



Civic Federation News

*Official Publication of the Montgomery County Civic Federation
Serving the Public Interest Since 1925*

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SESSION 760

WWW.MONTGOMERYCIVIC.ORG

OCTOBER 2004

October Program: The Great Debate on Question C

By Cary Lamari, Immediate Past President

Our program on Monday, October 11 will be a debate on "Question C". The debate will be open to the public and widely advertised.

Councilmembers Phil Andrews (Dem. - District 3) and Steve Silverman (Dem. - at-large) have graciously agreed to debate the pros and cons of this ballot measure.

The Civic Federation successfully collected 15,149 petition signatures from registered voters in Montgomery County over the summer. This places a Charter Amendment on the ballot in November. We took this initiative at the recommendation of our Election Reform Committee. Its objective is to

eliminate the four at-large seats on the County Council and create nine single member districts with roughly equal numbers of constituents and voters. Having nine small, community-based districts will have a number of benefits to our civic and political life. Most important, the cost of running for a seat on the County Council will be more equal and much lower than is now the case: about half the cost of running for a current district seat and one ninth the cost of running for an at-large seat. This fact should encourage and enable more well-qualified citizens to run for public office and to mount successful campaigns. Incumbents who know and serve their constituents well should not feel threatened, but challengers who are able to develop strong, grass roots support from large numbers of their constituents should be empowered to compete in the political system on a more equal footing. More women and minorities should be able to successfully enter local political races and win those races by building broad, grass roots support even when not part of the "old boy" network and lacking the campaign financing provided by big money special interest groups. While these changes will not eliminate special interest money from elections, the undue influence of "big money" going to fund the campaigns for the at-large seats should be diminished and the long term interests of the county and its citizens given higher priority.

The Great Debate on Question C will be impartially moderated by our President, Dan Wilhelm, and conducted with rules agreed to by both councilmen.

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Please make sure you are able to attend this historical event. Help us get the word out to your family and friends all over the county. A well-informed electorate is fundamental to good government - the major mission of the Civic Federation.

Laura Van Tosh, October's Community Hero

by Wayne Goldstein, First Vice President

Laura Van Tosh, this month's Community Hero, has had a remarkable journey as an adult affected by mental illness. She has gone from having been a patient in a state psychiatric hospital to helping patients ready to leave such facilities to find housing and support services in the community. In between, she has become a recognized expert on the federal, state, and county level in a wide range of issues related to mental health, homelessness, and particularly the rights of consumers of mental health services to have a say in their treatment and in related public policy.

Laura is the founder and coordinator of the Mental Health Policy Roundtable, a national educational forum funded by a grant from the John D. and Catherine T. MacArthur Foundation. She is the author or co-author of numerous papers on mental health policy issues written for professional journals, federal agencies, advocacy organizations, and private health care corporations. She has served as a consultant to a number of federal agencies and projects and has been the winner of many awards, most recently recognized by the Washington Psychiatric Society as 2003 Advocate of the Year. Laura was part of the panel discussion on mental health issues sponsored by MCCF in October 2000, and she returns four years later to receive our wholehearted endorsement as a genuine community hero.

President's Message

by Dan Wilhelm

As required by law, a separate group, "Vote YES on C for Better Government", has been formed to educate the public on November's ballot Question C. Question C will change the way our nine council members are elected. Today, five are elected by district and four are elected at-large or county-wide. Because of the outrageously high cost of running a county-wide campaign, the preponderance of money funding the successful at-large races now comes from developers and business interests rather than individual voters. The result is that the at-large councilmembers now pay much more attention to developers than to local citizens. I had one councilmember admit this to me. By changing to nine single member districts (such districts are the norm in most large, high population jurisdictions and our present set-up is the exception) each candidate for the County Council will have to reach a constituency of about 110,000 residents. With small districts, less money will have to be raised to run a successful campaign. Personal contact with voters and strong grassroots work by supporters will count for more. This should both encourage more good citizens to run for office and increase the likelihood that minorities and women will mount successful campaigns. Information about this new group, their activities, and why you should vote for Question C, is available at their web site www.VoteYesonC.org.

Two very important public hearings, on MPDUs and on accessory apartments, were held in late September. It is not too late for you to write the council about them. Since the legislation on both issues has the potential to negatively affect almost all residents of the county, I urge you to write the council now.

