



# Civic Federation News

October 2012

Serving the Public Interest since 1925

Official Publication of the  
Montgomery County Civic  
Federation

[www.montgomerycivic.org](http://www.montgomerycivic.org)  
[montgomerycivic@yahoo.com](mailto:montgomerycivic@yahoo.com)

Peggy Dennis, Editor - Phone: 301-983-9738 - Email: [hotyakker@gmail.com](mailto:hotyakker@gmail.com)

Recipients of the electronic version are encouraged to forward it widely

## October Program: Election Ballot Questions

By Dan Wilhelm, Legislative Chair

Our program on Monday, October 8, will explain the 9 or 10 (depending upon where you live) ballot questions we are being asked to vote on in the upcoming November election. Before looking at the list below, could you have identified even the subject of the seven state questions and three county questions? Even if you were able to identify the subject, can you explain what each question achieves, and explain the reasons being put forward to vote for and against each. I would guess that few can identify all the subjects and no one can identify the details about all the questions. The October meeting will provide that information. The ballot questions are:

### State Constitution Amendments

- Prince George's County – Orphans' Court Judges – Qualifications
- Baltimore County – Orphans' Court Judges – Qualifications
- Elected Officials – Removal from Office – Crimes

### Referendums by Petition

- Public Institutions of Higher Education – Tuition Rates – Exemption
- Congressional Districting Plan
- Civil Marriage Protection Act

### Other Statewide Ballot Questions

- Gaming Expansion – Video Lottery Terminals and Table Games – Lottery Machines – Veteran's Organizations

### Montgomery County

- A. Charter Amendment by Council: Merit system – Hiring Individuals With Disabilities
- B. Referendum on Council Law: Elects Bargaining for Police Employees
- C. General Assembly Referendum: Alcoholic Beverages Law for Damascus (12th district only)

With 10 questions and with only an average of 7 minutes to explain and answer questions on each, we will not have a speaker for and a speaker against each question. Rather, our speakers will explain each question, identify arguments for and against, and answer your questions. State Senator Jamie Raskin (District 20 and chair of the Montgomery County Senate Delegation) will address the seven state questions and County Question C. Mike Faden, County Council attorney, will address County questions A & B. The good news is that five or six of the questions are fairly straight forward, so we don't anticipate spending much time on them, and that should leave most of the time for the really contentious issues.



## Contents

October Program: Election Ballot Questions .....	1
Wayne Goldstein Center Naming .....	1
President's Message.....	2
Montgomery County Civic Federation Forum: Candidates for the Board of Education.....	3
Free Street Trees .....	3
Mark Your Calendars.....	3
Membership Update.....	3
Court Strikes Down Olney Church Development .....	4
Upcoming Events.....	5
Minutes of the September 10 Meeting.....	7
Minutes of the September 19 Executive Committee Meeting.....	8
Executive Committee.....	10
Membership Application or Renewal .....	11

## Wayne Goldstein Center Naming

Montgomery County Executive Isiah Leggett And Montgomery County Council Member Marc Elrich Will Unveil a Plaque Naming Montgomery County's

CountyStat Meeting Center the “Wayne Goldstein Center for Responsible Government”

Monday, October 8, 2012 10 a.m. CountyStat Office 255 Rockville Pike, Suite L-10 Rockville

For more information or to RSVP call 240-777-2629 or [countystat@montgomerycountymd.gov](mailto:countystat@montgomerycountymd.gov)

“Wayne was a strong and effective advocate on historic preservation, land use, and the environment, as well as an avid proponent of our CountyStat program to measure results and performance in County government.”

## President’s Message

By President Carole Ann Barth

On Monday, October 8 at 10 a.m., Montgomery County Executive Isaiah Leggett and County Council Member Marc Elrich will dedicate the CountyStat Meeting Center as the “Wayne Goldstein Center for Responsible Government,” in memory of Wayne Goldstein. There will be a plaque unveiled to honor Mr. Goldstein that will hang on the wall in the CountyStat offices in Rockville.

It is fitting that the County make such a tribute, because Wayne was instrumental in getting CountyStat established. But those of us who worked with Wayne remember him for so much more. Sometimes it seems that Wayne has been gone a really long time; at other times, it’s hard to believe it’s been three years already. Even if you never met Wayne, if you ever testified at a Planning Board or County Council hearing, odds are you’ve seen him. He was the guy with a pony tail, wearing a hat. Wayne was, quite simply, the lynchpin of the civic activist community.

Whether you worked with him or never met him, he helped make your community (and, indeed, the county) a better place to live. He was actively involved in a host of issues: planning and land use, historic preservation, the school system, parks, and the environment. He wrote many columns in the Sentinel exposing the arrogance and foolishness of people and institutions who are supposed to work for the citizens.

