



CIVIC FEDERATION NEWS

Official Publication of the Montgomery County Civic Federation

Serving the Public Interest Since 1925

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JUNE 2004

Recipients of MCCF Annual Awards to be Honored on June 14

The Sentinel Award is sponsored by the *Montgomery Sentinel* newspaper and is presented to an individual or group for a significant contribution to good government at the local level. This year we honor Ms. Martha Waddy for her down-county work in support of local government.

For the past five years Martha Waddy has served as President of the New Hampshire Estates Civic Association. Her neighborhood is one of the most densely populated areas in the county and has a relatively high concentration of poverty and attendant social ills. Ms. Waddy has worked in many ways to reduce crime and bad housing, and has significantly heightened the morale of the local population.

Martha Waddy is also secretary of "Weed and Seed", the public-private partnership that uses federal grants and volunteer work by private citizens to reduce crime by cooperating with law enforcement on the one hand and

June Program: Mayor O'Malley and Baltimore's "Citistat" Program

By Wayne Goldstein

Delegations from cities across North America are beating a path to Baltimore to learn about this increasingly popular way to make government more accountable and effective. Baltimore Mayor, Martin J. O'Malley has graciously accepted our invitation to come to our June Meeting and discuss his nationally acclaimed "Citistat" Program and the equally important "3-1-1 call system".

Baltimore's CitiStat is an accountability tool that uses computer mapping and regular accountability sessions to organize the flow of information on which the city government depends. It is based on the CompStat program pioneered in the New York City Police Department by Jack Maple. CompStat helped the NYPD to reduce crime dramatically and is employed today by several police departments around the world.

The 3-1-1 call system provides to Baltimore's citizens a single, easy-to-remember phone number to call for information or to request a service from any government agency

This is a unique opportunity for state, county, and municipal public officials and employees, and the people they represent and work for, to hear about how all of us can become part of a team working together to identify and solve problems large and small in Montgomery County and the Washington region. Don't miss this special opportunity to meet with and hear Mayor O'Malley!

For more complete information on the CitiStat program and related topics, references and links to web sites, check this Newsletter on the MCCF web site at www.montgomerycivic.org.

Contents

June Program: Mayor O'Malley and Baltimore's "Citistat" Program	1
Recipients of MCCF Annual Awards to be Honored June 14	1
President's Message	2
Bylaws	4
CIVIC FEDERATION ANNUAL ELECTION	4
Membership Renewal	4
Calendar	5
VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!	5
MCCF Committees	5
Summer Planning Meeting and Potluck Dinner	5
Public Safety Committee	5
Minutes of the Federation Meeting, May 10, 2004	6
Executive Committee Meeting Minutes	7

initiating positive youth and social improvement programs on the other. She is a long-time member of the Long Branch Initiative, a down-county civic group that works to address problems and support the residents of the Long Branch and Flower Avenue communities. These communities have a high proportion of immigrants who are struggling to increase their opportunities and to improve their quality of life in our county.

Several years ago Martha Waddy was appointed to work on what has become the Takoma Park-Prince Georges-Montgomery County Crossroads Development Commission, an organization established by former Governor Parris Glendening and renewed recently after a two year hiatus by Governor Ehrlich. The Commission works to resolve public safety, education and transportation problems affecting all three jurisdictions. According to the Commission Director, Mr. Erwin Mack, Martha has been an outstanding representative of Montgomery County on the Commission.

Ms. Waddy also spends a good deal of time in counseling and providing moral support to patients undergoing treatment at nursing homes. With so much of her time and resources going into her civic work which she performs selflessly and with great dedication, it is fitting that we honor Martha Waddy with the 2004 Sentinel Award.

The Gazette Award is sponsored by the Montgomery Gazette Newspaper and awarded to an individual or group who performs exemplary volunteer service for the residents of the county. This year we recognize the volunteers from the County's 19 Volunteer Fire Companies.

Emergencies can strike any of us at any time: day-in and day-out, while driving, in our home or office, working outside or undertaking a recreational activity. The fire fighter, emergency medical technician (EMT) or paramedic answering the "911" call may be either a career employee of the County's Department of Fire and Rescue Services (DFRS) or a volunteer member of one of our 19 independent fire corporations. If the response is made during weekday hours, the responders will most likely be career employees. But on weekends and evenings, a volunteer may be the one answering the call. The Gazette Award recognizes the daily and extraordinary contributions made by our volunteer responders. They must meet the same training standards, spending many hours in the classroom and in "hands on" exercises even before they graduate and become "certified" to respond to our needs. They are on duty when we are celebrating

Thanksgiving, when we are away at the beach for the 4th of July, or at 3:00 in the morning. They go whenever and wherever a call for assistance takes them. They answer calls for help even at the risk to their own safety and life, all without any monetary reward. For these reasons, the Civic Federation and the Gazette Newspapers recognize and thank our volunteer responders for outstanding service to the people of Montgomery County.

