



# Civic Federation News

Official Publication of the  
Montgomery County Civic  
Federation

January 2011

Serving the Public Interest since 1925

[www.montgomerycivic.org](http://www.montgomerycivic.org)

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## January Program: Achieving a Structurally Balanced Budget in Montgomery County By Peggy Dennis, President

The federal government is studying the recent report made by the National Commission on Fiscal Responsibility and Reform (Erskine Bowles and Alan Simpson) and a second report authored by Alice Rivlin (and others) both of which suggest a number of strategies or restraining the growth of our federal budget deficit and the national debt. Our program on Monday, January 10 will be presented by Karen Orlansky, Director of the County Council's Office of Legislative Oversight (OLO) and will focus on the same problem and possible solutions at the County level. This past May, the OLO was tasked by the Council with undertaking a detailed analysis of the County's structural budget deficit and suggest recommendations for checking and controlling the "drivers" of the deficit. The completed study, *Achieving a Structurally Balanced Budget in Montgomery County*, was brought out in two parts: Part I, [Revenue and Expenditure Trends](#) on November 23, and Part II, [Options for Long-Term Fiscal Balance](#) on December 7.

This report is a magnum opus of both size and importance. The County is economizing and Ms. Orlansky has given us notice, most wisely, that she will not be bringing copies to hand out. I encourage everyone, therefore, to visit the OLO website at <http://tinyurl.com/mcbudtrends> to read the reports before coming to the program. If the reports themselves are too lengthy, concentrate on the Executive Summaries which are 3 and 8 pages long for Parts I and II respectively and easily read and digested by the layman (those of us who are not budget geeks). Ms. Orlansky has asked that we allow her 10-15 minutes for an uninterrupted overview of the reports after which we will open the floor for a more detailed discussion with questions and answers. As always, the program is open

to the public and we encourage all to come. And once you have done your homework and attended our program with Ms Orlansky, plan to make your opinions known at one of the following forums.

## Public Forums on the FY12 Operating Budget Scheduled

Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett is sponsoring five budget forums throughout the County in coming weeks to seek input from residents about Fiscal Year 2012 Operating Budget priorities.

Mr. Leggett is encouraging residents to attend the forums to provide input in light of severe shortfalls predicted in the coming fiscal year. With a projected \$300 million budget gap looming, Montgomery County is again facing a challenging fiscal forecast.

"These public forums give our residents an opportunity to tell me what's important to them as I prepare next year's operating budget for submission to the County Council on March 15," said Leggett. "In light of the shortfalls that we are facing, input from residents for the FY 12 budget is crucial in helping us determine priorities."

All of the forums are scheduled to begin at 7 p.m., on the following dates:

- January 10, Upcounty Regional Services Center, 12900 Middlebrook Road, Germantown.
- January 13, Silver Spring Civic Building, One Veterans Plaza, Silver Spring.
- January 18, Crossway Community, 3015 Upton Drive, Kensington.
- January 20, Eastern Montgomery Regional Services Center, 3300 Briggs Chaney Road, Silver Spring.
- January 24, Bethesda-Chevy Chase Regional Services Center, 4805 Edgemoor Lane, Bethesda.

The County Executive announces his recommended fiscal year 2012 operating budget on March 15. The County Council approves the operating budget at the end of May.

## President's Message By Peggy Dennis

Please remember, if you get the MCCF News electronically, to forward it to friends, neighbors and others in your local association. Information is like

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manure – useful only to the extent that it’s spread around liberally.

Over the last two weeks my neighborhood has had Asplundh tree crews cutting the trees over and above power lines from dawn to dusk. This falls in line with PEPCO’s budget of \$350 million to trim troublesome vegetation from lines that most frequently suffer power outages during snow and severe storms and take other proactive measures to insure that our electrical service is more reliable. Let’s hope it helps.