There are nine pieces of legislation on MPDUs. MCCF supports two major changes being proposed to provide more affordable housing: (1) eliminate the

ability of developers to avoid building MPDUs (buy out) by paying a nominal fee and (2) extend the control period from 10 to 99 years. The first measure will result in additional MPDUs being built and the second will insure all that MPDUs remain available to those with moderate income for a long period of time.

MCCF strongly opposes all the MPDU related zoning text amendments (ZTAs) and single subdivision regulation (SRA). ZTA 03-09 will expand the MPDU requirement to the one and two acre zones (RE-1 and RE-2) exacerbating sprawl. The County's General Plan stipulates that "affordable housing" should be close to public transportation. Public transportation in these areas is either not available at all or, if it is available, it runs for only a few hours a day.

The thrust of the other MPDU ZTAs and SRA is to waive master plan or zoning requirements in order to achieve the maximum number of MPDUs, which requires that the maximum building density must also be approved. Today, it is rare for a development to be built to the maximum building density for any number of reasons - including flood plains, streams, and compatibility with existing neighborhoods and adjacent properties. The ZTAs would depend upon the zone waiver requirements to satisfy master plan restrictions in terms of building height; providing green space, open space, or provision of amenities (e.g., play grounds, walkways, benches); or change the type of building. ZTA 04-14 is probably the most damaging since it would allow the developer to build all townhouses in the quarter- and half-acre zones (R-90 and R-200) rather than building primarily detached houses with a few townhouses for the MPDUs. The increased density will also add to school crowding, highway congestion, deteriorating air quality, and more water pollution. .

ZTA 04-10 would allow accessory apartments by right rather than requiring the applicant to obtain a special exception. The owner would be required to

obtain a permit from the Department of Housing and Community Development (DHCA). In terms of protecting existing communities and from a citizen's point of view, this is like asking the fox to watch the hen house. The special exception process is the only effective way for citizens to have a voice in the approval process.

ZTA 04-10 would also allow an accessory apartment to be created as soon as a new owner moves into the house. This will effectively allow developers to build accessory apartments into new homes. But as such accessory apartment would not be counted as part of the density, in the extreme it could double the density, and result in more crowded schools, more congested roads, and further degradation of the environment. The developer would be able to sell each house for a higher price since each unit would effectively be a duplex. This negates the thrust to provide affordable housing. In addition, the same would apply to the reselling of older houses since new owners could create an accessory apartment immediately rather than needing to wait a year.

The MPDU ZTAs are sponsored by the "end gridlock" slate on the council: Mike Knapp and the four at-large councilmembers. If passed, this legislation will enrich the developers who own the land but produce few MPDUs. The General Plan for Development and our Master Plans will have been subverted. In the long run, the result will be higher overall building densities and a lasting negative impact upon the residents, the environment, and our quality of life.

More information about the MPDU and accessory apartment legislation is available on our web site: www.montgomerycivic.org

I urge you to write the council on both the MPDU and accessory apartment legislation now. It is not too late to stop these potentially destructive measures. These proposals are a primary example of why you should "Vote Yes on C" and work to make sure that

all members of your organizations, friends and neighbors do the same. Email would be a good way to do this. Let's create an email "chain letter" to get the word out.

PROPOSED AMENDMENTS TO THE BYLAWS

By Peggy Dennis, Bylaws Committee Chair

At the October Regular Meeting, delegates will vote on the proposed changes to the bylaws published in the September Newsletter and discussed at the September Regular Meeting. At that time amendments to the wording of the description of the new Public Safety Committee were made. This new section will now read:

9. Public Safety Committee. This committee shall monitor the mission, goals, policies, and practices of public sector and private sector agencies, institutions, and organizations providing public safety and related services, including the arenas of police, fire and rescue, corrections, public safety-related judiciary, homeland security, public health, and to build coalitions with other community groups in furtherance of the mission of the MCCF Public Safety Committee.

The proposed changes to the Annual Achievement Awards follow. Existing language to be deleted is shown below encased in [square brackets]. New language is shown in **bold type**.