Wayne helped my neighborhood directly in our fight to save Rachel Carson Meadow. First he helped us get the support of the Montgomery County Civic Federation. Both Wayne and Jim Humphrey (chair of the Federation’s Planning and Land Use Committee) testified in support of saving the meadow. Wayne arranged to get the black walnut tree measured and its age estimated. He also connected us with other neighborhoods and activists with whom we could make common cause. We’re still fighting to save the Meadow, and we dearly miss his ideas and enthusiasm.

But the main thing about Wayne was that you could depend on him. He was always there for us to share our triumphs and defeats, to strategize, to attend practically every meeting and hearing (sometimes more than one a night) and, most importantly, to actually do the work. He had mad research skills. You could tell him about an issue and, in a little while, up would pop an email chock full of pertinent facts and citations.

In his testimony, he was known for skewering the powerful with humor. (He once referred to the County’s green building policy as “a paler shade of green.”) He managed to be entertaining and passionate about the issues at the same time. Sometimes his hats were part of the show, chosen to make a point or relate to the hearing’s theme. Yet he never came across as angry or a crank. He always kept it just under “over the top.”

Wayne never seemed to burn out, and he always seemed to genuinely enjoy it all. The more information and outrage you gave him, the more he would smile and his eyes would twinkle ever brighter. This amazed me.

It’s hard to measure the impact of involvement and activism. You tend to lose more battles than you win and, even when you do win, there’s always another battle and another and another. The old boondoggle comes back with a new buzzword. The new legislation you fought so hard for is only as good as its implementation.

But those of us that worked with Wayne have no doubts as to his impact. We feel it every day. In his

loss, we finally understood just how much of a difference he made.

## Montgomery County Civic Federation Forum: Candidates for the Board of Education

Wednesday, October 17  
7:00 – 9:00 p.m.  
Rockville Public Library  
21 Maryland Ave.

All the candidates for the Board of Education have agreed to attend our forum. We will take questions from the floor and people can send questions in advance to my email address at Paula\_bienenfeld@yahoo.com. There is public parking in the garage across the street, and it is walkable from the Rockville Metro stop on the red line. Public education accounts for over half of our county budget, so we should all be knowledgeable about those running to serve us.

## Free Street Trees

By Donna Savage, Kensington Heights

Mark Willcher owns a landscaping business in Silver Spring. He is offering to donate trees and plant them FOR FREE (yes!) in public spaces and public right-of-ways. Here's what he says:

“Basically, these are small trees, 5-8’ tall but young and skinny at that age, that we are willing to donate and plant at no charge on public places—street right of ways in front of people’s houses, vest pocket parks, etc. Someone will have to be the custodian for each tree to make sure it gets watered, weeded, etc. during the first few years. Spread the word—fighting climate change one tree at a time!!

If interested, please contact Mark at 301-320-2040 or by email: mark@markwillcherco.com

## Mark Your Calendars

By Dan Wilhelm, Legislation Chairman

The Montgomery County Delegation’s fall calendar is provided below. You can always get the latest

information at their website:  
www.montgomerycountydelegation.com

Thursday,

October 4, 2012 Consolidated Transportation Program Presentation ("Road Show") by State Highway Administration . 7:00 p.m. - 3rd Floor Hearing Room, Stella Werner Council Office Bldg., 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850.

Wednesday, November 14, 2012 Joint House and Senate Priorities Hearing - 7:00 p.m. - 3rd Floor Hearing Room, Stella Werner Council Office Bldg., 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850 - This hearing is an opportunity for the public to respond to the Road Show and to bring other issues of importance for the 2010 Session to the attention of the legislators.

Monday, December 3, 2012 House Hearing for local bills - 7:00 p.m. - 3rd Floor Hearing Room, Stella Werner Council Office Bldg., 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850 - Local bills refer to legislation affecting issues specific to Montgomery County.

Wednesday, December 5, 2012 House Hearing for bi-county bills - 7:00 p.m. - 3rd Floor Hearing Room, Stella Werner Council Office Bldg., 100 Maryland Ave., Rockville, MD 20850 - Bi-County bills refer to legislation that requires the approval of the Montgomery County and the Prince George’s County Delegations.

## Membership Update

A big “Welcome” to three new member associations:

Battery Park Citizens Association  
Cherrywood Homeowners Association  
Twinbrook Citizens Association

And “thank you” to the member associations and individual associates who have already renewed their membership for the 2012-2013 year. If your association is not listed below, please complete the Membership Form on page 11 and give it to your treasurer to mail in with the necessary dues.