Should we have another blizzard, and if our electricity stays with us, we now have a way of checking on the navigability of our roads. The County has launched “a new, online tool that will make it easier for residents to decide when to safely venture out following a snowstorm. The map tool will show the progress of snow plows throughout the County and indicate when emergency roads, primary neighborhood streets and neighborhood streets have been cleared. A zoom feature allows residents to focus on the plow status of their immediate neighborhood and surrounding streets and then zoom out to check on an entire trip route.”

“Each road category, whether an emergency/main route or neighborhood street, is designated on the map by a different color. Patterns are used to show whether plowing has begun or not, is in progress or complete. Residents are encouraged to consult the map before concluding their street has been missed. The map includes a handy icon that allows residents to see road views from any of the County’s nearly 200 traffic cameras

“During a snowfall, MCDOT works continuously to salt and sand nearly 1,000 lane miles of primary (arterial roads connecting subdivisions or business districts) and secondary roads (main collector streets through subdivisions) and keep them in “bare pavement” condition. This ensures that in case of an emergency every County resident is within one-half mile of a cleared road. As snow accumulations reach three inches, plowing operations begin and all attention remains focused on keeping primary roads clear to ensure emergency access.

“Once the snow stops falling and major roads are clear, crews then turn their attention to snow removal from more than 4,100 lane miles of neighborhood streets. It’s important for residents to understand that MCDOT’s goal is to make these streets passable – not clear them to bare pavement. During a snowfall, MCDOT works continuously to salt and sand nearly 1,000 lane miles of primary (arterial roads connecting subdivisions or business districts) and secondary roads (main collector streets through subdivisions) and keep them in “bare pavement” condition. This ensures that in case of an

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You may want to “book mark” this website for future reference: [www.montgomerycountymd.gov/SnowMap](http://www.montgomerycountymd.gov/SnowMap), assuming, of course that you have power to run your computer!

## **Status of the Zoning Code Rewrite Project**

### **by Jim Humphrey, Planning & Land Use Chair**

The staff of the Planning Department is continuing its work on a total rewrite of the county's zoning laws along with the consultant on the project, the Code Studio of Austin, Texas. This past October, the Code Studio delivered a draft of proposed new sections for Agricultural and Residential zoning to the Planning Board and the Zoning Advisory Panel (ZAP), a group of citizens appointed to advise on the project.

The draft Residential District language contained controversial new Optional Method development types proposed for use in R-60 and R-90 neighborhoods near existing and proposed transit centers (including planned Purple Line and Corridor Cities Transitway stations) and near bus stops on “high quality service bus routes.” Several members of the ZAP expressed concern that Council approval of these new development types would drastically change the character, quality of life and amount of housing allowed in older existing residential neighborhoods, especially in the down county.

The proposed residential standards would allow new housing types such as “tandem housing” (one detached house behind another on a single lot), “cottage court” (several small detached houses surrounding a central courtyard on an assemblage of lots), and “garden court” (larger detached homes around a green courtyard). The draft standards also proposed allowing a “corner store” in current R-60 or R-90 zoned residential neighborhoods, within a half mile of a transit station or one quarter mile from a bus stop on a high quality service route.

In part due to pressure from citizens and ZAP members concerned that these new residential development types were a de facto rewrite of master plans and would violate the "wedges and corridors" concept in the county General Plan, and in part because it was felt the consultant and Planning staff overstepped the boundaries of the task they were given--to clarify and condense the existing zoning ordinance--the section containing the new housing types has been removed from the draft posted on the Planning Department website. It is still available for view on the MCCF website at <http://www.montgomerycivic.org/currentissuesPLU.html>.

The Zoning Code Rewrite Project webpage on the Planning Department's online site states that the rewrite process "will include major citizen participation and task force components, administrative research and studies, public review of recommendations, and public hearings on draft legislation" and that "the code will be broken down into several modules and the process will be repeated for each module." Even though the Agricultural and Residential modules have now been drafted, it appears that Planning staff has decided to wait until the entire code rewrite is drafted before starting the public comment period.

