libraries facilities for higher education. The committee shall serve as liaison for the Federation with appropriate county officials and private bodies dealing with cultural affairs.

FY2023 Report

Tina Worden, Chair

The Cultural Affairs Committee continued to monitor the development of the Plan Langston Boulevard plan and the role of planning for the arts since both planning and budget are key to our community having accessible places and spaces to “enable a full range of arts and cultural activity for creation, presentation, enjoyment and education.” (Framework for Arlington’s Cultural Spaces, August 2018). Arlington lacks sufficient venues to support arts and culture, increasing these public facilities are recommended by both Arlington’s Economic Development Commission and the Arlington Commission for the Arts to be an incredible economic catalyst for the County and critical to the healthy soul of the community.

Proposing that community benefits include arts and culture as economic anchors in new mixed-use development is an important consideration for Arlington’s long-range planning. As Plan LB possibilities are envisioned, our community continues to advocate for the necessary language needed to consider places for arts and culture as a necessary component in a vibrant and sustainable corridor. The Draft Final Langston Boulevard Area Plan was released this month (June, 2023), the County has commenced community engagement and an approved Final Plan is expected by the County Board in late fall.

The Committee provided links and an article in the Civic Voice to promote support for the Arts in the Langston Blvd. planning. (June)

The Committee started a potential continuing activity by promoting an arts and culture event, Columbia Pike Blues Festival in the Civic Voice (June)

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b. **Environmental Affairs.** It shall be the duty of this committee to study, report, and recommend action to the Federation on all matters pertaining to environmental affairs. The committee shall serve as liaison for the Federation with the Environmental Improvement Commission and other official committees and organizations concerned with these matters.

FY2023 Report **Mary Glass, Chair**

The Environmental Affairs Committee recently received good news. The final written report of the “Urban Tree Canopy Assessment of Arlington County Virginia: An Analysis of Forest Cover and Benefits”, June 2023, has been released and is already having positive results. In addition to providing detailed information on the canopy in all our neighborhoods, it also has recommendations on where we can take action to have the greatest positive impact on our tree canopy and other land cover. Several neighborhood civic associations are already using the data to start tree planting programs. Soon, the study will be shared with other civic associations to promote similar efforts.

The Environmental Affairs Committee, led by Eric Ackerman and Mary Glass conducted two years of Collaboratives to understand and make recommendations on Arlington’s Tree canopy. One result was the 2021 resolution adopted by the general membership supporting the need for the data from such an updated study to prepare the new Forestry and Natural Resources Plan currently. The most recent draft was released 6/1/23 but allowed public comment only until 6/30/23. You can read the plan and submit your comments at Please submit your views by that time at <https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Projects/FNRP>.

Another offshoot of ACCF’s tree canopy work has been the establishment of a new, independent information hub for exchanging information and the activities of a wide range of individuals and groups engaged in advocacy for preserving and planting trees. The website, the Arlington Consortium for Tree Sustainability (ACTS) is in its initial stages of development. Work will continue through the summer at <https://www.arltreeconsort.net>.

In the coming year, the Committee will encourage the County to review the findings of the 2023 canopy study and incorporate the data into next draft of the Forestry and Natural Resources Plan. This new data is important in deciding policy. The study also supports the 2022 comments of the Forestry and Natural Resources Commission's regarding the loss of canopy and the urgency of taking action.

Also during 2023-2024, the Committee will be aggressively recruiting new members from the voting and alternate delegates to continue the work and suggest other environmental issues that the Committee could investigate.

A copy of the report is attached. Thank you for your time.



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c. **Housing.** It shall be the duty of this committee to study and report on matters, relating to housing in Arlington and, as considered appropriate, in surrounding jurisdictions. These matters will include development and enforcement of standards, codes, and legislation; housing needs, construction, operation, maintenance, financing, rehabilitation and regulation of single and multi-family structures; public housing; subsidies and other incentives; and developments affecting the adequacy of public services in residential neighborhoods. The committee shall serve as liaison for the Federation with appropriate county officials and organizations in Arlington, and other organizations in its environs. Because housing policy is closely tied with Planning and Zoning, it is expected to work closely with that committee.

