

Membership Meeting Minutes
Aurora Highlands Civic Association
November 12, 2025, at Aurora Hills Center and via Zoom

Opening of Meeting

President Rachel Hicks opened the meeting at 7:03 p.m. with a welcome to the membership and an overview of the agenda.

Minutes Approval

The draft minutes for the October 2025 regular meeting were approved.

President's Updates and General Discussion

- **December Meeting** - The membership agreed not to hold a regular general meeting in December, but rather to hold a social event in Ives Park at the regular meeting time (12/10 at 7:00 p.m.).
- **Melwood** – Rachel described stumbling upon an NBC 4 crew preparing a story on the Melwood development, the story is available at this [link](#).
- **CaBi Station** – The County notified AHCA of a “temporary” move of the bikeshare station from Fern Street at Army Navy Drive to Eads Street at Army Navy Drive. The move eliminates 2.5 parking spaces (in reality 3) versus the current location on the planting strip. The County is willing to discuss the permanent location of the station in the future.
- **Updates from Nick Giacobbe:**
 - **Adaptive Reuse (Hotel)** - Preconstruction meeting was held for the conversion of the 2100 Crystal Drive building to a hotel. Most of the work will be inside the building and parking will be set aside in the underground garage for the workers. The hotel is anticipated to open in the fall of 2027.
 - **Adaptive Reuse (1800/1901 Crystal Drive)** – JBG Smith is awaiting staff comments on the application, County will host a lunch and learn on Friday. Crystal City Civic Association is still working on the library and performing arts space. Project approval is expected at the December County Board meeting.
 - **RiverHouse** – As covered in the newsletter, the project to add 4,461 new units is in its final review, going to the Planning Commission, other commissions, and County Board in December. There is still opposition to the 20+ story towers that will be approved for a later phase of the project.
 - **Americana** – All utility work is complete, building permits have been issued, only thing remaining is financing - the project is shovel ready. Current County approval expires in April 2026 and JBG Smith is preparing an extension request.
 - **National Landing BID Update** – Neighborhood cleanup tomorrow (11/13), next big event is [The Lodge](#), 12/6 from 1:00 – 7:00 p.m. in Met Park.
- **Updates from Stacy Meyer:**
 - **Historic Preservation** – At the recent roundtable hosted by CivFed and the County Manager, Stacy raised the [pending local historic district](#) for the group. One other civic association offered advice on managing the process.

- [Veritas Collegiate Academy](#) – Our local 23rd Street school was recently named the #1 private K-12 school in Virginia in the Niche 2026 Best Schools Rankings. They would like to present to the Association in the new year.
- **Comp Plan Update** – The County is preparing a [major revision](#) to the Comprehensive Plan which removes many of the planning principles that have made Arlington successful. Lyon Park Civic Association has drafted a letter and encourage other civic associations to weigh in with the County. The members agreed to send a letter to the County Board expressing our concerns.
- **Sidewalk Maintenance** – We had invited staff from the County to discuss sidewalk maintenance, especially the standards and enforcement for sidewalks where maintenance is delegated to building owners through the site plan requirements, but nobody was available. The County recognizes this as a problem, and we will continue the conversation to seek a resolution.
- **Arlington Neighborhoods Program** – Our own David Litman will be taking over as chair of the advisory committee ([ArNAC](#)) in February 2026.

Election of Officers for 2026

Following brief speeches by each of the candidates, the unopposed slate of officers was elected:

President Stacy Meyer
First Vice President Alex Chakrin
Treasurer Ben Watts
Recording Secretary Nick Giacobbe
Corresponding Secretary Lexi Tinker

The new slate of officers will take office on January 1.

Meeting adjourned at 8:20 p.m.

Nicholas J. Giacobbe, Jr.
Recording Secretary