## **Council Revives Rewrite of Housing Chapter of General Plan by Jim Humphrey, Planning & Land Use Chair**

As background, in early 2008 the staff at the Planning Department submitted a series of memos to the Planning Board proposing the rewrite of the Housing Chapter (also referred to as the Housing Element) of the General Plan, the overarching master plan for the entire county. A draft rewrite of the Housing Chapter was released in early May, and the Board held a hearing on the draft on May 21, 2009.

Following two worksessions in June and July, the Board transmitted their approved draft on July 30, 2009 to the County Council, the body with sole authority to approve all master plans and amendments to them. The Council held its public hearing on the proposed rewrite of the General Plan's Housing Element on December 1, 2009, after which the matter was referred for study to the Planning, Housing and Economic Development (PHED) Committee of Council where it remained dormant.

On January 20, 2011, the Council PHED Committee will hold a worksession on the proposed rewrite of the Housing Element of the General Plan. This rewrite is an important issue for all county residents because the objectives and provisions in the General Plan are the

model used for drafting the master and sector plans for all communities in the county.

Of concern to MCCF is that the proposed revision would reformat the Housing chapter and eliminate the existing list of objectives for housing and strategies to achieve those objectives. For example, the current "Objective 5--Maintain and enhance the quality and safety of housing and neighborhoods" would be deleted, along with the accompanying neighborhood protection strategies such as "protect residential neighborhoods by channeling through traffic away from residential streets and discourage spill-over parking from non-residential areas." Some existing strategies were rewritten into the proposed new format, although the new language could weaken their enforceability, while others were deleted entirely.

Neighborhood associations and county residents should familiarize themselves with this issue, since it is likely the PHED Committee will make a recommendation for full Council action in the winter before they tackle the FY12 budget this spring. A copy of the current Housing Chapter of the General Plan is posted on the Federation's website, along with the draft rewrite being considered by Council, and the MCCF testimony before the Planning Board and the Council (at <http://www.montgomerycivic.org/currentissuesPLU.html>)

## **From Green "Concrete" to Truly Green Acres: Restoring Compacted Soils in Athletic Fields and Other Turf Areas** **By Carole Ann Barth, Parks & Recreation Chairman**

Most Montgomery County residents have heard that stormwater runoff causes problems in our streams, rivers, and in the Chesapeake Bay. Many have learned about the pollution problems associated with "impervious surfaces" such as buildings, sidewalks, and roads. By covering the landscape with impervious surfaces, we have disrupted the natural water cycle. Instead of rainwater filtering into the soil to replenish groundwater and maintain the flow of streams in dry weather; it runs over the surface, picking up pollutants on its way to the nearest stream.

A major focus of stormwater management now, is to reduce or "disconnect" impervious surfaces. Green roofs, rain barrels, and rain gardens are among the techniques used to slow stormwater down, spread it out, and let it soak in. But infiltration practices are only as good as the soils they are in. It turns out that many of

the unpaved open spaces in urban and suburban areas are not truly pervious.

How do soils become compacted? A major cause is current construction practices. Usually, a developer will strip away the natural topsoil as part of the initial grading process. Once construction is complete, a thin layer of topsoil is applied and turf grass seeds or a skin of sod is laid on top. Thus you have a carpet of sod on a thin “rug pad” of soil over compacted subsoil. Construction of athletic fields (in areas that are not already level) is done the same way. Heavy foot traffic, repeated mowing, or the use of heavy equipment will also cause soil compaction. Scientists are increasingly documenting athletic fields and other grassed areas with runoff rates as high as some pavements. Even lightly-used ornamental lawns that have been in turf for decades can be compacted. This is why good lawn maintenance firms recommend yearly aeration of lawns.

So what defines a compacted soil? It’s all about space. Healthy soil is composed of sand, silt, and clay particles. These particles are loosely held together into “crumbs” (sometimes referred to as soil structure). In between the crumbs are pore spaces. Some pores contain air, some contain water, and some have both. The final component to a healthy soil is a complex community of living organisms that recycle energy and materials through the system.