22-23 Housing Committee Report Anne Bodine and Matt Hall, Co-Chairs

The Housing Committee convened to introduce new co-chairs Matthew Hall and Anne Bodine (and new members) in March; it has built up a base membership of approximately 13 (plus co-chairs). Given the major focus on housing by almost all candidates in the June 20 Democratic primary election, Housing Committee co-chairs are stepping up membership recruitment to ensure we keep step with a likely reinvigorated housing effort by the new County Board in 2024.

The HC seeks to build a consensus on the county's housing production goals and needs (reflected in both the 2015 Arlington Affordable Housing Master Plan and the Metropolitan Council of Governments' projections from 2018.) It has studied the "big picture" by peering through the keyholes of specific Arlington projects, concepts, and plans. The Housing Committee looked at innovative housing ideas, both theoretical and applied.

In March, we looked at the unrealized vision of local architects Brian Harner and Leo Sarli (alumnus and current member of Arlington's Planning Commission) and Jane Siegel (previous member of Planning Commission), to consider alternate concepts for the county's controversial Missing Middle housing plan that aims to increase infill in single-family neighborhoods. Harner/Sarli/Siegel report proposed stronger architectural guidelines, deeper analysis of the new proposal's impacts, and alternate approaches to some zoning elements that offered a compromise between the county's plan and no upzoning.

In April, Committee member Charles Sims (Real Estate Director of non-Profit Arlington Partnership for Affordable Housing) briefed on creative "twinning" of credit sources for its 100% affordable housing project at Terwilliger Place (showing how county funds leverage key federal, state, and often private monies) for these projects (including this one as the first-in-state for veterans).

In May, (HC member) John Snyder, of the Columbia Pike Partnership, gave an overview of the Neighborhood Form-Based Code (N-FBC) adopted in 2013 as a streamlined zoning overlay that could replace older commercial with higher-density mixed use projects but also retain affordable housing units along Columbia Pike (home to the largest percentage of affordable units in Arlington). We also heard



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updates on new projects along the Pike from County Planner Matt Mattauszak and from tenants' rights activists who noted the need for more protections for very low-income tenants at Barcroft Apartments, now under development as part of N-FBC.

Both presentations showed that we can consider creative approaches to housing and the critical need for; long-term community involvement in zoning and housing.

In June, the committee discussed the county's Preliminary Concept Plan for Langston Blvd (Plan Langston Blvd.) HC member Alice Hogan, a 20-year housing consultant and advisor for Affordable Housing Solutions (AHS), briefed on county plans to produce 2500 affordable units along Langston, with greater building heights and density currently seen by the county as the best ways to do this. The committee is seeking a briefing from county demographers on population, labor, and housing trends in July.

Meetings have exposed areas of disagreement but have paved the way for deeper reviews of specific projects or policies, such as housing ownership, displacement and gentrification (at Barcroft and Merion Pike West, possibly) and better mechanisms to meet low- and middle-income housing needs (exploring the new project at Glebe Rd. Goodwill).

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d. **Legislation.** It shall be the duty of this committee to study, report, and make recommendations on questions relating to the enactment or repeal of State and Federal legislation affecting the welfare of Arlington County; to assist the Federation in developing and presenting its position on such legislation; and to advise the Federation on legal questions referred to it.

FY2023 Report **Ron Haddox, Chair**

Due to the focus on missing middle and transparency resolution – there was very little bandwidth left for committees to participate in other activities during the past year. We were planning for several topics including cybersecurity and PII but that never got through the process due to the lack of bandwidth. Below are listed activities for this year.

