



Arlington County Civic Federation

The Civic Voice

The Newsletter of the Arlington County Civic Federation
September 2024 | Volume 109 | Number 01

September General Membership Meeting

Location: Hazel Auditorium, Virginia Hospital Center

Date: Tuesday, September 3, 2024 @ 7:00 PM

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

Delegates: All requests for delegate swaps with alternates must be submitted to the secretary@civfed.org by Sunday **September 1** at 12 noon. No exceptions.

Options for attending the meeting:

1. **In-Person** (Delegates, Other Guests): No registration is needed to attend in-person.
2. **Facebook Live** (Other Guests): No registration is needed to watch the live stream which can be found on the [ArlCivFed Facebook page](#).
3. **Zoom** (Delegates): Registration is required ([link](#)) by Monday **September 2** at 12 noon. After registering, you will receive a confirmation email containing information about joining the meeting. The Zoom passcode is 123456, but if you use the links provided after you register you will not have to enter it.

Meeting Agenda

- 7:00 - 7:05 p.m. Opening and approval of [June](#) minutes
- 7:05 - 8:35 Candidates' Forum
- 8:35 - 8:50 Membership Discussion & Vote
- 8:50 - 9:00 A look ahead and member open comment period

Reminder: Parking passes will be provided. Meetings are held in the 'Conference Center' depicted on the map below.

PARKING AND ACCESS INSTRUCTIONS

The VHC Director of Security has advised CivFed that we should begin to park in Parking Garage C (map below). You can then walk across to the Oncology entrance and gain admittance until 8 p.m. **After the meeting, you MUST EXIT via the Women's and Infant lobby.**

ENTER (until 8 p.m.): Zone C Ground floor Oncology entrance (only open until 8 pm, Monday-Friday)

- Sign into the visitor kiosks (**need driver's license each time**)
- Get visitor sticker and wear at all times when inside the hospital
- Take a right at the double doors by the visitor kiosks
- Take a right at the single door
- Go to elevators and take to lobby floor
- Exit elevators and go left to hall directly behind welcome desk in lobby
- Take a left at the single door and continue down the hall toward a set of double doors
- Go through double doors and go right
- Conference center auditorium is directly ahead

ENTER or EXIT (24/7): Zone C first floor Women's and Infant lobby entrance (please use this entrance to exit after 8 pm, open 24/7):

- Sign into the visitor kiosks (**need driver's license each time**)
- Get visitor sticker and wear at all times when inside the hospital
- Walk to hall directly behind the welcome desk in the lobby
- Take a left at the single door and continue down the hall toward a set of double doors
- Go through double doors and go right
- Conference center auditorium is directly ahead



President's Message

Summer is nearly over, and your Civic Federation board is hard at work getting ready for what we believe will be a busy and illuminating autumn. That starts on the day after Labor Day with our annual Candidates' Forum at 7:00 p.m. on Tuesday, September 3 in the Hazel Auditorium at Virginia Hospital Center.

Three local races are on Arlington's November ballot. These elections will fill seats in the House of Representatives, the County Board and the School Board. Four candidates have declared for each position.

That's a lot of races, a lot of candidates, a lot of issues to cover and too little time to do it. We're going to allot a bit more than half an hour to each contest, because we have other business to transact, most notably voting to welcome two new member groups. These are Arlington's well-respected Arlington Neighborhood Village

organization and the Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance, which merged on January 1 with former CivFed member organization Alliance for Housing Solutions.

For the Candidates Forum, I'll moderate the County Board race first; our Schools Committee chair Todd Truitt will lead the School Board debate, and finally I'll return for the House of Representatives race. We will try to focus our questions on the most pressing issues, and I would be grateful to hear your emailed thoughts on what you believe are those key questions. Please send them to me at hcc19@aol.com.

You'll see a notice below with details about our updated CivFed picnic plans. The event will be held at Fort Scott Park on Saturday, September 14, from 12:00 – 4:00 p.m. As I have mentioned before, we want to see how interested our members are in a Fall social event to match with our revived Spring banquet. We hope you will join your Executive Board for what promises to be a fun family event that also offers good networking opportunities.

The CivFed forum on Arlington's form of government, flowing from the well-received recommendations of our TiGER committee in 2023, has now been rescheduled for October 15. Please note the time and place in the article below.

Other committee announcements and meetings are also scattered throughout this newsletter. We are very proud to have contributed to the revival of our vital CivFed committee structure, and evidence of its development will be on full display at our October 8 and November 12 general membership meetings.