When a soil gets compacted, it loses pore spaces and the structure collapses. This means less oxygen and water in the soil environment and thus fewer soil-dwelling animals. Plants cannot grow as well in compacted soil as roots need air, water, and partnering microorganisms to flourish.

Thus, a lawn on compacted soil becomes like a hospital patient on life support, requiring frequent applications of water and nutrients. Because it is stressed, it is also more likely to fall victim to pests and diseases, thus prompting the application of pesticides. At the same time, because compaction prohibits infiltration; stormwater, fertilizer and pesticides are more likely to run off.

So, it turns out that compacted turf areas complicate stormwater management. Clearly we can’t focus all our attention on the paved areas, nor can we assume that lawns will soak up the rainwater we direct there, or that infiltration practices will function equally in all soils. Water infiltrates the thin skin of sod and soil, but then has nowhere to go. It’s easy to spot these areas because you can see water leaking out sideways after a rain. Sometimes a nearby path or parking lot will show a thin sheet of water for days after a rain, as the water simply

travels horizontally just below the sod rather than over it.

So what can be done? It turns out that deeply incorporating low-nutrient compost into soils shows great promise. This can be done in a number of ways. Using an agricultural machine called a soil ripper to break up the subsoil and mix in compost is one technique, called “subsoiling”. Another technique uses a trenching tool to cut deep drenches across a property. The trenches are then packed with low-nutrient compost or “pine fines” that will slowly build soil.

It is estimated that using these types of techniques throughout a small watershed could reduce runoff from lawns up to 74%. These approaches are also likely to be more lasting than the typical, expensive, field renovation which can be ruined by just one game played in the rain. This is great news, because it means that all the turf in developed areas could in fact become truly pervious.

Of course, ideally we would change the development process so that either soils are preserved during construction (by minimizing grading and moving soil in lifts) or subsoiling would become the last stage of grading. This could be encouraged by providing stormwater management credits for these practices. Lots of details need to be worked out, including how and if such credits would transfer once the site was developed, and how to ensure the land does not become re-compacted by overuse and/or poor maintenance practices.

Still, subsoiling and similar practices are clearly worth “digging into” as the County and MNCPPC strive to meet their stormwater permits.

## Environmental Legislation on the Horizon

**By Caren Madsen, Environment Committee Co-Chair**

The following is a quick list of natural resource legislation at both the county and state levels that will have an impact on our community quality of life in Montgomery County. A full list with details will be available at [www.ConservationMontgomery.org](http://www.ConservationMontgomery.org).

**Forestry amendments coming.** As one of its first orders of business, the new Montgomery County Council will be taking up additional amendments to the County Forest Conservation Law within the first quarter of 2011.

**Bag the bags!** The County is exploring a bill to reduce the use of single use shopping bags and to encourage reusable bags. The State is also considering a bag bill.

### Stormwater management.

- Legislation introduced by Councilmember Marc Elrich to raise the county's per-incident fine for sediment control violations from \$500 to \$1000.
- Expansion of State legislation and implementation of Environmental Site Design in Montgomery County.
- Legislation for a dedicated fund to use in reducing runoff to our watersheds.

**Clean energy.** State legislators will introduce a bill to require Maryland utilities to enter into long-term contracts for offshore wind power. This has the potential for creating 4,000 new green jobs in Maryland.

## Environmental Q & A with Council President Valerie Ervin

The following Questions and Answers are drawn from a questionnaire sent by Conservation Montgomery to all candidates for County Council during the recent election campaign. [For the full questionnaire and responses of all our elected officials, visit the website at [www.conservationmontgomery.org](http://www.conservationmontgomery.org).] Some of the responses from our new Council President, Valerie Ervin, have been reprinted below. Let's see how the environment fares under her leadership in the coming year.