- Joined ACCF joint sponsored training on Rank Choice Voting (RCV) with the League of Women’s Voters, CIVFED legislation affairs committee, TIGER committee and Colonial Heights Civic Association and met jointly on 3/21/23 for planning the event.
- Organized questions from legislative committee to address the candidates for Arlington County for each of the candidate’s forums.
- Provided questions for ACCF meetings with County Manager, County Board members, School superintendent, and School Board members.
- Coordinated with the Public Services/Public Safety Committee on identifying the topics and the questions for the presentation to membership on Crime in Arlington with the Police Chief, Commonwealth’s Attorney, and DHS Deputy.
- We had several organization meetings with the Civic Federation legislation affairs group in the past year to focus on our next steps.

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e. **Parks and Recreation.** It shall be the duty of this committee to consider and report on all matters pertaining to parks, public recreation, establishment and maintenance of public recreational facilities, and planning for public recreation programs. The committee shall serve as liaison for the Federation with appropriate county officials and private bodies dealing with parks and recreation.

FY2023 Report **Dave Schutz, Chair**

Parks and Recreation Annual Report

Parks and Recreation had a late start in March of this year and is not really recovered from its COVID hiatus.

We have had a constructive input, we think, into County decision making about pickleball at the Walter Reed Community Center and the approach to county options.

We have several legacy documents produced by our predecessor committee on, generally, access to park and recreation facilities for residents in the different areas of Arlington. For more information see the **Public Spaces Master Plan (PSMP) Levels of Service (LoS) Resolution [Jan 2019]** [[PDF, 165 KiB](#)] and other reports on the committee CivFed page <https://www.civfed.org/about-us/committees/parks/>. It had been our attention to follow up on those documents regarding whether and how well their conclusions had been incorporated into Parks decision making. This has not happened.

We haven't yet successfully recruited a consistent core group of members. We have also considered partnering more closely with Environmental Affairs. Obviously, it's important to do better outreach and recruiting next year.

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f. **Planning and Zoning.** It shall be the duty of this committee to study, report, and make recommendations to the Federation on all applications for rezoning, site plans, and variances (as appropriate) in Arlington County. The committee shall also study, report, and make recommendations to the Federation on all changes to the zoning ordinances and land use plans so that appropriate and timely action may be taken by the Federation. It shall further study, report, and make recommendations to the Federation on all matters pertaining to long-range community planning and development, including current programs and new projects. The committee shall serve as liaison for the Federation with official bodies locally and in the surrounding jurisdictions. Because Planning and Zoning policy is closely tied with housing policy, it is expected to work closely with the Housing Committee.

FY2023 Report

TBD submitted by Jackie Snelling for President Ford

There is currently no active P&Z Committee. Restarting this committee is a top priority for FY 23-24.

The President is planning a focus on P&Z issues for the October 2023 membership meeting to focus on the Arlington process for updating the vision for future planning and for examining specific aspects of the current P&Z implementation as described in the Comprehensive Plan and as implemented through the current GLUP studies, Sector Plan updates, and site plans.

A work group will be convened over the summer with representation from broad perspectives and open to others to start the planning for the October meeting discussion.

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g. **Public Services.** It shall be the duty of this committee to study and report on public services such as utilities, health, welfare and human resources, and public safety. Specific areas of responsibility include: (a) matters related to gas, electricity, telephone companies, ISPs, cable television, mail service, and site regulations and services; (b) public health, welfare and rehabilitation, hospital and rehabilitation facilities; (c) fire and police protection and traffic regulations; and (d) organization, administration, and the procedures of local government and the operation of county owned utilities.