Allanwood-Gayfields-Willson Hills-Gaywood Estates Civic Association

Battery Park Citizens Association  
 Cherrywood Homeowners Association  
 Citizens Coordinating Committee on Friendship Heights  
 Congressional Forest Community Association  
 Coquelin Run Citizens Association  
 East Silver Spring Citizens Association  
 Fox Hills West Citizens Association  
 Garrett Park Estates-White Flint Park Citizens Association  
 Greater Colesville Citizens Association  
 Huntington Terrace Citizens' Association  
 Layhill South Citizens Association  
 Mid-Atlantic Hispanic Chamber of Commerce  
 Norbeck Meadows Civic Association  
 Northwood-Four Corners Civic Association  
 Parkwood Residents Association  
 Regency Estates Citizens Association  
 Seven Oaks-Evanswood Citizens Association  
 Snowdens Mill Homeowners Association  
 South Bradley Hills Neighborhood Assn  
 South Four Corners Citizens Assn.  
 Stonegate Citizens Association  
 Strathmore-Bel Pre Civic Association  
 Town of Somerset  
 Twinbrook Citizens Association  
 Villages of Bethesda  
 West Bradley Citizens Association

Individual Associate Members

Diana Conway  
 Wilbur Friedman  
 Maria Fusco  
 Ben Petree  
 Stan Schiff

## **Court Strikes Down Olney Church Development**

**by Jim Humphrey, Chair, Planning and Land Use Committee**

On September 10, 2012, Judge Sharon V. Burrell of the Circuit Court of Montgomery County overturned the Planning Board's approval of the Preliminary Plan and Site Plan for the First Baptist Church of Wheaton development project proposed for property located at 3110 Emory Church Road in Olney.

I want to make it clear from the start that neither the Montgomery County Civic Federation as a position of record, nor do I personally, generally oppose the construction of churches in the county. According to the Federal "Religious Land Use and Institutionalized Persons Act" (RLUIPA), churches wishing to develop property in the county, or indeed anywhere in the U.S., must be treated as all other members of the same class (that is, all other owners whose properties have the same zoning). But this case did not turn on the use planned for the building, but on whether the building and associated development--in this case, sidewalks and a large paved parking lot--was in conformance with the area master plan.

This is a significant court ruling because Judge Burrell found the Planning Board, in approving the preliminary plan for this development, could not make the required finding that the project "substantially conforms" to the master plan approved for the area by the County Council. But conformance to the 2005 Olney Master Plan was made even stricter by a prior resolution by the Council relating to the issue of whether public sewer service should be run to the property, on which a prior home structure had relied on a septic system to treat sewage.

On April 8, 2008, the County Council heard a request from the church, which had recently purchased the property on Emory Church Road, to change the sewer category from S-6 "not eligible" to S.3, meaning the property would be eligible to have public sewer line run to it. In Resolution 16-500, the Council maintained the ineligible S-6 sewer category, and stated the property could only advance to category S-3 "conditioned on the Planning Board's approval of a preliminary plan that conforms to the intent of the Olney Master Plan" (not merely substantially conforms, as usually required). The Council Resolution also required the Planning Board "ensure that" any deleterious environmental impacts (such as reduction in ground water quality) and potential road improvements (such as to Emory Church Road) "are minimized."

The County Sewer Plan also applies specific standards to new or relocating "private institutional facilities" (known as PIFs) that seek the extension of public sewer to property that is not currently eligible for public sewer. The County Sewer Plan states: "For new or relocating PIF uses, service area category amendments may be approved for sites only where [the] required water and/or sewer main extensions will abut only properties which are otherwise eligible for community service under the general policies of the plan."

Judge Burrell opined that in their request to Council for sewer category change the Applicant mischaracterized its eligibility for public sewer under the PIF standards. Applicant stated their property was eligible for public sewer because the proposed sewer main would abut properties "recommended" for public sewer, rather than the correct standard which requires the proposed sewer main to abut only properties that are "eligible" for public sewer. "The evidence of record shows the proposed sewer extension to the [Emory Church Road] Subject Property would abut at least two properties ineligible for public sewer," the judge stated in her opinion.

Now what language does the 2005 Olney Master Plan contain which is relevant to consideration of development on the property at 3110 Emory Church Road? The Plan explicitly recommends that public sewer not be extended to this property. And in her opinion Judge Burrell wrote that "substantial evidence of record confirms that the intent of the Olney Master Plan is to limit imperviousness surfaces (e.g., buildings, parking lots and sidewalks) to approximately 9%."

