

POTOMAC YARD ARLINGTON CIVIC ASSOCIATION

General Membership Meeting Minutes
March 29, 2026; 6:00pm
Virtual/Eclipse Community Room

Agenda

President's Report

- Arlington County Civic Federation Application
- Process for formally adopting Association boundaries
- Treasurer position available
- Crystal City to Reagan National Airport Multimodal Connection (CC2DCA)
- National Landing Business Improvement District partnership

Membership Coordinator Report

- Oyster Festival

Old Business

- Arlington Neighborhood Plan
- Neighborhood Block Party Planning

New Business

- Bylaw revision to account for proposed boundary expansion
- Future Neighborhood Farmers Market

President's Report

Arlington County Civic Federation Application

- The President reported that the Association has officially submitted its application for membership in the Arlington County Civic Federation after exceeding the minimum membership threshold. The application will be considered at the Federation's next Board meeting.
- Members interested in serving as delegates or alternate delegates to the Civic Federation were encouraged to notify the Executive Committee.

Association Boundary Adoption

- An update was provided regarding formal recognition of the Association's boundaries. Letters of support have been received from the Arlington Heights Civic Association, and discussions continue with the Crystal City Civic Association. Required public notice has also been completed.
- Based on feedback received during the application process, the proposed boundaries have been expanded to include the Porsche dealership property,

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WMATA bus facility, and adjacent parcels to ensure these areas are represented by a civic association should future redevelopment occur.

Treasurer Position

- Members were reminded that the Treasurer position remains vacant and interested volunteers were encouraged to contact the Executive Committee.

Crystal City to Reagan National Airport Multimodal Connection

- Members were reminded that comments on the Crystal City to Reagan National Airport Multimodal Connection project were due that evening.
- Discussion focused on supporting a fully covered pedestrian connection across the George Washington Memorial Parkway to improve pedestrian comfort and accessibility.

National Landing BID Partnership

- The Association announced a new partnership with the National Landing Business Improvement District (BID).
- Under the partnership, the Association will assist in distributing BID information to residents while the BID will promote Association activities through its communication channels. The BID also committed a \$1,000 grant to support Association operations.

Membership Coordinator Report

Oyster Festival

- The Association participated in the Fox 5 Oyster Festival, resulting in several new memberships and increased visibility within the community.
- Members discussed continuing to build on this momentum through future community events and outreach activities.

Old Business

Arlington Neighborhood Plan

- The President presented an overview of the draft Neighborhood Plan and its proposed organization. The draft includes sections addressing neighborhood demographics, land use, transportation, commercial activity, open space, community priorities, capital improvement priorities, and implementation.

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- Members discussed using the Neighborhood Plan to establish a long-term vision for Potomac Yard while ensuring the document reflects community priorities rather than solely the views of the Executive Committee. Once an initial draft is completed, it will be distributed to members for review before broader community engagement begins.
- Members discussed a number of priorities that should be reflected in the Plan, including pedestrian safety, traffic calming, neighborhood beautification, retail vitality, tree canopy expansion, railroad noise mitigation, public space activation, and improved bicycle and transit infrastructure.
- Transportation Priorities
 - Members held an extensive discussion regarding transportation improvements that should be incorporated into the Neighborhood Plan, with particular emphasis on improving pedestrian safety along Potomac Avenue.
 - Discussion focused on roadway design strategies that naturally reduce vehicle speeds, including raised crosswalks, narrowing travel lanes, reducing excessive roadway width where appropriate, and improving pedestrian visibility at neighborhood crossings.
 - Members also discussed improvements to bicycle and pedestrian infrastructure, including better crosswalk treatments, recurring issues with vehicles blocking bicycle lanes, bus lane design concerns, and opportunities to improve enforcement of existing traffic regulations.
 - Longer-term concepts were also discussed, including extending Potomac Yard Park north into Arlington, creating additional green space along Potomac Avenue, incorporating traffic calming into future roadway redesigns, and coordinating transportation improvements with the City of Alexandria where projects span both jurisdictions.
- Short Bridge Park
 - Members discussed opportunities to incorporate additional amenities into future phases of Short Bridge Park, including public grills, expanded recreational facilities, and improvements for dog owners.
 - Discussion also emphasized the importance of coordinating with the City of Alexandria as future improvements are considered, recognizing that the park functions as a shared regional asset serving both communities.

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- Next Steps
 - The President announced that the first draft of the Neighborhood Plan would be distributed to the membership for review and that a small working group would be formed to refine the document before presenting it for broader community feedback.

Neighborhood Block Party Planning

- Members discussed applying for Arlington County's Neighborhood Day grant to support a Fall Festival and agreed that the event should serve as an opportunity to strengthen community engagement while increasing awareness of the Association.
- Discussion included potential activities such as dog-focused events, local food vendors, community information tables, family activities, and partnerships with neighborhood businesses.
- Members also discussed coordinating with JBG Smith regarding use of Central Park and engaging the National Landing BID and neighborhood property managers as potential partners and sponsors.
- The possibility of incorporating a pilot farmers market into the Fall Festival was also discussed as a way to gauge community interest before pursuing a recurring neighborhood market.

New Business

Bylaw Amendment – Association Boundary Expansion

- The President presented a proposed amendment to the Association's bylaws to formally expand the Association's boundaries consistent with discussions held during the Arlington County Civic Federation application process.
- Discussion focused on ensuring that adjacent properties currently outside any civic association, including the WMATA bus facility and Porsche dealership property, would be represented should redevelopment occur in the future.
- Following discussion, a motion to approve the bylaw amendment was made, seconded, and approved unanimously by voice vote.

Future Neighborhood Farmers Market

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- Members discussed continued exploration of establishing a neighborhood farmers market to improve access to fresh food while creating an additional community gathering space.
- Discussion included potential partnerships with local organizations and businesses, the relationship to existing regional farmers markets, and opportunities to use future community events as a way to pilot the concept before pursuing a recurring market.

Action List

Action Item	Owner
Submit first draft of the Neighborhood Plan to the membership for review	Dorian
Form a Neighborhood Plan working group to review and refine the draft	Leadership Team
Follow up with the Arlington Neighborhoods Program regarding assignment of a Neighborhood Plan liaison	Dorian
Contact the National Landing BID regarding use of Central Park for the Fall Festival	Dorian
Continue planning the Fall Festival and Neighborhood Day grant application	Leadership Team
Update the bylaws to reflect the approved boundary amendment	Dorian