The Newsletter of the Arlington County Civic Federation

June 2007

ACCF General Meeting Notice

NORMAL START TIME Tuesday, June 5, 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 (May 1, 2007)
- 4. Treasurer's Report
- 5. Officer/Excom Elections (See Page 1)
- 6. Committee Announcements (upcoming meetings)
- 7. 7:50 8:50 pm Environmental Committee Program (See Page 1)
 - Climate Changes (20 Min)
 - Arlington Environmental Initiatives (20 min)
 - Environmental Benefit of Trees (5 min)
 - Discussion (15 min)
- 8. **8:50 9:20 pm -** AIRE Resolution (*See Page2*)
- 9. 9:20 9:30 pm New Business & Announcements
- 10. Adjournment

Nominating Committee Slate

At the June meeting we hold elections for the 2007/2008 ACCF Officers and Executive Committee Members. The nominating committee has selected the following slate of officers and Executive committee members:

President	Larry Mayer
	Frances Finta
Secretary	Sharon Rogers
Treasurer	Eileen Williams
Executive Committe	e Members
	Jerry Auten
	Frank Emerson
	Larry Finch
	Stan Karson
	Jackie Snelling

Candidate nominations can be made by any delegate or alternate during this portion of the meeting.

Environmental Committee Program

The June 5th general meeting will feature presentations on several environmental topics. A National Science Foundation researcher will review what scientists know -- and don't know -- about climate change. The balance of the program will focus on local activities.

The County's Energy Manager will describe the **Arlington Initiative to Reduce Emissions** (AIRE), which includes a range of environmental activities. Examples of topics to be presented:

- Reducing energy use at County facilities by investing in energy efficiency;
- Increasing the County's use of energy from alternative sources;
- Promoting the use of fuel-efficient hybrid cars;
- Providing a network of bike paths to encourage use of bicycles as an alternative to driving;
- Suggesting steps residents can take to make their homes more healthful and energy efficient.

A County environmental planner will describe Arlington's **green building program**, which is designed to lower the environmental impact of buildings through reduced energy use, reduced air pollution, better stormwater management, and other measures. In urban areas such as Arlington, buildings account for a significant part of overall energy use. An example of a step that is easy to take is replacing incandescent lights in public buildings with energy-saving compact fluorescent lights.

Attendees will hear about **LEED certification**, which stands for Leadership in Energy and Environmental Design. The Langston-Brown Community Center was the first public building in Virginia to be awarded Silver LEED certification. The County now has six LEED-certified buildings and will require that major new public buildings achieve LEED certification. In addition, the County offers bonus density incentives for developers who build to LEED certification.

The last presentation will be a brief review of the **environmental benefits of trees** and why preserving mature trees is particularly important. Following this presentation, there will be an opportunity to ask the speakers about any topics covered in their presentations.



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September Meeting: Tuesday, September 4, 2007

The Major Topic: Candidates Night

September News deadline: August 10, 2007

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 May 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 Rich Samp APS BAC Term
- Possible Summer Programs The Executive Committee continued discussion of summer program "opportunities" to be determined by new Officers selected in June. You should expect a July Program for all Committee Chairs. Standby for Email meeting notification!
- Committee Reports The Excom reaffirmed the "call" to all Committee Chairs (and, any Delegate or Alternate who represents the Federation at any Arlington or other Jurisdiction Group, Committee, Commission, etc) for an annual report. These short annual reports should be available on the ACCF Website. The written reports will be in lieu of former June meeting verbal presentations.

AIRE Resolution

Delegates will consider a **draft resolution** that would support the AIRE campaign but recommend doing more to promote tree preservation and planting. A first draft of the resolution was introduced at the general meeting on May 1st, and the Environmental Affairs Committee will prepare a revised draft prior to the June 5th meeting.

Help Wanted – Open Invitation

We are still looking for a new Public Services Committee Chair. Given the overwhelming response from last months request (i.e. none) this request is being repeated. There are always other positions that can open at any time. If you have any particular interest – Specifically in the Public Services Committee role or any other interest, keep us (Committee Chairs advised) - (See Web site for Contact Information).

R & E Arlington Budget Brief

By Revenues and Expenditures Committee

The FY08 budget has now been adopted by the County, with General Funds at \$888.5 million, an increase of \$56.8 million or 6.8% over the FY 2007 Revised Budget; and \$331.3 million for the School Transfer, a \$19.9 million or 6.4% increase over the

FY 2007 revised budget. These increases, which are well in excess of inflation and population growth, are being funded by:

- A real estate tax rate of \$.818 per \$100 of assessed value, an average decrease of \$35 per household
- Decreasing personal property taxes for 'clean fuel' vehicles by increasing taxes on other vehicles
- A new Residential Utility Tax on gas and electricity usage
- Increasing Solid Waste Collection and Recycling Rates from \$260.36 to \$295.80, an increase of \$35.44 per year
- Increasing the Water/Sewer Rate from \$8.00 to \$9.20 per thousand gallons, estimated increased cost per household totals \$84 annually
- Increases in fees for use permits, sign permits, site plans, rezoning, variances, zoning compliance letters, and storm water management. Fees were also increased for a variety of Parks and Recreation programs and activities.

ACCF R & E will to continue to monitor and report on the County's fiscal policies.