FY2023 Report

John Ford, Chair; Public Safety, Mike McMenamin; Mental Health, Jackie Snelling

Stormwater

A group of the leaders including the leads for each of the watersheds

- Continued weekly consultations with DES by the chair and quarterly with the watershed leads;
- Led Lubber Run and Spout Run CA coalitions in interactions with the county on matters such as the release of the RAMP, potential improvements to code, the CIP for stormwater, the need to add DES staff technical review to site plan and GLUP reviews, stormwater plans in the Plan Langston Boulevard, and the FEMA flood zones;
- Represented CivFed on Stormwater Utility Citizens Advisory Group;
- Saw the Cardinal School Stormwater vault through to completion and organized continuous community liaison and placed one of its members on C2E2 commission.
- Prepared articles for Civic Voice on: Watershed Meetings (October); Big Change in Stormwater Tax/Fee Is Coming (Stormwater Utility October)

Public Safety

- Developed a presentation for the membership on Crime in Arlington with a panel of the Police Chief, the Commonwealth's Attorney. And the Deputy Director of DHS (March)
- Prepared articles in Civic Voice on: Preparing for Emergencies Arlington Alert (November), Arlington Community Emergency Response Training (April)
- Developed questions for candidates, and County Board and manager.

Mental Health

- Assisted with Crime in Arlington Panel with inclusion of DHS regarding mental health services and diversion programs outlined in Marcus Alert.
- Represented CivFed in regular County Marcus Alert development committees and with Mental Health Criminal Justice Review Committee (MHCJRC) for cross departmental coordination.
- Prepared articles for the Civic Voice on: June Marcus Alert Community education day (May); Mobile Mental Health Support – Coming to Arlington in July Mobile Outreach Support Team (MOST) (June)
- Developed questions for candidates, and County Board and manager.

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h. **Revenues and Expenditures.** It shall be the duty of this committee to evaluate and report on the revenues and expenditures of the local government. The committee shall review annual budget proposals, long range fiscal planning, and such related matters as may be referred to it.

FY2023 Report
Susanne, Chair/POC

Report from the Revenues & Expenditures Committee POC, 6-20-2023

I have served as the point of contact (POC) for the ACCF's Revenues & Expenditures Committee for the past 2 years.

By way of explanation as to the purpose of the committee, I refer to this description, found in the Civic Federation Procedures document, which was created via the Board of Directors' resolutions:

<https://www.civfed.org/newContent/general/ACCF%20Procedures%20by%20Board%20Resolution.pdf>

h. Revenues and Expenditures. It shall be the duty of this committee to evaluate and report on the revenues and expenditures of the local government. The committee shall review annual budget proposals, long range fiscal planning, and such related matters as may be referred to it.

As POC, I keep the ACCF board, members and R&E abreast of significant matters relating to the county's finances as well as the larger financial environment in which Arlington County operates.

Below is a newsletter article from the R&E Committee published in Jan. 2023:

FY2022 Arlington County Annual Comprehensive Financial Report

Section 15.2-2511 of the Code of Virginia requires that all general-purpose local governments publish within six months of the close of each fiscal year a complete set of financial statements presented in conformity with Generally Accepted Accounting Principles (GAAP).

The financial statements must be audited in accordance with Generally Accepted Auditing Standards (GAAS) by a firm of licensed certified public accountants. On December 16, 2022, Arlington County published its Annual Comprehensive Financial Report (ACFR, formerly the CAFR) for FY2022 online: <https://www.arlingtonva.us/files/sharedassets/public/budget/documents/accountingreporting-and-control/final-fy22-acfr-12-15-2022-online-version.pdf>

Though the financial statements in the front are audited by an external auditor (Cherry Bekaert), there also is a wealth of unaudited statistical information (covering the last 10 fiscal years) found at the end of the report. Everything from the county's borrowing to expenditures by category to tax revenues by source to the number of county employees by department (and more) is available in one place.

Submitted by Suzanne Sundburg, Chair, ACCF Revenue and Expenditures Committee, contact at rev.expend.chair@civfed.org.

As the POC, I raise specific items, including the annual county budget, and ask R&E members for guidance in identifying topics for discussion and review. When R&E members identify topics to pursue, I coordinate these suggestions.



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R&E has produced both reports and resolutions in the past. Changes during 2022–2023 as to how draft resolutions are handled on and off the floor of the chamber created challenges, and R&E produced no resolutions in the current year.