In approving the church construction plan on September 8, 2011, the Planning Board allowed an imperviousness limit of 17.1%. Yet the Board still found the project "substantially conforms" to the area master plan, which intends that imperviousness be limited to almost half that amount.

In their submission to the Circuit Court, the Planning Board conceded that a finding of "conforms" to the Olney Master Plan (as was

required by County Council in this case) is "unquestionably" a more stringent review standard than the imposition of a finding of "substantial conformance" that is normally applied to preliminary plan applications. The Board also admitted that in this case they did not make a finding of fact as to whether the preliminary plan "conforms to" the intent of the Olney Master Plan.

At the 2011 Planning Board hearing on the development plan, neighbors of the property and the South-East Rural Olney Civic Association (SEROCA) told the Board that approval of the project would violate the area master plan. But the Planning Department staff, then under Planning Director Roland Stanley, recommended approval with conditions, and the Board concurred. The only recourse left to the residents was a judicial appeal.

Now, four and one half years after the development proposal became known when the property owner sought the sewer category change from Council, and a full year after the Planning Board approved the project, the court has struck down the approval.

In the end, the issue in this case is not one of a church wanting to move from Wheaton to Olney. It could have been any owner wanting to build a large, private institutional facility on this property and seeking to obtain public sewer where it is prohibited and exceed the imperviousness limit set in the master plan--a service organization, a non-profit association, or even a private art museum.

The unfortunate reality is that this is a case of Montgomery homeowners having to spend more than two years of their lives and tens of thousands of dollars in legal fees to uphold their area master plan, while fighting county officials the entire way.

## Upcoming Events

### Say "No" to Pepco and "Yes" to Public Power: A Public Meeting on Public Power

Wednesday, October 3, 7:00 to 8:30 p.m.  
Silver Spring Civic Building at Veterans Plaza, One Veterans Place, Silver Spring, MD 20910

Montgomery County deserves a reliable electric system. We can get one—a Public Power Utility owned by the people and not stockholders. Learn more about public power from experts at the American Public Power Association. What are the advantages of public ownership of our electric utility? How have other communities across the country taken over from failing investor-owned utilities? For more information, email [ericjhensal@gmail.com](mailto:ericjhensal@gmail.com).

### **“Planning Smarter” Open House**

Saturday, October 6, 10:00 a.m. to 1:00 p.m.

Want to know more about how the Montgomery County Planning Department helps create great communities? Attend their open house at 8787 Georgia Avenue, Silver Spring (public parking in rear).

- tour the headquarters building
- see the latest cool projects approved by the Planning Board
- see what’s in the cards for Montgomery County communities
- interact one-on-one with planners
- Bring the kids for our build-a box-city activity

Planners will staff 11 displays throughout Park and Planning Headquarters and be available to answer questions and collect feedback. The Information Counter will open with special hours. Drop in any time.

Can't attend? Check out the on-line Virtual Open House at

[www.montgomeryplanning.org/planningsmarter](http://www.montgomeryplanning.org/planningsmarter)

### **Forum on Public Safety for Candidates for Board of Education**

October 10, 7:00 p.m.

Long Branch Community Center

2nd floor Social Hall

8700 Piney Branch Road

Silver Spring, MD

Sponsors:

Safe Silver Spring

Prezco (President’s Council of Silver Spring Civic Associations)

MCCPTA

Montgomery County Civic Federation

Candidates agreeing to participate:

District 2: Fred Evans vs. Rebecca Smondrowski

District 4: Christopher Barclay vs. Annita Seckinger

At Large: Phil Kaufman vs. Morris Panner

Five of the candidates responded to a public safety questionnaire. See [SafeSilverSpring.com](http://SafeSilverSpring.com)

For further information contact:

[SafeSilverSpring@gmail.com](mailto:SafeSilverSpring@gmail.com) or 301-587-6943

### **Confident City Cycling Course**

Saturday Oct 20, 11:00 am

Bethesda-Chevy Chase Rescue Squad Parking Lot

5020 Battery Lane

Bethesda, MD 20814

Have a dusty bicycle hidden in the back of your garage or basement? Interested in taking up bicycling again, but apprehensive after years of not doing it? The Washington Area Bicyclist Association’s “Confident City Cycling” (CCC) classes have options for riders of any experience or skill level, and are designed to teach the techniques and knowledge critical to getting you back on your bike and riding safely on suburban and city streets.

After a short introduction/review of basic concepts, the class will be divided into two groups: a beginner or “Trails” group, and an intermediate or “Traffic” group.

