Newsletter of the Arlington County Civic Federation

May 2011

Meeting Notice

Tuesday, May 3, 2011
7:30 p.m.
Hazel Conference Center
Virginia Hospital Center
1701 N. George Mason Drive
Arlington, VA 22205
www.civfed.org

Agenda

- 7:30 Call meeting to order
 Pledge of Allegiance
 Adopt agenda
 Officer reports
 Member delegate announcements
- 7:40 Planning and Zoning Committee informational program structured to capture Civic Federation member delegate input to the Arlington County Sign Ordinance revisions.
- 8:30 Environmental Affairs Committee informational program about the Arlington County Community Energy and Sustainability Task Force.
- 9:20 Unfinished Business:
 - Motion for resolution to endorse the report of the Community Energy and Sustainability Task Force
 - Motion for resolution about Preserving and Creating Affordable Housing

9:50 New Business

10:00 Adjourn

Content Summary

Sign Ordinance Program	2
Community Energy and Sustainability Task Force Program	2
Banquet Pictures and Awards	3
May 1st Civic Federation Planning and Zoning Committee Meeting	6
Police Department Ceremony May 11th	7

Executive Committee

Mark Antell, Chair mark@civfed.org Gary Barbee, Vice-Chair gary@civfed.org

The Executive Committee will meet on May 9th at 7:30 p.m. at 4805 Wilson Boulevard (Fire Department Station 2 in Ballston) to coordinate committee work, plan future meeting programs, and organize the June Civic Voice newsletter.

At the April 5th Civic Federation meeting member delegates adopted the Revenues and Expenditures Committee base budget and mid-year adjustment recommendations and adopted the Schools Committee base budget recommendation (www.civfed.org/reandschools2011.pdf). The separately considered Schools Committee planetarium recommendation was not adopted.

Mike Kerley as Civic Federation chair accepted an updated budget report where several words of the adopted report language were adjusted to be within the Civic Federation bylaws-defined object of promoting the welfare of Arlington.

Agenda Details

Sign Ordinance Update

Larry Mayer larrymayer@civfed.org
Martha Moore martha@civfed.org

The Civic Federation Planning and Zoning Committee will lead and informational program structured to capture Civic Federation member delegate input to the Arlington County Sign Ordinance revisions (http://tinyurl.com/SignOrdinancePlan). Several informal votes are expected to be taken during the program about questions about the Arlington County Sign Ordinance.

Community Energy and Sustainability Task Force

Larry Finch larryfinch@civfed.org

The Civic Federation Environmental Affairs Committee will lead an informational program about about the work of the Arlington County Community Energy and Sustainability Task Force (http://tinyurl.com/ Arlington-CES). The Task Force is recommending goals for a strategic plan to ensure Arlington's economic competitiveness and energy supply security while reinforcing the County's environmental commitment. The plan will call for sharp reductions in energy use in Arlington by the year 2050. After the informational program about this issue, member delegates will consider adoption of a motion for resolution that supports the Task Force's recommendations.

Committee News

Community Relations

Sharon Rogers sharon@civfed.org

Thank you Wayne Kubicki and the members of the Civic Federation Revenues and Expenditure Committee and Michael Beer and Cecelia Espenoza and the members of the Civic Federation Schools Committee for your work creating informative budget reports and leading the budget discussion at the April 5th Civic Federation meeting.

The Civic Federation bylaws define a jurisdictional responsibility that requires significant work and expertise on behalf of Civic Federation member delegates.

Bylaws Article VII - Committees:

- (xi) 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.
- (xii) 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.

Thank you Mr. Kubicki, Mr. Beer, and Ms. Espenoza for leading the thoughtful Civic Federation study of these matters.

Banquet & Awards Ceremony

Mileva Hartman <u>milevea@civfed.org</u> Peter Olivere <u>peterolivere@civfed.org</u>

The Civic Federation Banquet and Awards Ceremony was held April 8th at the Rosslyn Holiday Inn. Thanks to Eileen Williams, Anna Medlin and many others, it was a sellout event with many Arlington officials and civic leaders in attendance. The event was recognized in a Proclamation, presented by County Board Chairman Christopher Zimmerman, noting the 95th anniversary of the Arlington County Civic Federation. Honored guest speaker Paul Ferguson, Clerk of the Circuit Court, presented an informative perspective of the impact of partnerships of civic organizations and the Civic Federation. Several awards were presented and Wayne Kubicki was selected for the Civic Federation Order of Distinguished Meritorious Service for an outstanding contribution to Arlington County over an extended period of time and exemplifying the citizen activist as a positive element in community life. Further, Certificates of Appreciation were awarded in recognition of exceptional contributions during the past year.