As an example of R&E's committee work products, see the report, resolution and presentation delivered in April 2022:

Report: Impacts of Rising Real Estate Assessments/Tax Burden on Vulnerable Residents: The Arlington County Manager's FY2023 Proposed Budget Arlington County Civic Federation Revenues & Expenditures Committee April 2022: <https://www.civfed.org/newContent/2022-04/2022-04%20ACCF%20Rev&ExpComm%20Res%20FY23%20Assessment%20and%20Tax%20Burden%20Report%20on%20Impacts.pdf>

Report Appendix A: <https://www.civfed.org/newContent/2022-04/2022-04%20ACCF%20Rev&ExpComm%20Res%20FY23%20Assessment%20and%20Tax%20Burden%20APPENDIX%20A%20County%20Vacancies.pdf>

Approved Resolution: <https://www.civfed.org/newContent/2022-04/2022-04%20ACCF%20Rev%26ExpComm%20Res%20FY23%20Assessment%20and%20Tax%20Burden%20APPROVED.pdf>

Resolution Presentation: <https://www.civfed.org/newContent/2022-04/2022-04%20ACCF%20Rev&ExpComm%20Res%20FY23%20Assessment%20and%20Tax%20Burden%20PRESENTATION.pdf>

Prior R&E Resolutions can be reviewed here: <https://www.civfed.org/archives/resolutions/>. Prior reports and meeting materials can be reviewed in the Meeting Archives: <https://www.civfed.org/archives/meeting-archive/>.

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i. **Schools.** It shall be the duty of this committee to study, report, and make recommendations to the Federation on all matters pertaining to schools. The committee should make budget recommendations in collaboration with the Revenues and Expenditures Committee.

FY2023 Report

Todd Truitt, Chair

Other Members: Lois Koontz, Rebecca Hunter, Alex Stevens, Allan Gadjahar, June Prakash

- We'd love to get additional members and are continuously reaching out to the CivFed community to try to get them (including in articles in the Civic Voice)

Main CivFed Events:

- Assisted with preparing for separate CivFed appearances by the Arlington Public Schools Superintendent and School Board
 - Todd worked with the Superintendent's office and the School Board's secretary to schedule their CivFed appearances, also coordinating with the CivFed president
 - We prepared questions for each appearance that we send them in advance
 - Todd was the MC of the portions of the CivFed meetings with their appearances, including conducting audience Q&A sessions
 - We had articles in the Civic Voice soliciting the general membership to submit questions for the Superintendent and School Board in advance of such visits
- Drafted schools-related questions for County Board and School Board candidate forums
- Drafted schools-related questions for County Board CivFed visit

Schools Committee Meetings:

- We met 3 to 4 times to prepare questions for the Superintendent and the School Board at their CivFed appearances based on topics of interest to the community, and especially the CivFed membership
- We also prepared such questions outside of these meetings via email
- Todd scheduled the Schools Committee meetings once firm dates were set for the appearances by the Superintendent and the School Board
- For the questions for the candidate forums and the County Board CivFed visit, we prepared such questions via email

No Recommendations to the Board or Resolutions the Past 2 Years

- The Schools Committee just restarted in the Fall 2021; as a result, we've been treading lightly on any formal CivFed actions these past 2 years

Additional Things to Note:

- I can't reiterate it enough – we'd love to get more members so please let others know



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- This school year, we had a difficult time scheduling both the Superintendent's and the School Board's appearances as School Board work sessions were often scheduled for the same day as our CivFed meetings
 - Todd and John Ford have already discussed Todd trying during the summer to work on scheduling their appearances for this next CivFed year to try to avoid such scheduling issues
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j. **Transportation.** It shall be the duty of this committee to study, report, and make recommendations on all matters relating to the mobility of citizens and freight traffic within and through Arlington. These shall include, but not be limited to, rail transit, air transport, streets and highways, bridges and other water crossings, sidewalks, terminals, and parking facilities, bus lines, taxi services, and any other related matters referred to it by the Federation. The committee shall serve as liaison for the Federation with official bodies locally and in the surrounding jurisdictions.

