

ARLINGTON HEIGHTS CIVIC ASSOCIATION
Minutes for April 13, 2010 Membership Meeting (Adopted July 13, 2010)
Patrick Henry Elementary School Library, 7 p.m.

Attendees: Lisa Bongardt, Mary Crosby, Grady Foster, Eileen James, Peter Jones, Juliet Hiznay, John Kaneshige (resident and Arlington Fair Board), Ella Nargele, Janet Presswood, Jim Presswood, Norman Reich, Estelle Roth, Betty Siegel, Doug Snow, Kimberly Sumner, Stacey Whyte, Jay Wind, Patrick Hope (VA Delegate, 47th District), Scott Perry and Don Grinder of the Arlington Fair Board.

Stacey Whyte (President) called the meeting to order. Annual dues (\$20) were collected from those present who had not yet paid. A motion to adopt the January 2010 Annual Meeting Minutes was seconded and passed unanimously.

Treasurer's Report. Lisa Bongardt (Treasurer) reported family membership at 50 and business memberships at 2. The account balance is \$4,918 (this includes money set aside for park improvement). The membership goals for 2010 are 100 family memberships and 10 business memberships.

Guest – District 47 Delegate Patrick Hope. Stacey Whyte introduced Patrick Hope who reported on this year's Virginia General Assembly. Mr. Hope reported that it had been a difficult session due to budget issues, and reported total cuts in public education at \$253 million. Delegate Hope also reported that many services were saved that were at risk, including substance abuse treatment, and services for the homeless and intellectually disabled. Medicaid will suffer major cuts, with a 3% cut to providers in 2011 and an additional 4% cut to providers anticipated in 2012. A joint committee has been formed to examine ways to save costs for the most expensive chronic diseases.

Guests -- Fair Board Members Scott Perry and Don Grinder. Scott Perry thanked the neighborhood for helping to make last year's Fair a success. They reported that trash pickup will be coming back, and will be going a bit deeper into the neighborhood in response to feedback from the neighborhood. They reported that the length and hours of the fair will be the same as last year. New to the fair will be Bixby's Rainforest Experience with interactive shows five times per year – it functions somewhat like a zoo. The Pig Races will return. They plan to show an outdoor movie (Twilight II) on Friday at the tennis courts. Again Fort Myer will copartner for the opening ceremony, which will include the US Army Band and the Old Guard Fife and Drum. In response to feedback, they will be providing new food options, including some vegetarian options. Due to construction at Jefferson Middle School, there will be nothing in the Community Theatre. They also announced that the Fair Board will not be moving forward with the strategic plan until after this year's county fair. The County Board Member liaison to the Arlington County Fair Board is Walter Tejada. Don Grinder stated that the community and fair had developed a great working relationship over the years. As part of the evolution of the Fair, he announced a significant cutback in police support. He also announced

that the Fair Board will augment policing needs with off-duty police officers, and they are also requesting an additional Public Service Assistant to help with parking issues. Mr. Grinder recommends calling 703-558-2222 (non-emergency police line) to report a parking violation (such as blocked driveway). A member raised concerns about access to Ivy Street and traffic problems on Third Street South. Suggestions were made to place a sawhorse and cones at the intersection with South Irving to prevent parking near sidewalks, to enhance pedestrian safety.

Neighborhood Conservation Update. Juliet Hiznay announced that Phase I of Irving Street (0-100 block) sidewalk, curb and gutter, streetlight project had been funded by the County Board. The first priority proposed project is Phase II Irving Street/Arlington Blvd. An informational meeting will be held, time and place to be announced. Ms. Hiznay stated that the project will be voted on by the civic association, and will not require a homeowner final petition because the county is treating it as a beautification project. The second priority project is the consolidated streetlight project (9th Street, Ivy and Highland from 7th To Columbia Pike), which is still being petitioned. Juliet Hiznay reported that there is interest in the neighborhood in pursuing a project to replace the aging playground at Thomas Jefferson Park, and that this need could result in a reassessment of neighborhood priorities for funding through the Neighborhood Conservation Program.

Neighborhood Day in Arlington Heights will be on May 22 and will include a Fun Run from 11-12:30 – starting at Patrick Henry Elementary School. Also on site, the neighborhood will be hosting a blood drive for the American Red Cross from 8:30 a.m. to 12:30 p.m., which will provide a Blood Mobile. The BBQ will also be held that from 1-4, and finally a softball game (players 18 or over only) will be held from 4-6 p.m. with Alcova Heights. (The Penrose game will be on June 12 from 10-noon.) Stacey Whyte also announced that the Columbia Pike Artist Studio will be present inside the school from 1-4, and a scavenger hunt will be held to draw those at the Neighborhood Day celebration inside to see the displays. *Note that the county Neighborhood Day is May 15.

Announcements: Stacey Whyte announced the selection of Jefferson Middle School Principal Sharon Monde as Arlington Principal of the Year. International Night at Jefferson is being held on May 7th and the neighborhood is invited to come and thank County Board members for their efforts to replace the dust field. At Patrick Henry, the International Night/Silent Auction is being held on April 16, and the Henry Challenge on May 8 (a fun run). Executive Committee members have reached out to the Columbia Pike Artists Studio and hope to hold some joint events – including a Bagel and Coffee morning slated for sometime in September. The raffle drawing was generously sponsored by Kabob Inn, which donated a dinner for two

9:00 New Business: There was no new business and the meeting was adjourned.

Minutes prepared by Juliet Hiznay, Secretary