

ACCF General Meeting Notice

NORMAL START TIME
Tuesday, February 6, 2007, 7:30 PM
Hazel Conference Center
Virginia Hospital Center – Arlington
1701 North George Mason Drive

1. **7:30 pm** Pledge of Allegiance (formal start)
2. Approval of Agenda
3. Approval of Minutes (January 2, 2007)
4. Treasurer's Report
5. Committee Announcements (upcoming meetings)
6. **7:40 – 8:55 pm – Public Services Program**
 - Introductions, presentations and, responses to submitted questions (45 minutes) – (See Page 2)
 - Member questions and answers (30 minutes)
7. **8:55 – 9:35 pm Old Business and Actions**
 - Transportation Committee Resolution on Master Transportation Plan (30 Minutes) – (See Page 3)
 - Transportation Committee Update – Sidewalk and Paving Policy with NCAC (10 minutes) – (See Page 3)
8. **9:35 – 9:40 pm** New Business & Announcements
9. Adjournment

Happy
Presidents Day!



Public Service Panel Rules

By Executive Committee

The rules will be in effect during the planned 30 minute questions and answer period set forth in the agenda. The purpose of these rules is to maximize participation by the delegates and alternates. These "rules" are as follows:

1. Participation – Only Delegates or Alternates will be permitted to ask questions of the panel at the February 6th meeting.
2. Questions will be limited to a maximum of 30 seconds only. Delegates or Alternates should minimize comments and make sure they pose a "single" question. Compound and follow-up questions by the same individual will not be allowed.
3. The Public Services Committee moderator will determine timing and format of panel answers – especially since a question might best be answered by more than one panelist.

Tidbits

This section will bring you up to date on status of some "old" items. Also highlighted are new activities or actions considered or approved by the Executive Committee since the January meeting. In all cases, unless specifically noted, material has been posted to our Web site. Please refer to that resource for further details where noted:

- **Appointments** – None this period
- **2007 Banquet Program** – The Executive Committee due to the extraordinary effort by Stan Karson, has selected the keynote speaker for the 2007 annual banquet. *See the article on page 3.*
- **NCAC and ACCF** – The County Manager requested the NCAC take the lead on a "relaxed" sidewalk and paving policy. *The ACCF was never notified directly of this request by the Manager or County staff!* None the less, our able Transportation Committee chair – Jerry Auten has followed through – *see the article on page 3*

March Meeting: Tuesday, March 6, 2007

The Major Topics:

1. Treasurer and Commissioner of Revenue
2. Information Session from Commission on Aging

March News deadline: February 14, 2006

Public Service Program Information

By Amy Levin, Chair - Public Service Committee

As part of the invitation from the Public Service Committee to the esteemed panel for the February meeting, the Public Services Committee submitted key questions. The four panel members are:

Robert P. "Bob" Griffin

Director, Office of Emergency Management

James "Jim" Schwartz

Chief, Fire Department

M. Douglas "Doug" Scott

Chief, Police Department

Reuben K. Varghese, MD

Director, Public Health

Questions/Issues for all four panelists:

1. Please compare funding, including capital funding (such as for functional communications systems), and staffing in your departments for the years 2000, 2004, 2006 and projected for 2007.
2. What have been your major achievements and your major challenges? Which major challenges are new this year?
3. What is your position on the County's forthcoming Master Transportation Plan? Were you invited to participate in the process? We know that transportation is a critical factor of any disaster response and/or evacuation. Will the emphasis on non-auto based transportation help or hinder emergency plans? Explain.
4. Please mention, and/or explain, any of the handout materials you left in the lobby tonight.

Questions/Issues for both Police and Fire:

1. In this past fiscal year, how many times did we send ACPD and ACFD people to help in emergencies in Alexandria, Falls Church, Fairfax, Washington, DC, and other jurisdictions?
2. How many times did Arlington request, and receive, help from these same jurisdictions in the same time period?

3. Arlington acquired new equipment in post 9-11 funding. What did we get? How are we paying for maintenance of this equipment? Do we have adequate operational facilities for this?

Questions/Issues for Fire:

1. How often are you making runs with less than 4 person pumper crews? How often do you have to borrow from other crews to make up a 4 person crew?
2. When will the new Aurora Highlands/Crystal City Fire Station be finished and occupied?
3. What is the current projected completion date for the Cherrydale Fire Station?
4. What percentage of fire inspections that should have been made this year were actually made? How many preschools and daycare centers were inspected? Out of how many existing in the county?

Questions/Issues for Police:

1. How significant a problem is the lack of employee parking for officers?
2. Do the police need a sub-station or other facility in South Arlington?

Questions/Issues for Public Health and Emergency Management:

1. Do you have a comprehensive plan for handling a terrorist attack or major outbreak of an epidemic disease?
2. Do you have adequate resources to implement such a plan?
3. What is the probability of these kinds of disasters occurring in Arlington County?

Questions/Issues for Public Health:

1. How many more food establishment inspectors are needed to make Arlington compliant with national inspection frequencies?
2. Since the County Manager has cut the number of rodent control staff, what advice do you have for affected residents? We are aware that rodents are vectors for numerous diseases, such as tularemia, leptospirosis, all forms of plague, salmonellosis, rocky mountain spotted fever, hantaviruses, murine typhus, tapeworm, trichinosis, and rat bite fever.
3. What do you feel the priorities should be for dispensing vaccines in the event of pandemic flu?