FY2023 Report

TBD

There is no active Transportation Committee or chair at this time. Consideration of the status of this committee and potential focus on re-constituting the committee will be a priority for FY 23-24

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3) RESOLVE to establish as Member Committees, 6 Federation Support Member Committees defined as follows:

a. **Audit Committee.** The Audit committee, chaired by the President of the Federation, will name an Audit Team at the June meeting of the Federation to examine the books of the treasurer by July 31 and report at the regular meeting in September.

FY2023 Report
TBD

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b. **Bylaws and Rules.** It shall be the duty of this committee to examine the structure and function of the Federation and to draft and submit to the Federation for approval amendments to the bylaws.

FY2023 Report

Adam Henderson, Chair

MEMBERS:

ADAM HENDERSON

TINA WORDEN

ALLEN NORTON

STEFANIE PRYOR (PART-YEAR)

ACTIONS

ACCF STANDING RULES

The Committee, at the request of the Board, re-examined the pre-incorporation standing rules and recommended revisions and re-publication of same. This will be an item to be further reviewed by the FY2024 ACCF Board.

BOUNDARY PROCEDURES FOR CIVIC ASSOCIATIONS

The Committee, at the request of the Board, made a detailed recommendation on Civic Association Boundary Procedures based on an informal document created by Stefanie Pryor during her tenure as ACCF President. The Committee hopes to finalize this procedure with the FY2024 ACCF Board.

ALIGNMENT OF DUES AND CERTIFICATION DATES

The Committee, at the request of the Board, examined the non-aligned dates under the current Bylaws for payment of dues and certification of members. The Committee drafted a Resolution to amend §2.03(A) of the Bylaws to align dues and certification dates to 20 November. This Resolution was endorsed by the Board and adopted by the General Membership on 13 June 2023.

PARLIAMENTARY RULINGS

The Committee, via memorandum, strongly advised the ACCF Board that its resolution regarding 'Membership Waiver[s]' adopted 16 Oct 2022 was out of order and beyond the scope of its remit and powers. The Board formally rescinded the resolution at their November 2022 meeting.

The Committee Chair, with support from the Committee, was called upon to guide the Membership through parliamentary thickets during the debate on the Resolution to Restore the Public's Confidence in Arlington County Governance.



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WORKPLAN FOR FY2024

The Committee will continue work with the Board towards final adoption of ACCF'S Revised Standing Rules and formalized Boundary Procedures for Civic Associations. In addition, the Committee hopes to re-examine our tabled proposal from FY2021 to elect at-large Board members to alternating two-year terms and well as review our listed parliamentary procedures in light of this term's debate over the Resolution to Restore the Public's Confidence in Arlington County Governance.

The Committee will also continue its ongoing effort to create a tailored and workable ethics and conflicts of interest policy for ACCF Directors and Officers.

As ACCF continues to rebuild its Committee structure, we hope to revisit our draft Procedures for Committees created in FY2023 and discuss same with the ACCF Board.

The Committee will also welcome new member Dima Hakura in the new fiscal year. Having been idle since March, the Committee will resume its work in late summer.

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c. **Communication Committee.** It shall be the duty of this committee to inform Delegates, Alternates, Member Organizations, the media and community organizations on a regular basis about Federation news, meetings, activities, programs and events by organizing, writing and working on the ACCF Newsletter, Website, Constant Contact, Facebook page and other social media. In addition, the Committee shall explore and keep the Board apprised of technology developments that the Civic Federation should consider and ways to expand the use of social media and other technologies (e.g., livestream) to better communicate and engage with the membership and public. Also, the Committee shall work closely with and coordinate its work with the Secretary, who is the point of contact with the ACCF webmaster.

FY2023 Report

TBD – Submitted by Jackie Snelling

Although specific parts of the Communications Committee charge have officers and individuals assigned with the responsibilities, there is no active Communication Committee and chair at this time.

