

Aurora Highlands Civic Association
Membership Meeting Minutes
June 13, 2012, 7:00 p.m.
Aurora Hills Community Center, 735 South 18th Street

7:05 p.m. – Bill Gillen opened the meeting, 18 members present

Officer/Representatives Reports

- Nick Giacobbe reported that the walkabout on Sunday afternoon was a huge success. More than 100 people braved the 90 plus degree heat to join County Board Chair Mary Hynes and School Committee Chair Abby Rafael on the inaugural walk of the [Walk Arlington route put together by AHCA and ARCA](#).
- Nancy Swain reported that PenPlace had its third site plan review committee meeting. The latest proposal puts the park in the center with taller buildings, suggests one secure building rather than two, and has no change in the 1.89 million square feet of office space proposed. The planning commission recommended that they consider swapping some residential for office space on the adjacent site.
- Cory Giacobbe reported that the tree canopy grant was submitted for ten trees.
- Cory also reported that the C3RC (Crystal City Citizens Review Committee) is finishing its first year and wrapping up lots of procedural work to develop criteria for green space, site lines, amenities, traffic, air quality, edge development and baseline metrics. They are also grappling how to ensure that overall goals of the plan are met when each building is considered individually in the site plan process.
- Reminder that the 2nd Monday PLACE meetings with the County Board continue at Gunston for PLACE.
- Chris Mann reported that the sidewalk project on Ives Street from 20 to 23 should be underway soon.
- Nancy Swain noted that the Park Enhancement Grant deadline was coming up in a couple of days. A motion was adopted to submit a letter of intent (jointly with ARCA) for a project to plant native specimens and install irrigation in front of the community center. (NOTE: ARCA executive committee concurred and the letter was submitted on June 15.)
- Joe Petty from Crystal City Business Improvement District reported on the many activities going on in the next few weeks. See the newsletter or BID web site for details.
- Passport to Summer will be starting soon.

New Business

- No new business was discussed.

Presentations

- **Hayes Street Multimodal Project.** Kathryn Youngbluth reported that the reconstruction of Hayes Street from Army Navy to 15th Street would be getting underway in the next few weeks. Milani Construction has been [awarded the \\$9.1 million contract](#) and will be working on the seven phases over the next fifteen months. The phasing should limit lane closures to only one lane at any given time and the county will be holding regular meetings with the contractor. There was a lively discussion about the "[HAWK Beacons](#)," a new traffic signal that the County is considering for the mid-block crossings. In order to keep up communication during the project, the county will develop a web site and list serv, if anything is out of the ordinary during the construction, please let Kathryn know.
- **Arlington Egg Project.** Ed Fendley spoke about the proposal to permit hens in residential neighborhoods. The Urban Task Force has been meeting since April and is looking at the examples in Portland, Seattle, Madison and Austin, which permit hens but no roosters. He said that ten hens produce less waste than a 40 pound dog. They currently have about 1,000 signatures on a petition to the County to start the dialog on the zoning changes that would be needed to permit hens.

Meeting adjourned at 8:40 p.m.