Help Wanted – Open Invitation

There are always positions that can open at any time. If you have any particular interest – keep us (Committee Chairs advised) - (*see last page*).

Committee Calendar

Please look on the ACCF Web page calendar for latest additional postings of committee meetings.

Transportation News Update

By Jerry Auten, Chair Transportation Committee

At the January meeting, the Civic Federation passed a resolution on the Metro staff proposal to convert some Blue Line trains to Yellow Line trains during rush as a low-cost approach to solving the congestion problems at the Rosslyn Tunnel that have caused train delays on the Blue and Orange Lines. The resolution requests that Metro staff prepare and make public a careful study of the impact of the proposal, including travel times, car crowding and other aspects of the issue that affect riders. In addition, the resolution requests that Metro committees and staff not take further action before completing the ridership study and conducting a complete community process including public hearings.

County staff completed a second draft of a new Master Transportation Plan (MTP) in November 2006 and is requesting comments, officially through the end of January, but community input will likely continue into the spring. The draft plan includes an ambitious set of transportation projects and goals. It represents a major shift from the previous MTP adopted in 1986. The plan is being reviewed by various county advisory commissions and boards. The County Board had an initial work session hearing an overview presentation and discussed selected issues. Many things in the various chapters were praised. However, many questions were raised. Questions included the seeming lack of concern about congestion issues, a long list of potentially expensive projects, lack of prioritization of goals and projects, detailed standards that could result in flexibility issues and community conflicts with staff in specific situations and, focus on the high density corridors in a way that seems to exclude those who must continue to drive a car because of particular needs or the impracticality of any cost-effective transit service.

To facilitate feedback from the Civic Federation, a draft resolution was introduced at the January meeting. The Transportation Committee's intent is to meet to discuss a revised resolution and to prepare a list of issues in the MTP on which delegates could express their approval or disapproval. The draft resolution specifically requested a statement of about flexibility in standards, a sequential adoption process to allow time for community understanding of the complicated plan, a staff list of significant policy changes and issues, as well as consideration of the Civic Federation questionnaire. A draft questionnaire will be posted as soon as available, and comments and suggestions for questions and issues are solicited from all delegates and alternates (jerry@civfed.org).

In November, the County Manager sent a letter with proposed revised standards to the Neighborhood Conservation Advisory Commission regarding flexibility with respect to two issues: (1) flexibility with respect to the sidewalk requirement and (2) conditions when a street without curb and gutter could be repaved. The letter asked the NCAC to coordinate its response with the Civic Federation. The NCAC policy committee chaired by Randy Swart met on Monday January 8 to consider its response and Jerry Auten attended. The result of the meeting was a draft letter from NCAC including suggested revisions to the proposed standards that represented a group consensus. This letter is to be considered by NCAC. The Civic Federation has already passed a resolution requesting flexibility on sidewalks, but could consider endorsing the NCAC letter or its

own resolution. Individual comments can be sent to the County Manager.

Banquet Speaker Selected

By Stan Karson, Executive Committee Member

We are pleased to announce that the Executive Committee has approved the selection of our 2007 annual ACCF banquet speaker, Maureen Bunyan, anchor of TV 7 WJLA news! The Banquet will be held Friday, March 30, 2007 at the Hyatt Arlington in Rosslyn. A superb repast is planned – make plans to attend! Ms. Bunyan's brief "bio":

Maureen Bunyan is a veteran television news broadcaster and a news anchor for ABC 7. Ms. Bunyan anchors the 6 p.m. and 11 p.m. weeknight newscasts.



Before joining ABC 7, Ms. Bunyan operated her own communications consulting business for three years. The firm provided public relations, public affairs and media relations services for businesses and non-profit organizations. She also served as Chief Correspondent for "Religion & Ethics Newsweekly," a PBS news magazine based in Washington, DC.

From 1973 to 1995, Ms. Bunyan was a lead news anchor of W*USA-9, the CBS affiliate in Washington, DC. She also reported on major local, national and international stories, traveling to Central and South America, the Caribbean, Asia and Africa. For five years she hosted the award-winning, weekly news magazine programs, "22:26 with Maureen Bunyan" and "Studio Nine."

In recognition of her significant contributions to broadcasting for over 30 years, Ms. Bunyan has been inducted into the "Hall of Fame" of the Washington Chapter of the Society of Professional Journalists, "The Silver Circle" of the National Academy of Television Arts and Sciences (NATAS) and the Broadcast Pioneers Club of Washington. She has been awarded seven local EMMYs, and the "Ted Yates Award," given by NATAS to Washington, DC news broadcasters who are leaders in the profession. She was named "Journalist of the Year" by the National Association of Black Journalists. She received the annual "Immigrant Achievement Award" from the American Immigration Law Foundation in 2002.

Named a "Washingtonian of the Year" in 1992, Ms. Bunyan has an extensive record of service to the community. She is a founder and board member of the International Women's Media Foundation, which serves women in the media in 100 countries. She is a founder of the National Association of Black Journalists. She also serves on the National Advisory Board of the Casey Journalism Center on Children & Families, the Girl Scout Council of the Nation's Capital Women's Advisory Board, the Advisory Committee of Women in Film & Video and is a board member of Women of Washington.

Ms. Bunyan attended the University of Wisconsin-Milwaukee, Columbia University School of Journalism and holds a Master's Degree from Harvard University Graduate School of Education.

She was born in Aruba and grew up in Southeastern Wisconsin. She is of Guyanese descent.