- The Secretary currently has responsibility for task of organizing, writing, and working on the ACCF newsletter to “inform Delegates, Alternates, Member Organizations, the media and community organizations on a regular basis about Federation news, meetings, activities, programs.”
- The Secretary and webmaster have provided updates for Facebook focused on meeting notices and Livestreaming of meetings and events.
- The Webmaster has maintained the website and added updates provided by the Board, the Secretary and other Officers, and Committee Chairs including meeting notices, minutes and links to video, special event notices, newsletters, committee reports and events, proposed and adopted resolutions.

In January, the ACCF commissioned a pro bono scoping study this year by the previous Communications Committee Chair, Christopher Wimbush, on scoping for building digital capacity for member associations, particularly residential associations. The report was submitted in June and will be transmitted to the Board and reviewed by a group designated by the Board and President to review the report and to provide a draft of potential actions including development of an updated communications plan that includes the objectives and tasks in the committee charge. Identifying a chair or co-chairs will be a priority for FY 23-24.

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d. **Membership.** It shall be the duty of this committee to determine the eligibility of all applicants for membership in the Federation. The committee shall report its findings and make recommendations to the Federation at the next meeting after the application has been referred to the committee. Final action shall be taken by the Federation.

FY2023 Report **Eric Cassell, Chair**

Report of the Membership Committee

The committee looked at several possible members via email conversations. In addition, the Chair met with several possible members.

Two have been approved by the membership: Rotary and the Belvedere Condo.

One of the possible members was not big enough to join at this time.

Lastly one possible member is under consideration that has met all the requirements for being a member (**African American Leadership Council of Arlington (AALCA)**). The committee recommends AALCA for membership in the CivFed.

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e. **The Awards Committee.** It shall be the duty of this committee to seek and make recommendations for persons, committees, or members to receive the Sun Gazette Cup and Certificates of Appreciation. At a regular meeting of the Federation no later than the December meeting, the Awards Committee will be elected consisting of five (5) members who shall be elected from the delegates or alternates.

FY2023 Report

John Ford, Chair

Members:

- Dave Schutz (ACCF Parks & Recreation Committee Chair)
- Diane Kelly (Waycroft-Woodlawn CA former president)
- John Ford (ACCF President, Tara-Leeway Heights CA President)
- Lois Koontz (past chair, ACCF Executive Board)
- Todd Truitt (ACCF Schools Committee Chair)

The Awards Committee met multiple times to discuss and identify the ACCF awards for 2023. CivFed's annual awards were handed out traditionally at the organization's celebratory banquet. But not for the past three years, as there has been no banquet. The awards were instead announced at our annual meeting June 13.

- **2023 Gazette Leader (formerly Sun-Gazette) Cup** – Adam Henderson
- **President's Award** – David Smith
- **Certificate of Appreciation Individual Award – Neighborhood Advocacy to Improve Hospital Project** – Michael Bruce
- **Certificate of Appreciation Group Award #1** - Mark Greenwood (Highland Park – Overlee Knolls), Lilith Christensen (Westover Village), John Ford Tara-Leeway Heights), Kathleen Trainor (HPOK), Mike Weinstein (Leeway-Overlee), Bob Ortung (WV), Rob Swennes (LO), Ed Cole (HPOK), Alyssa Cowden (TLH), Jim Little (HPOK)
- **Certificate of Appreciation Group Award #2** - Esther Bowring (Arlington Forest), Julie Lee (Glencarlyn) and Howard Solodky, (Old Glebe)

f. **Banquet.** It shall be the duty of this committee to organize the Annual Banquet of the Federation. The committee shall evaluate possible venues, negotiating rates with the venue, and other actions required for a successful banquet. Will also coordinated with Program Committee concerning set up required for banquet speaker(s).

FY2023 Report

No Banquet held this year.

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Task Force in Governance and Election Reform (TiGER)

TiGER was established by a [ACCF resolution \[PDF, 69 KiB\]](#) approved 20 Oct 2020.