**Q:** What approach would you recommend to increase the tree canopy in the Down County?

**A:** We need to determine the existing canopy coverage. The Planning Department has started an initiative, which I support, to map the tree canopy as a GIS layer to monitor the health of the tree canopy. I also support the use of a forest mitigation bank program to help bring more tree cover into the county right-of-way because it has the double benefit of mitigating noise and air pollution closer to the source. This approach would also get street trees in place sooner than County funding would achieve. Finally, I believe that we need to increase funding for the Planning Department's "Leaves for Neighborhood" program that provides financial incentives for property owners to plant new trees on their property.

**Q:** What do you think are the two most pressing issues facing Montgomery County in terms of quality of life and protection of our natural resources?

**A:** There are several issues affecting our quality of life and the protection of our natural resources in Montgomery County but for me air quality issues associated with traffic congestion and housing affordability rise to the top of the list. This is why its so critical to focus on making public transportation options

attractive and convenient for our residents. This is why I am a proponent of the Purple Line and Bus Rapid Transit and have worked with environmental and bike advocates to enhance our trail system. We also have to improve our stock of affordable housing because longer commutes result in greater negative impacts on our environment.

**Q:** What role do you see the Maryland-National Capital Parks and Planning Commission in regarding the relationship to the Council in the future? Would you like to see changes at M-NCPPC?

**A:**

- M-NCPPC role should be a strong partnership with Council.
- Planning Board decisions should not be overshadowed by Council politics.
- Park and Planning reports directly to the County Council and must provide unbiased and non-political advice to Council members. Most Councilmember are not planning and zoning experts, and we need advice and guidance from the Planning Board and residents. There are times when the Council does not agree with recommendations made by the Planning Board; however, this advice is critical for thoughtful decision making.

**Q:** As called for in the 1994 Clarksburg Master Plan, Montgomery must now apply the lessons learned from Clarksburg Town Center development, including the pollution of streams and loss of groundwater, in deciding how to proceed for Ten Mile Creek. The Ad-Hoc Water Quality Working Group report was issued in July 2010 to the Council. In this report, members of civic, environmental groups and county agencies called for a Master Plan amendment (already recommended by the Planning Board in the summer of 2009) that will enable the County to apply protections proven to work in Upper Paint Branch and Upper Rock Creek. Will you support a Master Plan Amendment in order to apply necessary protections to Ten Mile Creek? Please explain why or why not.

**A:** Yes, I support a master plan amendment. The Clarksburg Master plan was approved in 1994. Since that time, residential units have increased in size and this has increased the land disturbance. By looking at the master plan we could incorporate environmentally friendly and affordable housing options using less land.

**Q:** What will get Montgomery County to the target of 80% in reduction of greenhouse gases by the year 2050 that is cited in our county Climate Action Plan? (Council President Ervin chose the following responses from a list.)

A:

- Increasing tree canopy to a healthy countywide percentage.
- Preservation of mature tree cover throughout the county, including protection of street trees in the right of way.
- Going full scale on community and business education on energy efficiency.
- Implementing county-wide requirements for teleworking; requiring that local businesses allow teleworking for employees as appropriate to the type of business involved.
- Offering tax credits as incentives to businesses and residents reducing energy consumption.
- Encouraging pedestrian and bicycle commuting .
- Working with adjacent cities and counties on a regional plan of action.
- Pressing for more state and federal funding for mass-transit projects

Q: What are the solutions to addressing the cleanup of the Chesapeake Bay? What role should Montgomery County residents play, if any?

A: As a board member on the Chesapeake Bay Trust, I know that it is critical to address nonpoint source pollution from residential and agricultural areas. Montgomery County can do more by educating homeowners on the application of fertilizer on their yard and in common areas. We can also work with the agricultural community to ensure that they are following their nutrient management plans. Wastewater treatment facilities also play a large role in polluting the Bay. We need to commit to the cost of retrofitting WSSC sewage treatment facilities.