The Star Cup is awarded by the Montgomery County Civic Federation to a delegate or committee for outstanding public service on behalf of Montgomery County. The 2004 Star Cup is awarded to Cary Lamari, outgoing President of the Montgomery County Civic Federation, for his great dedication, leadership and skill in furthering the public welfare.

A general economic decline and constrained revenue growth at county, state and national levels led to curtailments in government services and difficulties in assigning priorities among segments of the county's population. Despite this situation, Mr. Lamari continued to stress support of the most vulnerable beneficiaries, especially the mentally ill. He also supervised the work of the Federation in its oversight of County services: transportation, education, land use, the environment, parks/recreation, and finances. He helped establish a new public safety committee to deal with natural disasters, potential epidemics and crime and terrorism. He worked to maintain a high quality fire and rescue service for county residents and the contribution to this service provided by volunteers. He championed our efforts to restructure the County Council into nine community-based districts. Cary's enthusiastic Italian personality has been most effective in the retention and increase in the Federation membership. And he has recognized and encouraged the work of other citizens by frequently giving our Community Hero Award.

President's Message

By Cary Lamari

My two years as President of the Montgomery County Civic Federation are drawing to a close. This has been a challenging and interesting time for me, and it has been an honor and a pleasure to serve as head of the county's oldest and largest civic organization.

I am particularly proud of both the breadth and depth of

participation and leadership our organization has shown. The quality of those working with me on the Executive Committee has been outstanding. There are many individuals without whom the Federation could not function, and I personally thank each member of The Executive Committee for your time and contributions. But some individuals merit special recognition.

I believe the past two years have produced some notable accomplishments. Montgomery County has changed during the last decades from a sleepy suburbia to an urban complex with people migrating here for jobs and homes. The problems associated with a fast rate of growth are many: crowded schools, congested roads, inadequate public facilities and safety services. I am very proud of those who worked for hundreds of hours over several years, particularly Dan Wilhelm and Stan Schiff, to develop our transportation policy review and recommendations. It provides a balanced approach to growth and congestion in Montgomery County. I hope the County Council and Executive will embrace it and put it into effect.

I must give special mention to our relatively new subcommittee on Housing led by the dynamic trio of Jim Humphrey, Sarah Gilligan and Wayne Goldstein. This group is on track to becoming a thoughtful, aggressive and sincere advocate for affordable housing within the larger context of sensible zoning and land use planning. Unfortunately, given the direction this Council has and is taking Montgomery County, the Housing subcommittee has had to be more reactive than proactive. I hope our government will be more receptive in the future to listening to and working with us to develop a long-range, effective strategy and policy to provide more affordable housing.

Finally, I am particularly proud of the Election Reforms Committee, ably chaired by Dale Tibbitts. Due to Dale's dedication and hard work these past two years, the Civic Federation has worked to enact the recommendations of the Stenberg Commission and towards bringing voluntary public financing of campaigns to the State of Maryland. More important, we have started the challenging process of collecting the 10,000 signatures needed to put a charter amendment referendum on the ballot in November that will change the make up of our County Council. The charter amendment referendum deserves special mention here. I recently met with the Issues Committee of

the Montgomery County Democratic Central Committee. Other political parties including the Republican Party and the Green Party have already agreed to support our effort. I was seeking the support, similarly, of the Democrats, and I feel compelled to speak about some of the dynamics of that meeting.

Ike Leggett came at my request to speak to the Democrats. Ike was, as he always is, thoughtful, focused, and eloquent. He reviewed the restructuring of the Council that took place in 1987 when the composition changed from 7 councilmen elected "at-large" to the current composition of 5 districts and 4 at-large representatives. He acknowledged that the make up of the County Council was never intended to remain as it currently is. In fact, it was understood that as the county grew, the makeup of the Council would need to change to reflect changing dynamics and insure better governance. He agreed with all the reasons the Civic Federation has given to justify seeking change now. Ike, however, felt that another proposal might be more constructive. He agrees with us that the Council needs more and smaller district representation, but he sees value in retaining some seats for individuals representing the County-wide perspective. He proposed an 11 member council with 8 district representatives and 3 councilmen elected as at-large representatives. The council president would be elected from the pool of at-large councilmen.

While Ike's proposal is intriguing, it is not the proposal we are making and it could only be put on the table if the existing Council chooses to put it on the ballot as their own initiative. This is not likely to happen unless our petition is successful.