The “Trails” group will discover basic bicycling concepts and on-bike skills such as: bike sizing and fit, helmet fit, pre-ride bike check, and bike vocabulary. On the bikes, drills will focus on bike handling basics: starting and stopping, riding in a straight line, scanning, shifting gears, and use of hand signals. This group will end with a short ride on a nearby trail to put everything into practice and to learn trail etiquette such as passing, signaling, and communication. The focus throughout is on control.

If you’ve already taken the “Trails” section of a Confident City Cycling class, please come back and join us again for the “Traffic” section!

The “Traffic” group will explore more involved bicycling concepts such as: vehicular cycling

principles, roadway positioning, lane changes, turns, and communication with other road users. On-bike, the parking lot drills are a series of hazard avoidance maneuvers: rock dodge, quick stop, avoidance weave, and instant turn. This group will end with a short ride on local roads to put everything into practice and to experience truly confident city cycling. The focus throughout is on visibility & predictability.

Participants must bring their own bikes, helmets, and water. Clipless/SPD shoes/pedals are not recommended for this class. Participants will be required to sign liability waivers. On-line study is strongly recommended prior to arriving at class by registering and completing the material on [www.bikeed.org](http://www.bikeed.org).

RSVP (see below) or just drop by: BRING A FRIEND!

\$10 Non-Member Registration Fee

\$30 Non-Member Registration + Discounted WABA Membership: Includes One Year WABA Membership (\$20 Savings!)

\$5 WABA Member Fee: Select "discount" below, for discount code email [safetyed \(at\) waba \(dot\) org](mailto:safetyed@waba.org) or call 202-518-0524 x212

\*\*\$10 of the registration fee for this class is non-refundable.

Capital Bikeshare members get in FREE! Email [safetyed@waba.org](mailto:safetyed@waba.org) with your bikeshare key number!

Please register and pay at <http://www.waba.org/education/calendar.php>. To pay by cash or check please call 202-518-0524 x 212.

## Minutes of the September 10 Meeting

By Sue Schumacher, Secretary

**Call to Order:** President Carole Ann Barth called the meeting to order at 7:45 pm. Introductions followed.

**Agenda:** The agenda was approved.

**Announcements:** Bienenfeld, Chair Education Committee, announced the October 17<sup>th</sup> Board of

Education Candidates' Night at the Rockville Library. Jim Humphrey, Planning & Land Use Chair announced that Tuesday night, September 11 is the date for the hearing on the Accessory Apartments ZTA before the County Council, and that Tuesday, September 18<sup>th</sup> is the date for the Council's hearing on Subdivision Staging Policy.

**Minutes:** It was moved and seconded to approve the June 11, meeting minutes. The motion was duly approved.

**Treasurer's Report:** Bill Schrader reported that to date 17 Associations and 3 individuals had paid their dues. President Barth called for a motion to accept the proposed budget as presented in the September newsletter. It was moved and seconded and the budget was adopted.

**Program:** Paula Bienenfeld introduced the participants in the program, "Moving Toward Reliable Electricity in Montgomery County": Roger Berliner, Montgomery County Council President, Robert Loube, Vice President, Rolka Loube Slzter Associates, Puesh Kumar, Manager, Engineering and Operations Manager, American Public Power Association, and Art Fabel, Chair of Environmental Committee of Tikvat Israel Synagogue. Council President Berliner began the program by stating that the County has no direct control over PEPCO. PEPCO is regulated by the Maryland Public Service Commission (PSC). Councilman Berliner went on to say that the county needed micro grids and Montgomery County should be the model for the utility of the future. He added that this would cost a lot of money and that rate payers will be paying for it. He ended by saying that the county needs the PSC to require better performance by PEPCO.

Bob Loube had several suggestions on how the Maryland PSC can incentivize PEPCO to provide better service. These suggestions included an incentive structure to push PEPCO up to at least a 67% reliability rate. In addition, he suggested the need for smart grids and smart meters. Puesh Kumar of APPA believes that the county would be better served by a publically owned and controlled utility as opposed to a for-profit corporation. A public utility would be made up of employees who actually live in the county. Mr. Fabel of Temple

Tikvat Israel told how the Temple lowered its energy bills by using a combination of conservation techniques, solar panels and “smart” equipment. A lively question and answer period followed.

#### **Resolutions:**

**Amending Position on ZTA 12-11: Accessory Apartments** as it appears on page 6 of the September newsletter was introduced by Jim Humphrey, Chair of Planning and Land Use Committee. It was moved and seconded. The vote was 22 for, 0 against, 1 abstention.