As you'll see in the next paragraphs, the subjects we will address in these meetings is both challenging and vitally relevant for Arlingtonians in every part of the county. I encourage you to engage with us as we explore our most significant issues and seek consensus on solutions.

I won't pretend that our agenda is not ambitious. But if we don't try to find solutions to problems in areas such as housing, parks and green space, residential and commercial zoning, community gathering spaces, climate change resilience and other priorities, we certainly won't be able to make cogent, consensus-driven recommendations for county action.

We are trying hard to make our presentations accessible and easy to digest even for members who are not regularly engaged with them, and we're developing some innovative ways to do that. I hope you'll give this a try with us. More information is offered below.

I'm looking forward to seeing you all on September 3. Meantime, have a safe and happy Labor Day weekend.

Best,
John Ford
President

Introduction to the 2024-2025 Board of Directors

Submitted by David Smith, Board Chair

It is the start of another fiscal year for our Arlington County Civic Federation. At our booth at the fair this weekend I got a chance to speak to a lot of residents about our mission to promote the general welfare of Arlington County. As many of you know, our organization was started in 1916 by a group of concerned citizens that wanted to

make a difference in their community. Over the organization's 108 years, our committees and members have formulated hundreds of resolutions that have helped inform the County government and drive significant changes that have helped contribute to this wonderful community that we all call home – Arlington.

I am honored to serve the organization this year as the CivFed Board Chair, and fortunate to be supported by an exceptionally experienced, diverse, and adept set of volunteer leaders who have been making a difference across Arlington for many years serving on civic association boards, committees, and commissions. We will continue our goal of working to strengthen our committees and engagement with our members to meet the challenge set forth by our organization's founders to promote the general welfare of Arlington County and its vicinity.

The CivFed Board is responsible for ensuring that the organization is prepared and runs smoothly. To that end, we have already been busy this summer preparing for fiscal year 2025. We have authorized our yearly budget (keeping dues the same as last year), formulated agendas for upcoming General Membership meetings, reviewed two new membership requests, supported a booth at the Arlington County Fair, revised our Membership Committee charter, and approved a plan for a picnic in the fall.

Please welcome this year's officers and directors at-large:

OFFICERS

- President John Ford
- Vice-President Nick Giacobbe
- Secretary Matt Gloudeman
- Treasurer Benjamin Watts

DIRECTORS AT-LARGE

- Director At-Large Allan Gajadhar
- Director At-Large Ron Haddox
- Director At-Large Jean Henceroth
- Director At-Large Paul Holland
- Director At-Large Mike McMenamin
- Director At-Large Richard McNamara
- Director At-Large David Schutz
- Director At-Large David Smith
- Director At-Large Jacqueline Snelling

Chatting up the Civic Federation at the County Fair

By Nicholas Giacobbe, VP and Fair Chair

The Civic Federation was once again well represented at this year's County Fair. We had a prominent corner location not far inside the main entrance that led to many thoughtful engagements. Our flip chart to collect issues and concerns was once again a popular feature and generated lots of interesting comments. The map also drew people in and gave us a chance to talk about the neighborhoods.

As Penrose President and PPG Chair Alex Sakes noted, the County Fair really serves as a diverse melting pot that brings together so many from along Columbia Pike and beyond. Our volunteers were able to chat up folks from all around the world, of all ages, who are interested in getting more involved in their neighborhood community and civic association, not just here in Arlington, but around the world. Getting people involved in civic discourse is our prime mission and the County Fair was a

great way to encourage it. We were also able to meet many other organizations from across the County and begin to recruit them as potential new members.

Thanks again to the many volunteers who participated in the booth, we couldn't have done it without you. To quote Alex again, while it may sound cliché, it really is up to us to perpetuate organizations like ours.



Save the Date: ACCF Fall Picnic on September 14

Cory Giacobbe, Chair, ACCF Fall Picnic Committee Chair

ACCF members and families are invited to join us for a Fall Potluck BBQ Picnic.

- Date: Saturday, September 14, 12 - 4 pm
- Location: Fort Scott Park Picnic Shelter, Fort Scott Drive
- Purpose: Socialize and get to know each other

Follow this link to sign up and select what you'll bring. See you there!

<https://www.signupgenius.com/go/5080F4FAAAE2BA7F85-50674822-accf>

Parks and Recreation Committee

Cory Giacobbe, Co-chair for Parks

ACCF Parks Committee Will Meet September 18

The newly reconstituted ACCF Parks Committee will meet on Wednesday, September 18 at 7 pm via Zoom. This meeting will focus on how a re-energized Parks Committee can help inform the October and November CivFed meetings on how to

considerations in the Arlington 2050 document and in current decision making.