Ed Demoney, President of the Friends of the Gulf Branch Nature Center, accepted a Certificate of Appreciation from Martha Moore for the Friends' work keeping the Nature Center open.



Daniel Hays, President of the Arlington Gay and Lesbian Alliance, accepted a Certificate of Appreciation from Martha Moore for AGLA's leadership and community service.



Jan Sacharko, Director of Development of the Arlington Street People's Assistance Network, accepted a Certificate of Appreciation from Martha Moore for ASPAN's service and leadership for homeless residents.



County Board Chairman Christopher Zimmerman delivered the Proclamation on the 95th Anniversary of the Arlington County Civic Federation.



Allen Muchnick (left), Columba Heights Civic Association, accepted a Certificate of Appreciation for his efforts in establishing people friendly transportation systems, in particular bicycling, from Mark Antell.



Paul Ferguson, Clerk of the Circuit Court and honored guest speaker, presented an informative perspective of the impact of civic partnership and Arlington's robust history of civic engagement.



Reid Goldstein (left) accepted a Certificate of Appreciation for establishing the "The Family Network," a community-wide service for school related activities, from Mark Antell.



Susan Bell (left), Arlington County Director, Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development, accepted a Certificate of Appreciation for her fair, open, and effective leadership and extensive efforts working with Arlington communities and organizations, from Martha Moore.



Wayne Kubicki (left) accepted membership in the Order of Distinguished Meritorious Service in recognition of his sustained exceptional service within the Civic Federation and a number of Arlington County citizen groups from Mark Antell.



Mike Kerley, Civic Federation president, accepted the Sun Gazette Cup from Sun Gazette Managing Editor Scott McCaffrey saying that the ceremony and award represented Arlington's night to shine and a time to recognize both how far our community has come and where we still want to go. He asked to always remember his gratitude and belief that the members of our inclusive, cooperative community, a community where every single person counts, make Arlington a special place to call home and that he was proud to accept the award and be part of the great Arlington family.



Mike Kerley, Roye Lowry and Civic Federation Vice President Terri Prell (left to right) enjoyed dinner after Mr. Lowry led the Invocation.

Environmental Affairs

Larry Finch larryfinch@civfed.org

The committee will lead an informational program at the May 3rd Civic Federation meeting about the work of the Arlington County Community Energy and Sustainability Task Force (http://tinyurl.com/ Arlington-CES). After the informational program the committee will report to member delegates on a motion for resolution introduced at the April 5th Civic Federation meeting. The motion for resolution would endorse the Task Force's report to the Arlington County Board. The Task Force report is not yet policy but establishes a vision and basis for detailed implementation plans and future policy development.

Housing

Kathryn Scruggs kathryn@civfed.org

The committee met on March 28th to discuss its upcoming report to member delegates on the motion for resolution for Preservation and Creation of Affordable Housing in Arlington. The motion came out of the committee. Member delegates will hear the motion for resolution and the report at the May 3rd Civic Federation meeting. The motion calls upon the Arlington County Board to take all measures possible to include all Arlington neighborhoods in the application of County policies and practices designed to preserve and create affordable housing.

Membership

Mileva Hartman mileva@civfed.org

Since new Civic Federation officers will be elected at the June 7th Civic Federation meeting, this is a good time to reflect on the Civic Federation's nature as a unique community institution. According to the Civic Federation's bylaws, the object is to promote Arlington's welfare. In this regard the Civic Federation is fair, balanced, and

direct on Arlington's core, community-wide questions.

Toward that end member delegates representing nearly all 82 Civic Federation member organizations have heard from 41 guest speakers since September 2010 including:

- 9 candidates running in the general election,
- State constitutional and bond referenda experts,
- Streets planning professional staff,
- 3 emergency preparedness commissioners,
- The director of the Arlington County Public Library System,
- A professional naturalist,
- The Arlington County Manager,
- The Superintendent of Arlington Public Schools,
- 3 policy experts on snow removal and winter storm safety,
- 5 Arlington state legislators,
- 5 Arlington County Board Members, and
- 5 Members of the Arlington County School Board.

Nominating

Jim Pebley jim@civfed.org Terri Prell terri@civfed.org

Civic Federation member delegates Mike Kerley, Larry Mayer, Peter Owen, Jim Pebley, and Terri Prell were elected to serve on the Civic Federation Nominating Committee at the April 5th Civic Federation meeting. The committee will propose a slate of candidates for Civic Federation officer and Executive Committee positions. The election will be held at the June 7th Civic Federation meeting.