2. Awards Committee. An Awards Committee to make recommendations for recipients shall be established [no later than the February Executive Committee meeting] **during the autumn. The President shall call for volunteers to serve on the Awards Committee at the September meeting.** Members shall be nominated by the President and confirmed by the Executive Committee **at the November Executive Committee Meeting.** Notice

of the Awards Committee along with a call for suggestions will be published in the **December Newsletter. Meetings should commence no later than January.**

3. Selection of Recipients. Recipients of the Awards shall be determined by the Executive Committee at [its May] **the March** meeting, based upon but not limited to recommendations of the Awards Committee. Only members of the Executive Committee may be present during the selection process, and any member of the Executive Committee recommended for any award by the Awards Committee may not participate in the process.

4. Follow-up Responsibilities. After the March Executive Committee meeting, the Awards Committee shall notify award recipients of their selection and the time and place of the presentation. The committee shall prepare the awards and necessary statements to be used at the presentation and take responsibility for publicizing the awards through the Federation Newsletter and other channels.

IN MEMORY OF JOHN BREIER

We note the passing on November 10, 2003 of John Breier, longtime civic activist and member of the Civic Federation. An environmental activist, John was a leader in starting up the County's voluntary bottle and can recycling program, which has led to the mandatory recycling program that we now take for granted. We will miss his commitment to the Civic Federation and the County.

County Council to Hold
**PUBLIC HEARING ON BILL 32-04
AMBULANCE TRANSPORT FEES**
Tuesday, October 19, 2004
7 p.m. Stella Werner Office Building (Cob)
by Marcine D. Goodloe, Public Safety
Committee

County Executive Douglas M. Duncan has presented his plan for the implementation of ambulance user fees for Montgomery County (Council Bill 32-04). And prior to the County Council's October 19 Public Hearing on this matter, the County Executive has requested a \$4,270,560 advance on future collections.

While there is universal agreement that funds are desperately needed to repair, maintain and replace emergency fire apparatus and ambulances, are ambulance transport fees the most equitable and cost-effective way to go? What other proposals have been considered to raise this money? Might it not be more equitable to simply raise the special Fire Tax a few pennies and spread the apparatus repair and replacements costs consistently across the County, thereby eliminating the high cost of outside contractors and new administrative costs associated with implementing and maintaining of the proposed plan? Has anyone calculated how many fire trucks and ambulances might be purchased or repaired using the funds that will go toward these new administrative costs?

As the debate on this subject continues, take a moment to consider some of the concerns raised by opponents at last year's attempt to institute these transport fees:

- Health insurance companies that agree to cover such fees (\$350) will pass the costs on to the insured in higher premiums. Some insurance policies will not cover EMS transport. And some insurance companies

and Medicare may refuse to pay these fees if they determine the call was not an actual emergency. Those that have no insurance, generally the unemployed or low income residents, may be forced to pay out of their pockets if the identification program fails.

- A major portion of the new funds raised will not be used for their intended purpose, but rather toward administrative costs such as outside billing contractors and new administrative personnel.
- A percentage of the funds collected will be doled out on an annual basis to the local fire and rescue departments depending on a response formula, expected to be approximately 11%. This calculation will be another involved process and will likely need additional administrative oversight and expense.
- Hospitals may cease replenishing emergency supplies to ambulances crews since they will now be charging independently. This will further increase operating costs.
- It is expected that county residents will discontinue contributing generously to their local volunteer fire and rescue departments, since they will henceforth be charged a high fee if they need to use what used to be a public service.
- It is still feared that those in need will not call for help if they know they will be charged a fee.

Individuals are urged to attend the public hearing on Bill 32-04, scheduled for October 19 in the Council Office Building, and express concerns about the plan. Above all, we must treat everyone who lives and works in Montgomery County in a fair and equitable manner, while continuing to provide the same

outstanding fire, rescue and emergency medical service we presently enjoy, at the best and most reasonable cost.

MCCF Education Committee to Host Board of Education Candidates Forum By Mark R. Adelman, Education Committee Chairman

The Education Committee of the Montgomery County Civic Federation invites you to a Public Forum of the Candidates for the County Board of Education (BoE). Six candidates, running for three BoE seats will respond to written questions posed by the public. The Forum will be held on Thursday, October 14, from 7:30 PM until 9:00 PM in the Grand Courtroom (2nd floor) of the Red Brick Courthouse (29 Courthouse Square) in Rockville. Ample parking is available nearby at the County Council Office Building (free) and, for a modest charge, at the gated lot adjacent to the nearby Regal Rockville movie theater. Come early (7:00 PM) to see the magnificent Grand Courtroom and chat informally with the candidates, prior to the start of the forum.