## Minutes of the December 13, 2010 By Jim Zepp, Acting Secretary

Call to Order: President Peggy Dennis called the meeting to order at 7:47 P.M. with introductions all around. The meeting's agenda was approved as printed in the newsletter. Minutes of the November 8, 2010 general meeting were approved without amendments.

**Treasurer's Report:** The Treasurer reported income of \$3,115.00 and a balance of \$11,670.77. Current paid memberships are 42 associations and 18 associates and individuals.

**Program:** Paula Bienenfeld introduced the program which was a panel discussion on the selection process for the next Montgomery County Public Schools (MCPS) Superintendent. The speakers were Lyda Astove, Special Education Advocate; Emily Barton, Executive Director, Teach for America, DC Region; Phil Kauffman, M.C.

Board of Education member and the Board's Ad Hoc Superintendent Search Process Group; Neal McLusky, Associate Director, Center for Educational Freedom, Cato Institute; and Fred Stichnoth, President, Montgomery County Gifted and Talented Association.

The initial discussion dealt with what qualities the new superintendent should have. This was followed by budgetary concerns and transparency in management of MCPS. There are about 144,000 students in the MCPS system. However the demographics are changing with more children requiring subsidies.

Mr. Kauffman announced that the School Board has engaged the executive search firm, Hazard, Young, Attea, & Associates to conduct the recruitment process for the new superintendent. They will hold a series of public forums expected to start in January for citizen input into the selection criteria. A separate firm will be retained to conduct background checks of the candidates.

Opinions varied from having someone who will continue the policies and strong authority of the current superintendent to having the School Board take a more active oversight role while the new superintendent would primarily be an educator with a CFO who would have primary responsibility for the fiscal management of MCPS. Mr McLusky argued for allowing charter schools in the County as an educational alternatives to MCPS. The current policy of having the County divided into "green" and "red" zones was also debated since this allowed resources to be directed to those areas with higher needs children. Ms. Astrove stated her belief that the closing of the Learning Centers has resulted in lower testing scores and graduation rates for some children with disabilities. Ms. Barton allowed that with the complexities of large school districts and the various factions that school superintendents must deal with, that no one approach has been an unqualified success. She suggested that the six leadership qualities that have been identified for successful principals and teachers might be a start. These are listed at the Website, [www.teachingasleadership.org](http://www.teachingasleadership.org). Mr. McLusky noted that a recent study of several large school systems found that few have detailed financial information available for decision making. When the panel was asked to suggest performance measures that could be used for assessing the new superintendent's success. Ms. Barton suggested the MSA test scores

There was disagreement over the implications of Maryland's participation in the national Race to the Top program. Some felt this will result in additional tests being administered to students and further distraction from teaching, while others believe that current tests such as the MSA would be sufficient. A major difference

of the Race to the Top is its focus on growth measures rather than just simple performance. How this will be determined has not been decided. Also to be determined is whether Montgomery County will participate or not since the School Board did not sign onto the State's application.

It was agreed after some discussion that the issue of charter schools would require action by the State Legislature before the County could allow them.

### Committee Reports

**State Legislation:** Dan Wilhelm reported the status of three bills initially introduced by the County delegation. MCI0-11 which would allow MCPS to charge fees for non-local student transportation was withdrawn by its sponsor, Sen. Madaleno. MCCF had opposed this bill.

**Education:** Paula Bienenfeld along with President Dennis reported on the hearing on the proposed sale of the Peary School building. Both were subjected to rude behavior by other attendees while testifying at the hearing on the MCCF's position opposing the sale on the principle that school properties should be retained for possible future facility needs.

**New Business:** No new items were brought forth.

**Adjournment:** A vote to adjourn passed at 9:47 P.M.

## Minutes of the December 15 Executive Committee Meeting by Jim Humphrey, Acting Secretary

Meeting called to order at 7:55 p.m. In attendance via teleconference: Peggy Dennis; Dan Wilhelm, Bill Schrader, Paula Bienenfeld, Jim Humphrey, Carole Ann Barth, Jim Zepp and Virginia Sheard.