We hope you will come, or view it either as it takes place or in a recording. Also, we invite you to provide written input on the ideas identified in the preparatory document or on any other views you have on potential improvements in County government. For more information, see here: <https://www.civfed.org/newContent/2024-08/2024-08-13%20ACCF%20FoG%20Memo.pdf>

Legislation Committee

Submitted by Paul Holland, Chair

There will be an organizational meeting of the Legislation Committee on Thursday, September 26 at 7:30 PM on zoom. We look forward to a lively planning discussion of future legislative priorities for the Civic Federation and will have an initial conversation about potential resolutions for the upcoming year. Please use this link to register and join: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZwkduuvpjotE9LluWiS7ktmTBrzZdkiKQpw>

If you have any questions you can contact Paul at CivFed Chair Legislation legislation.chair@civfed.org

Planning and Zoning Committee

Submitted by Brian Harner, Chair

Meeting: Monday, September 15 at 7pm Zoom registration below

The primary focus of the September P&Z meeting will be to further develop how CivFed will focus the October and November CivFed Meetings on how the Comprehensive Plan framework can be updated to provide guidance for achieving our overarching goals by prioritizing and tracking performance on the cross-cutting priorities identified in the elements. The meeting will also include an update from each of the three subcommittees on the Comprehensive Plan, Lot Coverage, and Methods for changes to the General Land Use Plan (GLUP).

To Join us, Please register at https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZEqc-ihRDouHtxX_n3sYP6p3k1_N7G86cKR

If you have any questions, please contact Brian at CivFed Chair P&Z plan.zone.chair@civfed.org

Housing Committee

Submitted by Anne Bodine, Housing Committee Co-Chair

CivFed Housing Committee Meeting September 19, 2024:

“Defining, Understanding, and Addressing Displacement as a Key to Good Housing Policy,” 6:30-8:00 pm, featuring Michael O’Grady and Wells Harrell

Please join us September 19 at 6:30 pm for our monthly Housing Committee

meeting. The Committee welcomes two of its own, Wells Harrell and Michael O'Grady, to discuss residential displacement. Michael brings a Ph.D. in economics and public policy teaching expertise (as well as data crunching Arlington demographics) and Wells brings public policy experience as a federal attorney, the Chair of NAACP Arlington Branch's Housing Committee, and the Vice Chair of the County's Joint Facilities Advisory Commission.

For some years now, policy-makers have been grappling with how best to maintain growth, revitalize neighborhoods, and redress past inequities in housing, without displacing marginalized or low-income residents. Michael and Wells will define displacement and related concepts, help us understand the theoretical underpinnings of displacement and its drivers, provide relevant examples, explore data-gathering methods, outline approaches adopted elsewhere, and provide some recommendations for Arlington.

From 7:30-8:00, we will review the last iteration of our potential resolution recommending the county amend its methods of tracking housing stock and potential housing production to inform land use and zoning policy.

Registration Link: <https://us06web.zoom.us/meeting/register/tZAqf-uhrzIrE9x8iLpL62O3Fjo1luwdqGSj>

Arts & Culture Committee

See below for details on September's Arts & Culture Committee meeting:

- Location: Museum of Contemporary Art (MOCA)
- Date: Thursday, September 12, 2024
- Time: 6-7 pm

Featured Speakers:

- Susan Cunningham, County Board Member & Arts Liaison
 - Adam Green, County Arts Commission Chairperson
-

Membership Update

The ACCF board reviewed two new membership requests from Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance (NVAHA) and the Arlington Neighborhood Village (ANV), and determined their missions meet the requirements needed to become a member of ACCF. As such, our September 3rd meeting will include a General Membership vote to determine NVAHA's and ANV's membership status.

Arlington Neighborhood Village (ANV)

Arlington Neighborhood Village (ANV) was born from discussions among a small group of friends on how to remain in the community they love as they aged. Since 2014, ANV has grown from an idea among friends to a thriving village with over 440 members and more than 300 volunteers directly serving members. Volunteers provide rides to medical appointments, perform errands (grocery shopping, medication pickup), are friendly visitors and walking buddies; help with technology, and many more activities to reduce social isolation and form meaningful connections.

ANV serves all of Arlington with members ranging from 58 to 102 years of age, living in neighborhoods throughout the county, and with a diverse range of interests

and needs, cultural and racial backgrounds, and economic circumstances.

Our mission is to enable older adults to continue living safely, independently, with an enhanced quality of life in their own homes and communities as they age. You can find more information about ANV at its website (ANVarlington.org) or by contacting ANV at 703-509-8057 or by email at info@ANVarlington.org.



Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance (NVAHA)

Collaborate. Inform. Act.

In 2023, the Alliance for Housing Solutions, a 20-year-old Arlington non-profit and member of Civ Fed, and NVAHA, Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance, decided to combine forces and merge as one NVAHA. They had been 'sister organizations' for many years, with NVAHA doing work similar to AHS, but in all 5 NOVA jurisdictions, including Arlington.

As of January 2024, AHS was dissolved and AHS's Arlington-specific work continues, under the new name NVAHA-Arlington Housing Alliance, or just NVAHA-Arlington. NVAHA-Arlington is a branch of the larger NVAHA, where we cover all the housing-related and affordable housing activity in Arlington County.

Affordable housing is about so much more than housing. At NVAHA, we approach our housing work through the lens of its broader societal impact at the local, regional and state levels. From advancing social equity to promoting shared prosperity, we know that public policies and financial investments to develop and preserve housing that's affordable yield returns that benefit us all.

NVAHA's mission is to increase the supply of and equitable access to affordable housing in Northern Virginia through education, advocacy, and community partnership. Our work includes public education about the need and benefits of affordable housing and overall housing supply in our community, housing policy development and consultation, convening of housing professionals and advocates, and policy advocacy itself. We are working to meet the diverse housing needs of Northern Virginia communities through alliances that are locally responsive and regionally united, such as here in Arlington.

And a note: Following our merger, we began a logo and website re-vamp that is close to completion. Please visit our website for more information, keeping in mind that very soon it will have a brand new look and new logo that reflect our unification. The website will include Arlington-specific content. Visit us at www.NVAHA.org.



September is National Preparedness Month: Disasters Don't Plan Ahead – But You Can



12 WAYS TO PREPARE

<input type="checkbox"/>  <p>Sign up for Alerts and Warnings</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <p>Make a Plan</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <p>Save for a Rainy Day</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <p>Practice Emergency Drills</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <p>Test Family Communication Plan</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <p>Safeguard Documents</p>
<input type="checkbox"/>  <p>Plan with Neighbors</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <p>Make Your Home Safer</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <p>Know Evacuation Routes</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <p>Assemble or Update Supplies</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <p>Get Involved in Your Community</p>	<input type="checkbox"/>  <p>Document and Insure Property</p>

Content from the Department of Public Safety Communications & Emergency Management, Arlington County:

<https://www.arlingtonva.us/Government/Departments/PSC/EM/Emergency-Preparedness>

2023-2024 Board of Directors

Officers

President, [John Ford](#)

Vice President, [Nick Giacobbe](#)

Secretary, [Matt Gloudeman](#)

Treasurer, [Benjamin Watts](#)

Board of Directors

Board Chair, [David Smith](#)

Director at Large, [Allan Gajadhar](#)
Director at Large, [Dave Schutz](#)
Director at Large, [Jackie Snelling](#)
Director at Large, [Jean Hencroth](#)
Director at Large, [Michael McMenamin](#)
Director at Large, [Paul Holland](#)
Director at Large, [Richard McNamara](#)
Director at Large, [Ron Haddox](#)

ACCF PUBLIC INTEREST COMMITTEES

- Arts and Culture – Co-Chairs Tina Worden and Sandi Chesrown
- Diversity – Chair TBD - if interested contact bod.orgdev@civfed.org
- Environmental Affairs – Chair Mary Glass
- Housing – Co-Chairs Anne Bodine and Matt Hall
- Legislation – Chair Paul Holland
- Parks and Recreation – Chair Cory Giacobbe (Parks)
- Planning and Zoning – Chair Brian Harner
- Public Services – Chair John Ford
- Revenues and Expenditures – Chair TBD
- Schools – Chair Todd Truitt
- Transportation – Chair TBD - if interested contact bod.orgdev@civfed.org

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 John Ford if you are interested in participating on ACCF committees.

[Link to Committee Website](#)

Interested in being an Arlington County Civic Federation Delegate?

The Arlington County Civic Federation was founded in 1916. Today, it has 80+ 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.

joinus@civfed.org

[The Civic Federation's Website](#)

September & October

- 9/3 - ACCF General Membership Meeting
- 9/12 - Arts & Culture Committee Meeting
- 9/14 - ACCF Picnic
- 9/15 - Planning and Zoning Committee Meeting
- 9/18 - Parks and Recreation Committee Meeting
- 9/19 - Environmental Affairs Committee Meeting
- 9/19 - Housing Committee Meeting
- 9/26 - Legislative Committee Meeting
- 10/15 - Form of Government Subcommittee Meeting

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