This election cycle will help determine the future of the Montgomery County Public School system. We urge you to make sure that your civic association is represented at this forum and that, after listening to, and questioning the candidates, you can advise the memberships you represent as to which candidates deserve their votes in the upcoming election.

DUES

MCCF bylaws require us to publish a list of member organizations that have not yet paid their dues for the current fiscal year, July 1, 2004 thru June 30, 2005. The following list shows those organizations that have not paid their dues as of September 25. If you believe your

group has paid, please contact Dan Wilhelm (301-384-2698). If you have not paid, please send your dues and completed renewal form (available on our website) to Luella Mast. Please note that we realize that members usually have their payments in by January 1, but that we would like to receive payment as soon as possible to eliminate the extra work of monitoring receipts.

Organizations that have not paid their dues by January 1 will be dropped from our membership rolls, will no longer receive the newsletter, and will not be permitted to vote until such time as dues are received. We want all organizations to be part of MCCF and to help us work toward the civic and social betterment of the County.

Aspen Hill Civic Association
Bannockburn Civic Association
Bradley Boulevard Citizen Association
Brooke Manor Estates HOA
Cabin John Citizens Association
Carderock Springs Citizens Association, Inc.
Chevy Chase West Neighborhood Association
Congressional Forest Community Association
Fox Hills West Citizens Association
Glen Echo Heights Citizens Association
Hillandale Citizens Association
Kemp Mill Civic Association
Kenwood Park Citizens Association, Inc.
Layhill Alliance, The
Layhill South Citizens Association
Manor Lake Civic Association
Maplewood Citizens Association, Inc.
Norbeck Citizens Association
North Hills of Sligo Civic Association
North Potomac Citizens Association
Northwood-Four Corners Civic Association
Old Farm Civic Association
Olney Coalition
Parkview Citizens Association
Riverhill HOA
Sandy Spring Civic Association
Seven Oaks-Evanswood Citizens Association
Snowdens Mill Homeowners Assoc
South Tuckerman-Inverness Citizens Association
The Preserves @ Smalls Nursery HOA

Tulip Hill Citizens Association
Upper Rock Creek Coalition
Upper Sligo Civic Association
Warfield Lane Preservation Committee
Wheaton Regional Park Neighborhood Association
Wildwood Manor Citizens Association
Williamsburg Village Civic Association
Willows and Neighbors Citizens Association
Woodside Park Civic Association Inc.
Tilden Woods Citizens Association

2004-2005 MCCF Federation Meetings

MCCF federation meetings are held on the 2nd Monday of the month starting at 7:45 PM in the Council Office Building first floor auditorium. Meetings will be on:

October 11
November 8
December 13
January 10
February 14
March 14
April 11
May 9
June 13

2004-2005 MCCF Executive Committee meetings

The MCCF Executive Committee are normally (except for the December meeting) held on the second Thursday after the Federation meeting, in the Rockville Red Brick Courthouse starting at 7:45 PM. All are welcome to attend. Meeting dates for the 2004-05 program year are:

October 21
November 18
December 16
January 20
February 24
March 24
April 21
May 19
June 23

Executive Committee Minutes: September 22, 2004

By Lyle Schofield, Corresponding Secretary

Attending: Wilhelm, Lamari, Warnock, Schofield, Mast, Humphrey, Snee, Wolff, Goldstein, Dennis

Call to order 7:45 PM

Corrections: Executive committee minutes for June 24th. (last paragraph, 4th line down). Minutes report that allocating 3 hours for delegates meeting was not discussed prior. However, it was discussed in the previous executive committee meeting.

Minutes approved otherwise.

Treasurer's report: Revised report on receipts handed out, and report for June 30th and Sept 30th. Name of awards meeting changed to reflect change in purpose. Cost of printing the newsletter will be closer to \$1800 or \$1900 and not \$1500 as budgeted. However, mailing costs are expected to be less offsetting this cost. Decided to not amend the budget. Discussed donation of \$150 from Neighbors for a Better Montgomery.

Jim Humphrey asked that costs be sent to district VPs. Dan pointed out that this information is in the database; however the single page report is easier to handle. Some discussion of database and sorting.

Membership. List of groups not paid should be published in October Newsletter. Charles mentioned we should place a disclaimer in the list that typically most groups do pay, but late, and we would appreciate payment sooner. A mailing that went out with attachments for membership in June worked well in generating payments.

