

**Arlington Ridge Civic Association (ARCA)**  
**Minutes of the Membership Meeting, November 16, 2017**

*Recorded by Don Schlichtmann*

Pres. Arthur Fox called the meeting to order at 7:00 pm. He noted two business matters to be addressed prior to introduction of the evening's main speakers.

He first introduced Lauren Bailey and indicated that the ExBoard was recommending her nomination as a member of the ExBoard with responsibility to oversee the NC Program. The nomination was approved.

He then introduced Treasurer Bob Hyde to present the proposed 2018 ARCA budget. Bob made a brief presentation and answered several questions. The proposed budget was then approved.

Arthur next introduced Jeffrey Farner, Deputy Planner for the City of Alexandria. Mr. Farner and an associate made a presentation of Alexandria's plans for development of the northern portion of Potomac Yard. They discussed the timing of expected development of various segments of the area and of the so-called 'Oakhill Triangle' on the west side of Rte. 1. They discussed expectations for 'gathering spots' near the new Metro station, underground parking for the bulk of the area, the impact of 'driverless' cars and 'ride-calling' options, and the park/open space system that will connect with Crystal City. They used catch-phrases such as 'neighborhood connectivity' and 'economic, social, and environmental sustainability' in explaining the intent of the development efforts.

Following their presentation, the two addressed questions from the audience. The presentation was warmly received for its clarity and candor. Attendees were invited to view more information on the proposal on Alexandria's website under "North Potomac Yard".

Arthur next introduced two planners from Arlington Public Schools (APS) to discuss the objectives and processes involved in proposed school boundary changes. Gladis Bourdouane and Zachary Larnard indicated that work to date had focused on middle school boundary changes and that work was now underway in planning elementary school boundary changes. They noted that 'proximity' (walk zones) was the most important criterion evaluated when assessing boundary changes but that 'stability', 'efficiency', and 'alignment' were also factors. They invited attendees to become more informed and involved via the website, [www.apsva.us/engage](http://www.apsva.us/engage) and indicated that there would be a public hearing on Nov. 30 and a Board decision regarding middle school boundaries on December 14th. Further, they indicated that the APS Board would meet on December 19<sup>th</sup> to establish a procedure and schedule for determining a new boundary for Oakridge beginning in the 2018-19 schoolyear. Finally, they noted that APS would be requesting Capital Improvement Plan (CIP) funding in 2018 to develop a plan for the construction of 400 to 725 new elementary school seats to become available in 2025 at locations to be determined.

A lengthy Q&A session followed. Roughly eight persons from the audience raised questions or comments. The most significant comments addressed the fact that the 22202 'neighborhood' is unique among Arl.Co. neighborhoods, and APS needs to respect and address its particular circumstances. The participants continued their dialogue following the close of the meeting.

There being no further business, the meeting officially concluded.

Meeting adjourned at 9:00 p.m.