Planning and Zoning

Larry Mayer <u>larrymayer@civfed.org</u>
Martha Moore <u>martha@civfed.org</u>

The committee will lead an informational program at the May 3, 2011, Civic Federation meeting about the Arlington County sign ordinance and the plan to update it (http://tinyurl.com/SignOrdinancePlan).

The committee will meet on May 1st at 7:30 p.m. at 1733 N. Danville Street (Moore residence) to study the circumstances under which parking restrictions would be appropriately utilized on narrow neighborhood streets to support public safety and utility work.

At its May 1st meeting the committee will discuss its upcoming report on the motion for resolution about Community Benefits Information (www.civfed.org/rescommbene.pdf).

This motion was introduced at the February 1st Civic Federation meeting. At the March 1st Civic Federation meeting member delegates voted to postpone consideration of the motion until the June 7th Civic Federation meeting. The committee's report and the motion for resolution, will be heard by member delegates on June 7th.

Public Services

Sal D'Itri sal@civfed.org

Jackie Snelling jackie@civfred.org

Civic Federation officers and Public Services Committee members will participate in the Arlington County Police Department Peace Officers Memorial Ceremony which will be held on May 11th at 8:00 a.m. in the Courthouse Plaza. The Civic Federation will present a wreath to honor law enforcement officers who sacrificed their lives serving in Arlington.

Public Service Committee member Jackie Snelling serves as a commissioner with the Arlington County Emergency Preparedness Commission and will participate in the commission's hearing on May 10th at 7:00 p.m. in the Arlington County Board Room (2100 Clarendon Boulevard, Suite 300). The commission, which advises the Arlington County Board on emergency preparedness, is seeking input from Civic Federation member delegates on several questions:

- 1. What questions do you have about emergency preparedness?
- 2. Do you consider yourself better prepared for emergencies today than you were ten years ago?
- 3. How do you think Arlington can improve its emergency preparedness efforts?
- 4. Do you know how you can assist during an emergency?
- 5. How would you rate the handling of snowstorms and other disasters since September 11, 2001?

Special Events

Peter Olivere peterolivere@civfed.org

The committee will soon make a recommendation on the Civic Federation's Arlington County Fair participation level (the Fair will be August 10th to 14th). The Civic Federation has traditionally participated by investing approximately \$500 to lease a booth where Arlington residents may learn about the importance of participating with their Civic Federation member organization. Should member delegates determine that leasing the booth is a wise investment of Civic Federation funds, the committee will look for at least 20 Civic Federation member delegates to volunteer to work with Arlington residents at the booth. Please let Peter Olivere know your thoughts and ideas.

Unfinished Business

Two motions for resolution were introduced at the April 5th Civic Federation meeting and will be considered by member delegates at the May 3rd Civic Federation meeting:

- The motion supporting Preservation and Creation of Affordable Housing in Arlington, and
- 2. The motion on Endorsing the Arlington County Community Energy and Sustainability Task Force Report.

Member delegates will discuss and consider the motions after hearing committee reports on the matters. <u>Member delegate votes are anticpated after member delegate</u> discussion.

When member delegates hold the Civic Federation floor to discuss these matters, please be sure to say the name of the Civic Federation member organization that you represent.

The motion for resolution, as introduced by Kathryn Scruggs and referred to the Housing Committee, is listed below:

Whereas Arlington prides itself in its human diversity; and

Whereas the availability of affordable housing both encourages and maintains diversity,

It is therefore resolved that:

The Arlington County Civic Federation supports the general goal of maintaining and increasing the stock of affordable housing in our community. And,

In order to reverse the trend of significant loss of affordable units in Arlington, the Arlington County Civic Federation calls upon the County Board to take all measures possible to include all Arlington neighborhoods in the application of County policies and practices designed to preserve and create affordable housing.

The motion for resolution, as introduced by Larry Finch and referred to the Environmental Affairs Committee, is listed below:

Whereas, A Community Energy and Sustainability Task Force was appointed by the County Board in 2010; and

Whereas, the Task Force included representatives of government, business, non-profit organizations, and civic organizations; and

Whereas, on March 11, 2011, the Task Force unanimously approved a Report to the County Board; and

Whereas, strategies and recommendations in the Task Force Report are directed toward three goals: ensuring economic competitiveness, providing energy supply security, and protecting the environment; and

Whereas, the goals, recommendations, and strategies in the Task Force Report are not yet policy, but establish a vision and basis for detailed implementation plans and future policy development;

Now, therefore be it resolved that the Arlington County Civic Federation endorses the CES Task Force Report and urges the County Board to accept it.