FY2023 Report

Chair, Allan Gajadhar; Report submitted by David Schutz

TiGER has had a productive period after its report and resolution passed CivFed membership and was presented to the County. The TiGER was established as a time-limited task force and the report and resolution completed the tasks it was given. This report suggests two resolutions to the membership: one to direct the TiGER's work to continue as a special committee within the CivFed Legislation Committee and one to request the County Board to include the ability of the Board to implement some or all of the TiGER's recommendations as part of its wish list for the upcoming Virginia legislative session.

In completing the tasks it was set by CivFed, TiGER wrote a report, and the Federation passed a resolution backing its conclusions, and we presented them to the County Board. Broadly, they are:

- Size of the Arlington School and County Boards should be increased to seven members each to recognize the increased complexity of our government and number of citizens.
- Pay level for members of each Board should be increased so fewer people are excluded by their finances from undertaking the jobs.
- Arlington School and County Boards should be elected by ranked choice, and in alternating groups of three, then four, members to enable broader representation and greater proportionality.
- To enable greater consistency and connection to other regional office holders Chairs of the School and County Boards should be elected by their peers for two-year terms when each new Board is seated and should be able to be re-elected.
- Current system of partisan primaries and party caucuses results in a far smaller electorate than participates in the general election and in a uniformity of outlook which does not reflect the spectrum of Arlington opinion.

As well, the TiGER held a Forum on Arlington County Governance and Ranked Choice Voting, Thu 18 May 2023 with US Rep Don Beyer [D, 8th], Virginia Del Patrick Hope [D, 47th], and Arlington Registrar and Director of Elections Gretchen Reinemeyer. Video footage of the 18 May 2023 forum is available at: <https://vimeo.com/828522858> [1h 07m 51s]. We think this was a very useful event. As noted in earlier discussions of the TiGER proposals, there are statutory restraints on what Arlington can do. Our Form of Government (FoG) is more tightly constrained in the Code of Virginia than are the forms of many other local governments. Delegate Patrick Hope, who has been asked many times by the County Board to patron minor changes in Arlington's FoG, tasked the legislative research group to identify the areas in which Arlington has less authority than do other Virginia polities, and his talk in the Forum discussed the ways we are more constrained than are others.



Arlington County Civic Federation

Adopted ACCF Committee Charges and Year-End Reports for FY2023

Partially in response to the TiGER's work, County Board decided to make the just-past primary a ranked choice vote, and it has resulted in a proportional result, selecting one nominee from each of the current major opinion clusters among County voters.

TiGER suggests that CivFed should continue working to improve Arlington's form of government – by making a permanent TiGER successor subcommittee in the Legislation Committee. Text for that Resolution would be:

Resolved, that a new subcommittee be established within the Federation's Legislation Committee for the purpose of continuing the work of the TiGER Task Force in considering improvements to the form of government of Arlington County and to report on its deliberations to the Federation and to the public. President shall appoint its members, who will number between three and fifteen, and it will report on its deliberations not less frequently than annually to the Federation.

As well, TiGER suggests that CivFed consider a resolution encouraging Delegate Hope's work on Arlington's necessary authorities, and requesting that the Arlington County Board include in its annual list of legislative requests that changes in the FoG which would give Arlington's Board discretion equivalent to that held by other Virginia jurisdictions to make changes in its FoG putting in place the reforms sought by the TiGER Task Force on Arlington's FoG. Language for that Resolution:

Resolved, that the Arlington Civic Federation warmly supports the work of Delegate Patrick Hope to identify the areas in which Arlington has less authority than do other Virginia polities and in addition the areas where Arlington's authorities need to be expanded to enable the County to amend its own Form of Government, including but not limited to the changes called for in the report of the Civic Federation's TiGER Task Force on Form of Government. Civic Federation requests that the Arlington County Board include a request for legislative changes to so enable the County in its legislative wish list for the coming session.

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