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Arlington County Civic Federation

December 1995

80th Year as "The Civic Voice of Arlington "

Volume 80 , No. 4

Next Meeting: Tuesday, December 5, 7:30 p.m.

(note earlier starting time!)

Place: John T. Hazel Conference Center, Arlington Hospital
(1701 N. George Mason Dr.)

Program: Arlington County School Board and Superintendent
The Boathouse Project

Subject 1: Arlington Schools

Members of the County School Board and the School Superintendent will be on hand at our December meeting to present reports and to answer questions from delegates. The Federation Schools Committee, chaired by Roye Lowry, has requested the School Board members to discuss three major areas of concern : 1) academic achievement and English proficiency; 2) alternative schools and pilot projects, and 3) the Capital Improvement Program (CIP).

Copies of the specific questions that the Committee has requested the Board to cover will be available to the delegates at the meeting.

After the Board members' presentations (approximately 25 minutes), delegates will have an opportunity to ask additional questions.

(This segment of the program will end by 9 p.m.)

Subject 2: The Boathouse Project

The Federation's Parks and Recreation Committee, chaired by Robert Nester, will present an informational program and a proposed Resolution on the report of the County's Water-Based Recreation Facility Task Force. Representatives from the Task Force will provide a brief presentation on their report, and Chairman Nester will address his Committee's position on the report.

As reported in the Federation's November newsletter, the Task Force was appointed in 1993 to look at the feasibility of constructing a boathouse

(mainly as a home-base for the Arlington high school rowing teams) on the Virginia shoreline on a site adjacent to the GW Parkway opposite Roosevelt Island. The Task Force completed a draft report on the subject this past September, recommending a multi-use recreational boathouse facility of approximately 30,000 square feet to accommodate a variety of activities including, in addition to rowing programs, canoe and bicycle rentals, party room rental, and environmental education programs.

Please note: Copies of the Committee's proposed Resolution will be available in the lobby of the Conference Center beginning at 7 p.m. The Resolution has undergone some editorial changes since the November meeting, but its recommendations remain generally the same. *(Time allowance for this segment of the program: 1 hour.)*

Also on the Agenda: Delegates will elect members of the 1996 Awards Committee.

Officers of the Federation

President - Scott McGeary

Vice President - William F. Nolden, Jr.

Treasurer - John F. Nicholas, Jr.

Secretary - Tommye Morton

Executive Committee

Frances Finta, Chairman

Timothy Wise, Vice Chairman

Rohan Samaraweera, Sue Zajac,

Larry Zarog

November Meeting Report

At the Federation's November 14 meeting, delegates adopted the **1996 Legislative Package**, which contains our "wish list" of legislative action, primarily addressing state issues. Copies of the package have been sent to Arlington's representatives in the State Legislature, to the County Board, to Virginia's U.S. Senators and to our representatives in the U.S. House.

In other business at the November meeting, the annual **Auditor's Report** was adopted and delegates heard a brief report by Parks & Recreation Committee Chairman Robert Nester on the **boathouse proposal**.

In case of inclement weather...

Winter's here, so the ugly prospect looms that nasty weather could interfere with our meeting plans. On the day of a Federation meeting, if we're plagued with snow, sleet or freezing rain, delegates may phone **after 3 p.m.** one of the following numbers to hear the official word on cancellation: **522-1506** (Tommye Morton) or **528-2882** (Frances Finta). Both phones will have either a recorded message or a real live person on hand to tell you if you should venture out or stay home by the fire.

Items of interest...

* **Would your organization like to know more about Arlington's site plan process?** The Chairman and Vice Chairman of the Federation's Planning and Zoning Committee are willing to talk to groups who may have questions about the process. Chairman Bill Gearhart is a citizen-at-large member of the Site Plan Review Subcommittee and both he and Vice Chairman Nancy Iacomini are on the Zoning Ordinance Review

Committee. To invite them to talk with your group, contact Bill Gearhart at 522-2276.

* **We're proud to announce:** The County Board recently appointed **Ralph Leonberg** (ACTA delegate) to the Fire Prevention Code Board of Appeals and **Richard Lazurus** (Courtlands delegate) to the Local Emergency Planning Committee. Congratulations, gentlemen!

~ 'Twas Ever Thus ~

*(During our gala 80th Anniversary year, we're bringing you a few excerpts of interest from our archives. The following bit of "poetry" from a delegate of yore comes to us from the **December 1944 ACCF newsletter**:*

*"There's one in every neighborhood,
You know the type we mean,
The guy who's always beefin',
But to a meeting he's never been.
He's always causing trouble, And has a lot to say,
But it's never at a meeting; From them he stays away.
He pans the association, It never does what's right;
But when we hold a meeting, This bird is not in sight.
He's forever spreading rumors,
With him we must contend,
But when we hold a meeting
We think he should attend.
We admit his right to talk
Is only just and fair,
But the place is at the meeting,
So we urge him to be there."*

And to that, in 1995, we add: A-men!

January Meeting: January 2, 1996
Program: Report from the County Board

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Arlington
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