Councilwoman Nancy Floreen was also in attendance at this meeting. She stated that she feels that the Charter Amendment Petition represents a direct attack on George Leventhal and herself. She feels citizens are not deterred from running for the at-large seats by the high costs of those campaigns, that they are well represented by the current Council, and that they have reasonable opportunities to participate in their governance without any changes to the existing structure. Ms. Floreen also brought a request from current Council President, Steve Silverman, that the Democratic Party not consider any ballot questions unless and until the question is ratified for the coming election.

I stated that our initiative is not an attack on any elected official. It is, in fact, a positive and constructive response

to perceived weaknesses in our current system, an attempt to make our government more representative and responsive. The cost of running for a seat on the council, whether district or at-large, has become prohibitively expensive and deters too many excellent individuals from running for office. The field is increasingly narrowed to those with personal fortunes to risk or those with the financial backing of special interests. The balance between the needs and interests of individual residents (now almost a million) the business community and non-governmental institutions has been lost. Citizens increasingly feel that their votes don't count; that their concerns, when brought to the attention of elected representatives, are listened to but ignored; that problems are not being addressed with constructive, effective solutions. In short, we believe that change is overdue, and that change is what our ballot initiative is all about, nothing more or less, and certainly nothing personal. I am confident citizens across this County will step up to this challenge and give us the signatures necessary to get this measure on the ballot in November.

I thank each member of the Civic Federation for your support these past two years. I know you will give Dan Wilhelm, our next president, the same support that I have come to rely on and appreciate. May God bless each and every one of you and your families.

Bylaws

Dan Wilhelm

The May newsletter (pp 6-8, available on the MCCF web site) identified proposed Bylaw changes. These changes were presented to the membership at the May meeting and according to the Bylaws will be voted on at the June meeting. The proposed changes deal with membership. The membership form has also been modified to reflect the proposed changes. This form is also on the MCCF web site.

The Bylaws Committee is now working on substantive changes. The next meeting is on June 3, 7:30 PM at my house. All are welcome. Call me, Dan Wilhelm, for directions at (301) 384-2698.

CIVIC FEDERATION ANNUAL ELECTION

The annual Civic Federation Election will take place at the June Federation meeting. All members should be prepared to vote. The slate of candidates for elective positions in MCCF follows. Please note that there are two positions vacant: Vice President for District 2, and a Second Vice President. Nominations for individuals to fill these positions may be made from the floor before voting and interested individuals may volunteer to serve.

President:	Dan Wilhelm
First Vice President:	Wayne Goldstein
Treasurer:	Luella Mast
Recording secretary:	Richard Zierdt
Corresponding secretary:	Lyle Schofield
District 1 VP	Jim Humphrey
District 2 VP	
District 3 VP	Tom DeGraba,
District 4 VP	Arnie Gordon
District 5VP	Dale Tibbitts
2nd Vice President	Mark Adelman
2nd Vice President	Rosie Poole
2nd Vice President	John Warnock
2nd Vice President	

Membership Renewal

The MCCF fiscal year runs from July 1 thru June 30. Since the new year is about ready to begin, we urge each member association to renew its membership for the coming year. Members receive the newsletter via US mail or receive an email notice that it is available on our web site. Member associations (local, umbrella, regional, and county) can make motions and vote on them. Associates can participate in the discussion but not vote. MCCF members often have different views on many subjects. We strive to have pro and con positions written in the newsletter which should help the membership understand different points of view and help the group decide what position to take. Once a position is taken, we can work together toward making that position happen in the county, or state government. Thus your membership is important to you and to us. Use the membership form on the web site to renew your membership. (If the membership does not approve the proposed Bylaw amendment, the form will be changed as necessary.)

2004 Civic Federation Calendar

Please note the following dates remaining in 2004. All Federation meetings are held in the Council Office Building

1st floor auditorium on the second Monday of the month, September - November and January - June, at 7:45 p.m. unless otherwise noted.

June 14 Annual meeting and Awards Ceremony
 July 22, Thursday: Federation brainstorming meeting & pot luck supper at Peggy Dennis's, 11115 Fawsett Road, Potomac. 301-983-9738
 September 13 Federation meeting
 October 11 Federation meeting
 November 8 Federation meeting
 December 5, Sunday: Holiday Reception for Elected Officials at New Fortune Restaurant, 16515 Frederick Avenue, Gaithersburg

All Federation Executive Committee meetings are held in the Red Brick Courthouse ten days after the Federation meeting, August - June, at 7:45 pm unless otherwise noted. The remaining dates in 2004 are: June 24, August 19 (tentative); September 23; October 21; November 18; December 16.

VOLUNTEERS NEEDED!

The Montgomery County Department of Health and Human Services needs volunteers to participate in an exercise to test the County's Smallpox Vaccination Clinic Plan. Volunteers will serve as "clinic patients" going through the whole "drill" simulating a mass vaccination. This will start with transport to the clinic, and proceed to filling out forms, waiting in lines, etc. Volunteers will not receive vaccinations. Snacks and beverages will be provided, and first aid kits will be distributed to participants.