**Position on 2012 Subdivision Staging Policy.** A motion was made and seconded to adopt all 18 positions as they appear in the newsletter, which had been approved by the ExComm. Jim Humphrey then proposed an amendment to require TPAR fees by policy area as proposed by the Planning Board rather than a common fee across all policy areas. After being seconded, the vote on the substitute motion was 9 for, 2 against, 12 abstentions and was thus defeated. The vote on the original motion was 21 for, 0 against, 4 abstentions. The motion carried.

**Bill 21-12, to Ban Coal Tar Pavement Products** was presented on page 6 of the September newsletter. The motion was introduced by Paula Bienenfeld, First Vice President. It was moved and seconded. The vote was 21 for, 0 against, 2 abstentions. The motion passed.

**Bill 23-12, Administration-Open Government.** A discussion of the topic appears on page 6 of the September newsletter. Jim Zepp, Public Safety Chair handed out a two page paper on the subject. Part of the first paragraph was turned into the following motion:

Motion: The MCCF supports the adoption of the County Council Bill 23-12, which mandates that County agencies begin publishing data sets containing information that they either collect or generate as part of their normal duties. MCCF also recommends the creation of an Open Government Data Quality/Utility Advisory Committee that would be charged with providing the County with guidance on data improvement, mechanisms for promoting use of this information and priorities for

advancing Open Government through increasing public access to government data sets.

The motion was moved and seconded. The vote was 22 for, 1 against, 2 abstentions. The motion passed.

**Committee Reports:** Dan Wilhelm, Legislative Committee Chair reported the state budget includes a \$200M reduction in revenues to cover loss in jobs caused by sequestration, but does not cover the loss in federal aid.

The meeting adjourned at 9:45pm.

## **Minutes of the September 19 Executive Committee Meeting**

**By Acting Recording Secretary, Sandy Vogelgesang**

The Executive Committee met at the home of Dan Wilhelm in Silver Spring.

**Call to Order.** Due to the absence of the Federation president and vice president, ex-president Peggy Dennis agreed to chair the meeting and called the session to order at 8:00p.m. Present: Peggy Dennis, Dan Wilhelm, William Schrader, Jim Zepp, Jesse Cantrill, and Sandy Vogelgesang.

**Adoption of Meeting Agenda.** Peggy called for and received unanimous approval of the proposed ExComm agenda.

**Approval of Minutes of August ExComm Meeting.** ExComm approved minutes as amended to indicate that Dan Wilhelm, Chair for the Legislative Committee, would organize the October delegates' meeting (see below).

**Treasurer's Report.** Bill Schrader presented a written copy indicating the latest checking account balance of \$13,837.71 and status of membership renewals for associations and individuals. Jesse asked how current renewals compare to the past. The answer provided by Dan is that the number of renewals is on a par with the past. He explained that most organizations are off during the summer so that dues payments usually start coming in in September. Dan also reported that more people are switching to email delivery of the newsletter. As part of follow-up discussion on membership

outreach, Peggy agreed to dispatch the newsletter electronically each month to prospective new member associations.

### **Programs:**

**October:** Summary presentation on referendum issues (7 State and 2 County) that will appear on the November 2012 ballot. Dan Wilhelm, Chair for the Legislative Committee, to organize. Dan reported that Jamie Raskin, Maryland State Senator, will address State issues and Michael Faden, Senior Legislative Attorney for the County Council, will summarize county items.

**November:** Peggy will work with Ginny Barnes, Environment Chair, on a possible panel on the forest conservation law. If that proves not to be timely, President Carole Ann Barth will organize a program on energy conservation innovations, with help from Peggy who will talk with Bethesda Green.

**December:** Dan Wilhelm to explore possible program on economic development in Montgomery County.

**January:** Possible program on “State of Montgomery County.” Carole Ann to contact County Executive Ike Leggett.

**Community Hero.** Action deferred. ExComm discussed the option of including recognition of outstanding County employees or organizations for community hero awards. However, it was agreed that more discussion is needed at future meetings.

### **Issues for Discussion**

**Draft ExComm minutes:** ExComm agreed that the secretary (or acting secretary) would submit draft minutes to all ExComm members who attended the meeting, collect comments/revisions, and send the consolidated version to the newsletter editor for publication and subsequent approval by ExComm. The secretary will play a comparable drafting and consolidating role for minutes of the monthly delegates’ meetings.

**Partnering with Conservation Montgomery.** ExComm discussed this and other partnerships.

Possible revision/broadening of County Ethics Laws and regulations. ExComm agreed that Peggy should explore what, besides financial impropriety, is included in Montgomery County and Maryland laws/regulations and in comparable documents in other jurisdictions in the Mid-Atlantic region.

### **Date and Venue for next ExComm meeting:**

Thursday, October 18 at the home of Sandy Vogelgesang.