Motion to accept meeting agenda approved. Motion to accept minutes of the November ExComm meeting approved. No update to Treasurer's Report since monthly meeting two days prior.

### President's discussion topics:

- Ms Dennis has arranged for MCCF representatives to meet with Planning Board Chair Carrier on January 24.
- ExComm approved MCCF joining Conservation Montgomery and CM joining the Federation as an Associate Group.
- Mr. Humphrey made tentative reservation for Friday, May 13 at Universities of Shady Grove for 2011 MCCF Annual Awards Banquet. He and Mr. Schrader will lock in the date and submit deposit.

- Monthly meeting programs. Ms. Dennis arranged January program on Office of Legislative Oversight's report "Achieving a Structurally Balanced Budget in Montgomery County," speaker is OLO's Karen Orlansky. Future programs: February on report of county Organizational Reform Commission (final report due January 31); March on County's FY12 Capital Budget, and April on FY12 Operating Budget. Possibilities for further in the future: 3 public safety topics; Zoning Code Rewrite, and bus rapid transit.
- Committee discussed creating a membership directory, rejected hard copy format. Mr. Humphrey will look into posting list of current year Local Associations and other members on MCCF website, as well as entire list of delegates that could be accessed by member password.
- Members considered need to revise or strengthen MCCF resolution opposing sale by county of surplus school property. Ms. Dennis will investigate further.
- Ms. Bienenfeld's home set as venue for January 19 ExComm meeting.

### Committee Reports:

**Planning and Land Use.** Mr. Humphrey, Chair, stated Council PHED Committee will hold January 20 session on rewrite of the Housing Chapter of the General Plan (see newsletter article).

**Education.** Ms. Bienenfeld, Chair, reported State Board of Public Works met 12/15 and approved county sale of Peary High School site to Berman Hebrew Academy; considering asking reimbursement of \$83,000 of the amount granted to county for original construction of Peary. Search for new MCPS Superintendent continues; Hazard, Young & Attea chosen as search firm to bring candidates forward for review.

**Parks and Recreation.** Ms. Barth, Chair, informed ExComm she has sent letter to Mr. Wilhelm to be distributed to MCCF Local Association members asking what parks are in their jurisdiction area. Mr. Zepp reported that the county Recreation Advisory Board on which he serves is being changed legislatively to include both Recreation and Parks Department. Recreation Dept. is investigating change to use of biometric identification system to replace paper card passes.

January newsletter assignments were coordinated by Ms. Dennis, and meeting adjourned at 9:50 p.m.

### **Federation Meeting**

#### **Session 823**

Monday, January 10, 2011  
7:45 1st Floor Auditorium  
County Council Office Building.  
100 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, MD

#### Agenda:

7:45 Call to Order & Introductions  
7:53 Announcements  
7:56 Approval of Agenda  
7:57 Approval of December 13 Minutes  
7:58 Treasurer's Report  
8:00 Program: OLO Report on Budget Deficit  
9:20 Committee Reports  
9:44 Old Business / New Business  
9:45 Adjournment

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 Federation meetings are open to the public and are held on the second Monday of each month September through June at 7:45 p.m. in the First Floor Auditorium, County Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, 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, Saturday, January 22, 2011.** Prepare submission as an MS Word, Word Perfect or text-only document, **attach** it to an e-mail, and send it to: **hotyakker@gmail.com**

Please send all **address corrections** to Dan Wilhelm, 904 Cannon Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904, 301-384-2698, or [djwilhelm@verizon.net](mailto:djwilhelm@verizon.net).

### **NEXT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**Wednesday, January 19, 7:45 p.m.**

At the home of Paula Bienenfeld

6018 Tilden Lane

North Bethesda, MD 20852



**Official Publication of the  
Montgomery County Civic Federation**

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