Community Hero. Wayne is writing up piece on Laura van Tosh for October newsletter. Ideas for November? Luella thinks those that worked so hard on the petition drive should be recognized. Some feel this looks too much like giving the award to ourselves. Other suggestions for community hero will be welcomed.

December Meeting: Suggestion to hold regular meeting on 13th, and the ExComm meeting on 16th so Newsletter production will not occur during holidays. Discussion about having a regular meeting in May. Banquet & awards reception will be May 6th. Regular meeting date would be Monday May 9th, making this Banquet Friday and meeting Monday night. This can be decided later, but need to give notice on the banquet room or we lose deposit. Recommendation is to flip deposit for room to May and finalize regular meeting date (or not) later.

Vote-Yes-on-C: (8:12 PM) Charles discussed printings, and recommended "tri-fold" format because it makes a compact handout with a lot of room for printing. Need to get some kind of printing in place. Precinct meetings are coming up and we need to encourage debate with these groups. Some groups have come out against, some based on old research from 1987 or older, and often individuals do not agree with group leadership. However, a lot of groups are in favor of the question. Opposition has started printing signs. General population seems positive to the effort, but a number of entrenched groups are not in favor because of power erosion.

Conversation on arguments for and against the question. Opinion was that MCCF shouldn't spend too much time on this - move issues to the specific Yes on C group - as not all MCCF members are in favor of position.

Committee for Montgomery: Cary has represented us in the past year as president of MCCF. Reviewed motion that designated president and/or his designee should be representative (see newsletter from May 2003, page 4, top right). By-Laws of CFM says term is for 2 years and president is only designee. Cary would like to remain as CFM designee for continuity. Expectation was terms were staggered around MCCF cycles, so it makes sense to keep Cary in place to complete some initiatives with this group. Some suggested that maybe the term should be staggered - 6 months or something. Some strong feelings expressed, one way or the other, some were neutral. CFM committees are meeting now. October meeting will probably set their agenda for the year. Motion to stagger representation through June of

year, then new president is informed to CFM to make the change. Motion passed 6-1-1. Cary will forward minutes to Dan as received.

Bylaws Changes: Deferred until later.

Housing: Zoning MPDU amendments activity is happening in rural areas, some of MCCF blind spot is that there is poor representation from agricultural preserve. Transferable Development Rights are being picked up by farmers because they need the income to keep afloat. County is considering selling TDRs (intention was never to sell them). Potential to seriously devalue the TDRs as they exist now, causing financial hardship to farmers. Dan is testifying on MPDUs during hearings. Wayne will testify on accessory apartments because Dan will be out of the area. Goal of TDR program was to zone property so it couldn't be developed by master plan changes. But when master plans are redone, density will get converted to a TDR category. History has been that at last minute placed TDRs over changing the intention to the master plan.

Jim is spending a lot of time with environmental groups and council members to discuss the housing topics. Housing committee is working very hard to get a coalition together. Post is paying attention to MPDU legislation, we'll see if this gets in the paper.

Education: Candidates forum coming up.

Environmental: Bikeways plan, function is to introduce state and county policies in to promote non-residential use of bicycles. Implication is that bikers win on these 200 trails if there are any conflicts. Rationale is kind of silly - statement is 21% of trips are commuter related so they'll get some of them on to bikes. Four big policy themes, some of which get into enforcement Hearing next Tuesday on topic. Probably should have a program on this to get perspective on the topic, hear from both sides. Others felt a forum might be too late since there are decisions coming up. Concerns about political issues around this topic, "enforcement" issues. Discussion of environmental impact.

Utilities: WSSC discussion. This is becoming a larger

issue. Recent news of sewage into local streams. Cary suggests that committee looks into this topic - should be some kind of report. This requires some level of effort. Complicated issue because of cross jurisdiction issues.

Transportation: Norbeck road widening project was supposed to be a local road with no relationship to ICC. Letter to focus group indicates Norbeck widening is on hold until ICC is done. This is probably incorrect on a number of issues. Motion to send letter to be drafted. Unanimously supported.

Bylaws: Adding public safety committee, changes published in newsletter, awards committee changes to be published. Nothing else new at this time.

