



# Arlington County Civic Federation

GENERAL MEMBERSHIP MEETING MINUTES, TUESDAY 11 MARCH 2025

## MEETING

- Arlington County Civic Federation, General Membership Meeting, 3/11/2025 7:00 - 9:00 p.m.
- Hybrid meeting held in-person at the VHC Hazel Auditorium and virtually via Zoom, called via email invitation, web notification, and Facebook post.

## ATTENDANCE

- In-Person: Member delegates checked in and were provided a voting ballot.
- Zoom: Member delegates registered in-advance, and were recorded via Zoom

## CALL TO ORDER (John Ford)

- Called to order at 7:00 p.m. with quorum met with 1/10th of member delegates (required 25).

## MINUTES APPROVAL (John Ford)

- A motion was made to approve the February General Membership (GM) [minutes](#), the motion was moved, and seconded. The February GM minutes were approved by acclamation.

## PROGRAM:

ACCF was honored to welcome Arlington County government and civic leadership to discuss a range of topics including updates from the Arlington County School Board and Chief of Police Andy Penn. We also welcomed Daughters of the American Revolution - Arlington Chapter House back into ACCF membership, and aligned on representatives for the ACCF Nominating and Awards Committees. We included time for the audience to ask questions throughout, with membership involvement in the discussion a priority. Discussion topics and questions included:

1. Several members of the **Arlington County School Board** (Chair Mary Kadera, Vice Chair Bethany Zecher Sutton, and Kathleen Clark) and **Arlington Public School Superintendent** Dr. Francisco Durán discussed the FY26 budget, revenue streams, and expenses. They shared a timeline for APS budget next steps, to include a budget presentation on March 13th. Dr. Duron expects a deficit of \$42mm. We also discussed priorities including employee compensation and cost of living adjustment (COLA), planning factors for staffing programs, school safety, inflationary costs, and enrollment increases. Questions from the audience included:
  - i. Can you define the difference between step increases and COLA?
  - ii. Can you speak to changes to federal funding of education programs within APS, given the policies of the 47th presidential administration?
  - iii. Is APS still delivering the high quality education Arlingtonians have come to expect?
  - iv. What are your plans on the boundary process?
  - v. Will APS need to close an elementary school?
  - vi. Has APS tried to validate Arlington residency of students?
  - vii. How sustainable is the current APS budget deficit?

- viii. Discussed APS job fair this Saturday at Wakefield High School.
  - ix. Is Arlington County investigating bus transportation as a means to reduce APS costs?
  - x. Can you speak to how the Arlington County Board allocates funding to APS as a % of the entire county budget?
  - xi. How is APS planning to engage with immigration-related inquiries from law enforcement officials?
  - xii. How does APS think about “steps away from students” when prioritizing funding of child-facing programs/staff?
- b. You can access the presentation slides [here](#).
2. **Arlington Chief of Police Andy Penn** discussed a slight increase in crime this year, prioritizing staff and budget for APD core services, and APD’s engagement and collaboration with federal authorities regarding immigration. Questions from audience included:
    - a. Is APS engaging with other diverse communities, other than latino communities?
    - b. Are you going to middle and high schools to discuss immigration?
  3. A motion was made to **welcome a returning member, Daughters of the American Revolution (DAR) Arlington Chapter House, back into ACCF**. The motion was moved, seconded, and approved by acclamation.
  4. A motion was made to nominate the **ACCF Nomination and Awards Committee members**. The proposed committee members are included below for reference. The motion was moved, seconded, and approved by acclamation.
    - a. Nominating Committee
      - i. David Smith, Bluemont CA Treasurer, ACCF Board Chair
      - ii. Alex Sakes, Penrose CA President, Pike Presidents Group Chair
      - iii. Ron Haddox, Columbia Heights CA President, ACCF Board Member
      - iv. Jean Henceroth, Leeway-Overlee CA President, ACCF Board Member
      - v. John Ford, ACCF President
    - b. Awards Committee
      - i. Nick Giacobbe, Aurora Highlands CA Secretary, ACCF Vice President
      - ii. Diane Kelly, former Waycroft-Woodlawn CA President
      - iii. Matt Gloudeman, Westover Village CA President, ACCF Secretary
      - iv. Kara Simon, Arlington Mill CA President
      - v. John Ford, ACCF President

**ADJOURNMENT – 9:00 p.m.**

A motion was made to adjourn the meeting and approved by acclamation.

Meeting Video Link: [Arlington County Civic Fed \[ACCF\] \(vimeo.com\)](#)

Submitted by: Matt Gloudeman, ACCF Secretary 3/18/2025