### **Committee Reports**

**Public Safety:** Jim Zepp, Chair, reported on four-day summit on gangs in the Metropolitan area to be held at the Silver Spring Regional Center, September 25-28.

**Transportation and Legislative Committees:** Dan Wilhelm, Chair, reported on upcoming meetings including the November 14 meeting at the County Council Office Building on public requests for action in Annapolis and upcoming public meetings on local bills on December 3 and on bi-county bills (Montgomery and Prince Georges) on December 5.

### **New Business:**

Jesse asked about the status of a proposed MCCF letter on Pepco reliability. ExComm agreed that Jim Zepp would draft a letter recommending specific priority action that Maryland PSC should require Pepco to take. That letter should be presented at an upcoming hearing on September 24 with copies of the letter going to Governor O’Malley, the Chairman of the PSC, and Montgomery County Executive Leggett.

**Adjournment:** The meeting adjourned at 9:55 pm.

## Executive Committee

Position	Name	Phone	Email
<b>Elected Officers</b>			
President	Carole Ann Barth	301-593-7863 (H)	<a href="mailto:cbarth@mindspring.com">cbarth@mindspring.com</a>
1st Vice President	Paula Bienenfeld	301-984-2944 (H) 240-899-2335 (C)	<a href="mailto:paula_bienenfeld@yahoo.com">paula_bienenfeld@yahoo.com</a>
2nd Vice President	Open		
Treasurer	Bill Schrader	301-946-6545 (H)	<a href="mailto:schraderw@erols.com">schraderw@erols.com</a>
Recording Secretary:	Sue Schumacher	301-654-1334 (H) 202-422-5503 (C)	<a href="mailto:sschumacher@mcneaney.com">sschumacher@mcneaney.com</a>
<b>Immediate Past President</b>			
Immediate Past President	Peggy Dennis	301-983-9738 (H)	<a href="mailto:hotyakker@gmail.com">hotyakker@gmail.com</a>
<b>Appointed Officials (President Nominated and Confirmed by the Membership)</b>			
Member at Large	Max Bronstein	301-460-3117 (H)	<a href="mailto:sumax@verizon.net">sumax@verizon.net</a>
Member at Large	Ann McDonald	301-718-0986 (H)	<a href="mailto:akwmcdonald@yahoo.com">akwmcdonald@yahoo.com</a>
Member at Large	Judy Higgins	301-884-3395 (H)	<a href="mailto:djones4747@aol.com">djones4747@aol.com</a>
Member at Large	Virginia Sheard	301-949-3372 (H)	<a href="mailto:boots3303@aol.com">boots3303@aol.com</a>
Member at Large	Jesse Cantrill	301-718-7286 (H)	<a href="mailto:jtcantrill@aol.com">jtcantrill@aol.com</a>
Public Relations Officer	Sandy Vogelgesang	301-365-2347 (H)	<a href="mailto:everest.associates@erols.com">everest.associates@erols.com</a>
Newsletter Editor	Peggy Dennis	301-983-9738 (H)	<a href="mailto:hotyakker@gmail.com">hotyakker@gmail.com</a>
Database	Dan Wilhelm	301-384-2698 (H)	<a href="mailto:djwilhelm@verizon.net">djwilhelm@verizon.net</a>
<b><u>Committee Chairs (Appointed by the President and Confirmed by the Membership).</u></b>			
Education	Paula Bienenfeld	301-984-2944 (H) 240-899-2335 (C)	<a href="mailto:paula_bienenfeld@yahoo.com">paula_bienenfeld@yahoo.com</a>
Environment	Ginny Barnes	301-762-6423 (H)	<a href="mailto:ginnybarnes@juno.com">ginnybarnes@juno.com</a>
Legislation	Jay Harding Dan Wilhelm	301-438-0229 (H) 301-384-2698 (H)	<a href="mailto:ilomai@aol.com">ilomai@aol.com</a> <a href="mailto:djwilhelm@verizon.net">djwilhelm@verizon.net</a>
Committee for Montgomery	Dan Wilhelm	301-384-2698 (H)	<a href="mailto:djwilhelm@verizon.net">djwilhelm@verizon.net</a>
Parks and Recreation	Carole Ann Barth	301-593-7863 (H)	<a href="mailto:cbarth@mindspring.com">cbarth@mindspring.com</a>
Planning and Land Use & Housing	Jim Humphrey	301-652-6359 (H)	<a href="mailto:theelms518@earthlink.net">theelms518@earthlink.net</a>
Public Finance	Chuck Lapinski	301-384-0392 (H)	<a href="mailto:charles.lapinski@yahoo.com">charles.lapinski@yahoo.com</a>
Public Safety	Jim Zepp	301-593-7863 (H)	<a href="mailto:jzepp@mindspring.com">jzepp@mindspring.com</a>
Public Utilities	Chuck Lapinski	301-384-0392 (H)	<a href="mailto:charles.lapinski@yahoo.com">charles.lapinski@yahoo.com</a>
Transportation	Dan Wilhelm	301-384-2698 (H)	<a href="mailto:djwilhelm@verizon.net">djwilhelm@verizon.net</a>

# MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

*Serving the County since 1925*  
**MEMBERSHIP APPLICATION OR RENEWAL**  
 July 1, 2012 through June 30, 2013

**Mail To: William H. Schrader (Treasurer)**  
12824 Middlevale Lane, Silver Spring, MD  
20906  
301-946-6545; schraderw@erols.com

**Inquiries Dan Wilhelm (Database)**  
 904 Cannon Road, Colesville, MD 20904  
 301-384-2698 djwilhelm@verizon.net

Name of Organization/Individual \_\_\_\_\_ Date \_\_\_\_\_

Number of Households (Approx) \_\_\_\_\_ Annual Dues (see below) \$ \_\_\_\_\_

(Make checks payable to **Montgomery County Civic Federation**)

Membership Type	Number of Households	PLEASE CHECK	DUES	Max Number of Members	Voting Privileges
<b>Local Association</b> (civic, community, homeowner or municipality. Must represent at least 10 households - not paid members. Can not be a single local issue group.)	10 to 50		\$25*	1	Yes
	51 to 300		\$45*	2	
	301 to 600		\$65*	3	
	601+		\$85*	4	
<b>Umbrella Association</b> (Two or more local associations. Cannot be single local issue group.)	60 to 500		\$45*	2	Yes
	501 to 1000		\$65*	3	
	1001+		\$85*	4	
<b>Regional or County-Wide Organization</b> (environmental, transportation, or other civic/community).	50+ memberships, not households		\$45*	2	Yes
<b>Individual Associate</b>	(not applicable)		\$20*	1	No
<b>Associate Group</b> (Gov't agency, business, or other organization)	(not applicable)		\$85*	2	No

**\*A \$5 discount may be taken for each person who elects to receive the newsletter via email.** Organizations can also select less than the allowed number of members and pay according to that number. Please provide all the information below no matter the newsletter delivery method.

1.	<b>Name</b> (President)		Phone (H)	
	Street		E-mail	
	City, State, Zip		Newsletter: US Mail <input type="checkbox"/> ; Email <input type="checkbox"/>	
			Put email address in directory: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
2.	<b>Name</b>		Phone (H)	
	Street		E-mail	
	City, State, Zip		Newsletter: US Mail <input type="checkbox"/> ; Email <input type="checkbox"/>	
			Put email address in directory: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
3.	<b>Name</b>		Phone (H)	
	Street		E-mail	
	City, State, Zip		Newsletter: US Mail <input type="checkbox"/> ; Email <input type="checkbox"/>	
			Put email address in directory: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	
4.	<b>Name</b>		Phone (H)	
	Street		E-mail	
	City, State, Zip		Newsletter: US Mail <input type="checkbox"/> ; Email <input type="checkbox"/>	
			Put email address in directory: Yes <input type="checkbox"/> No <input type="checkbox"/>	

### **Federation Meeting**

#### **Session 840**

Monday, October 8, 2012  
7:45 1st Floor Auditorium  
County Council Office Building.  
100 Maryland Avenue  
Rockville, MD

Agenda:

7:45 Call to Order & Introductions  
7:50 Approval of Agenda  
7:52 Announcements  
7:56 Approval of Minutes of September 8 meeting  
7:58 Treasurer's Report  
8:00 Program: November's Ballot Questions  
9:20 Committee Reports  
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. 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 Council Office Building, 100 Maryland Avenue, Rockville, MD.

The **Civic Federation News** is published monthly, except in July and August. It is mailed/emailed 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: **Saturday October 27.** Prepare submission as an MS Word, Word Perfect or text-only document, **attach** it to an e-mail, and send 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.

### **NEXT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING**

**DATE: THURSDAY, OCTOBER 18, 7:45 P.M.**

At the home of Sandy Vogelgesang  
9009 Charred Oak Drive, Bethesda, 20817



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

Dan Wilhelm, Database Manager

904 Cannon Road

Silver Spring, MD 20904

[DJWILHELM@VERIZON.NET](mailto:DJWILHELM@VERIZON.NET)

First Class Mail

*Address service requested*