Programs: Art Wallenstein scheduled for October. Luella thinks Oct. program should focus on ballot questions. Concerns about tying ballot Question C into program with other two ballot questions. Proposal made that October program be a debate between two County Councilmen just on Question C. Much discussion on formats and venues. Motion for program to be a debate on question C passes 6-2-0. Cary to make calls needed to organize debate.

Proposal for November program: get state delegates to discuss legislative issues for upcoming year. Passed. Future program proposed on state level medical malpractice issues. Lots of interest in topic, but December may be tough time to get legislators to participate. Peggy Dennis to discuss with Marilyn Goldwater.

Sentinel Articles: Transportation or buses for next week? Need topics for upcoming weeks.

Newsletters Assignments: Cary & Fernando on Debate on C ; Wayne on community hero; Dan's President's message; Dan's list of members needing to pay dues; Peggy on bylaws amendments
Meeting adjourned at 10:01 PM EST

Regular Meeting Minutes: September 13, 2004

by Richard Zierdt, Recording Secretary

MCCF President Dan Wilhelm calls the meeting to order at 7:45 pm.

Minutes are initially taken by Arnie Gordon.

Announcements: Peggy Dennis: "Yes on C" signs and info sheets are available. Deborah Vollmer: Voting Electronic at Cedar Lane Unitarian Universalist Church, October 3, 10:15 am and 12 noon with movie, "Invisible Ballots". Mark Adelman: Board of Education Forum on Thursday, Red Brick Courthouse. Jim Humphrey: County Council Town Hall Meeting, Wednesday, September 29, 7:30 PM on Montgomery Mall expansion. Jim Snee: Muncaster Road closing for 9 months.

MCCF secretary arrives approximately 8:00 pm. Minutes of June 14, 2004 are accepted as amended as follows: Jack Murphy helped present the Gazette Award. He did not receive it.

Community Hero Award: Montgomery County Victims Advisory Board. Naja Kabile accepts the award. Volunteers manage the crisis line 24x7, about 145 serious calls, many more are just informational.

Housing Bills. Jim Humphrey makes a series of motions involving housing and MPDUs.

Support Bill 27-03 which would end the option for developers to buyout of building the required MPDUs in their projects. Motion to support bill 27-03 passes 25-0-2.

Support most of bill 25-04, which reflects the recommendations by Council staff. Supporters feel that MPDUs are going to be particularly needed as build-out in the County occurs. Motion to support bill 25-04 passes 24-0-7.

Oppose Bill 24-04. Oppose because it does not include enough of recommendations made by council staff. It does not require more MPDUs than are currently required by law. Motion to oppose Bill 24-04 passes 21-2-5.

Oppose ZTA 03-09. Because it would authorize MPDUs in large, rural-lot zones. Motion to oppose ZTA 03-09 passes 23-0-6.

Oppose ZTA 04-11. Would reduce the percentage of required green space from 45% to 20%. Motion to oppose ZTA 04-11 passes 28-1-2.

Oppose ZTA 04-12. Would reduce open and public amenity space requirements. Motion to oppose ZTA 04-12 passes 29-2-0.

Oppose ZTA 04-13. Would allow developers to build CBD, RMX, and Planned Development to build to maximum height allowed regardless of master plan recommendations. Motion to oppose ZTA 04-13 passes 29-0-1.

Oppose ZTA 04-14. Would increase the maximum allowable percentage of attached units to 100% (from 25% or 50%) in R-90 through R-200 zones. Motion to oppose ZTA 04-14 passes 28-0-2.

Oppose Subdivision Regulation Amendment 04-01. Would eliminate the requirement that the Planning Board find a project's preliminary plan in conformance with the applicable master plan. Motion to oppose OSRA 04-01 passes 30-0-0.

Accessory Apartments. Move to oppose ZTA 04-10, which would remove the current Board of Appeals process in exchange for requirements that are believed to be too subjective. Jim moves approval of the five recommendations of the housing committee listed in italics on page 5. Motion to oppose bill ZTA 04-10 passes 23-1-4.

MCCF president moves acceptance of his recommendations of appointed officials, Standing Committees, and Special Committees. Seconded. Passes unanimously.

Budget. Luella Mast distributes two handouts: a treasurer's report ending June 30, 2004, and a revised proposed budget for 2004-05. Passes 21-0-1.

Luella Mast. Announces League of Women Voters Brown bag dinner Mon., September 27.

Bylaws Changes. Peggy Dennis on behalf of the Bylaws Committee. Proposed changes were published in the

September, 2004 Newsletter, page 7. Establishment of Public Safety standing committee is recommended. Passes 18-0-5. Discussion ensues as to the wording of its duties listed under "Duties of Standing Committees." An amendment passes to delete the words "but not limited to" and another amendment to delete "whatever other areas the Committee identifies as pertinent" passes 15-4-0. Final motion to amend wording then passes unanimously.

Peggy moves the recommendations of the Bylaws Committee regarding the Awards Committee. Some feel that the bylaws are too specific and that dates should be flexible and left up to the officers; others feel specificity gives the organization guidance. Motion passes 8-7-3, with the president voting yea. Wording on Responsibilities of the Awards Committee: Passes 13-6-3.

Peggy describes the idea of moving the Annual Reception for Public Officials from December to May and combining it with Annual Awards presentation. Cary Lamari moves to keep the current system for the reception of elected officials. Motion fails 4-13-0.

Proposals dealing with WSSC. Chuck Lapinski. Chuck will write a letter to be reviewed by the MCCF ExComm. Dick Kauffinger moves to authorize the ExComm to make recommendations to our legislators related to WSSC commission, including the rules that prevent Prince Georges County Council from dismissing its commissioners. Passes 13-0-4.

Adjournment. Meeting is adjourned at 10:20 pm.

Executive Committee

Position	Name	Home Phone	Office Phone	Email
		Elected		
President	Dan Wilhelm	301-384-2698	703-883-6847	djwilhelm@erols.com
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Dist. 4 V.P.	Arnold Gordon	301-570-0481	same	nmcaprexy@aol.com
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Rec. Secretary	Richard Zierdt	301-881-0283	703-464-1617	richard.zierdt@asg.com
Corres. Sec	Lyle Schofield	301-929-7624	301-929-7624	lyle@norbeck.org
		Past-President		
	Cary Lamari	301-924-2746	301-924-2558	carylamari@yahoo.com
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		Standing Committees		
Education	Mark Adelman	301-942-6893	301-295-3208	adelman3@erols.com
Environment	John Warnock	301-656-9164		xnock@erols.com
Legislation	George Sauer	301-762-7260	same	musicwilma@earthlink.com
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Transportation	<i>Vacant</i>			
		Special Committees		
Bylaws	Peggy Dennis	301-983-9738	same	hotyakker@comcast.net
Database	Dan Wilhelm	301-384-2698	703-883-6847	djwilhelm@erols.com
Housing	Sarah Gilligan	301-564-4373	same	sarahgil@sysnet.net
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Historical Preservation	Wayne Goldstein	301-942-8079		waynemgoldstein@yahoo.com

Federation Meeting

Monday, October 11, 2004
7:45 3rd Floor Auditorium
County Council Office Building.
Rockville, MD

Agenda

7:45 Call to Order
7:46 Community Hero Award
7:56 Announcements
8:00 Ballot Question C Debate
9:30 Adoption of Business Meeting Agenda
9:35 Approval of Minutes
9:30 Vote on bylaws amendments
9:35 Old Business
9:40 New Business
10:00 Adjourn

The **Montgomery County Civic Federation** is a county-wide nonprofit educational and advocacy organization. It was founded in 1925 to serve the public interest. Its monthly Delegates meetings are open to the public and are held on the second Monday of each month (except for holidays, July, August and December) at 7:45 p.m. in the First Floor Auditorium, County Office Building, Rockville, MD.

The **Civic Federation News** is published monthly. It is mailed to Delegates; associate members; news media, and local, state, and federal officials. Permission is granted to reprint any article provided proper credit is given to the "**Civic Federation News of the Montgomery County Civic Federation.**"

Submit contributions for the next issue by: **Midnight, Sunday October 24.** Prepare submission as an MS Word, Word Perfect or text-only document, **attach** it to e-mail, and send it to hotyakker@comcast.net. Please send all address corrections to Dan Wilhelm, 904 Cannon Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904, 301-384-2698, or djwilhelm@erols.com.

NEXT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, October 21, 2004, 7:45 p.m.

RED BRICK COURTHOUSE

29 Courthouse Square, Rockville

(Note: there is free parking in front of the courthouse.)

MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

DAN WILHELM, DATABASE MANAGER

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