The exercise will be held on Monday, June 21, 2004. Volunteers will meet at staging areas in the Kensington/north Silver Spring area between 11:45 a.m. and 12:45 p.m. and will be dismissed from there no later than 4:00 p.m. If you can help with this important test, call the Montgomery County Volunteer Center at 240-777-2600. The Volunteer Center will provide more information, including the exact staging areas where volunteer are to report.

MCCF Committees **Dan Wilhelm**

The committees are always looking for more help.

Assuming that I will be elected President in June, I would want to transfer the Transportation Chairmanship. We also need a chairman for the Environmental Committee. The Planning and Land Use committee is especially in need of additional help. If you are interested, please call me, Dan Wilhelm, 301-384-2698.

Summer Planning Meeting and Potluck Dinner

MCCF will hold its annual planning meeting on Thursday July 22. The purpose of the session is to hear from members about issues that MCCF should address in the coming year. The meeting is focused toward the presidents of member organizations, but everyone is welcome. The meeting will include a pot-luck dinner and social period before the meeting. Peggy Dennis has graciously volunteered her house for the meeting at 11115 Fawsett Road, Potomac, MD. More information will be emailed to the presidents during June.

Public Safety Committee **Fernando Bren, PSC Chair**

Since its establishment in March 2004, the MCCF Public Safety Committee has held two meetings with a combined attendance of some 22 participants. A draft Mission Statement has been approved and ten Preliminary Task Groups have been established with designated Task Group Leaders and Members. The Task Groups are developing Goals Statements and lists of Issues & Tasks. In some cases, somewhat voluminous background papers have already been shared with members of the full committee. As the PSC develops an agenda for its work and for MCCF attention, the committee's participants are striving to become informed about the wide array of issues and the plethora of details that are inherent in the broad range of public safety issues which the PSC plans to address.

In its next four already scheduled meetings, the Public Safety Committee is meeting with: Arthur Wallenstein, Director, Montgomery County Department of Correction & Rehabilitation; Leah Barrett, Executive Director, CEASEFIRE MARYLAND INC; J. Thomas Manger, Montgomery County Chief of Police; and a

ranking official (to be invited) of the U.S. Department of Homeland Security.

Anyone interested in participating in the work of the MCCF Public Safety Committee should contact Committee Chairman Fernando Bren at tel 301-299-0899, fax 301-299-9455, cell 301-318-6921, or e-mail: FernandoBR@aol.com

Minutes of the Federation Meeting, May 10, 2004

Richard Zierdt, Recording Secretary

8:05 p.m. Program on Affordable Housing is in progress. MPDU accomplishments. 11,000 affordable units in Montgomery County - unmatched anywhere else. Affordable units successfully dispersed throughout the County. Serves households at a lower percentage of area medium income. Emerging challenges: as county approaches build out, MPDU production will decrease. MPDUs have a time limit on them. In 1990, there were 4000 purchase units and about 2300 rental units. MPDU program was designed when County was predominantly suburban. Number of MPDUs required. Density bonuses Flexible development standards. Sales and rental pricing. Recommendations. Keep MPDUs around longer. Major Findings: a household at 65% of the AMI (area medium income) would not qualify to buy almost any home in the County. Separate income limits for rental and sale MPDUs. Reduce income limit to 60% of AMI for garden apartments. Retain income limit at 65% of AMI for sale units until gap between applicant pool and number of MPDUs offered for sale decreases. Sale Control Period is 10 years - shortest of any control period in the country. Recommendation: Keep MPDUs for 99 years AND create a trust fund to help MPDU owners build wealth from the increased value of their home. Currently at least 12.5% of units must be MPDUs. About 70 to 80% percent of MPDU households include children. Recommendation: Require that single-family MPDUs have 3 bedrooms similar to market rate units. Punted on raising building height limits.

8:37 p.m. Ms. Davidson. Montgomery County's MPDU program is considered one of the most enlightened programs in the country. County is now largely built-out. In-fill development is now underway. County is now more urban, with CADS. MPDU program is only one of several programs in the County. Others are the Housing Initiative Fund and the Housing Trust Fund. She requested an annual appropriation from the Executive and got it. Dedicate 2.5% from property tax receipts to the fund. Have been able to fund 3000 housing units. Workforce Housing program: 65%-120% of AMI.

County is buying back some MPDUs when they expire.

8:58 Mr. Scott Minten, Executive Director of HOC. HOC Is a consumer of MPDUs: of 2200 units in existence, 1500 are owned by this agency. Bus drivers, food service, clerical, retail employees use them. Financing for first-time home-buyers. Recommends homeowner MPDUs.

9:05 Q&A. Dan Tuten: Why only about 5% of new units in the last 5 years have been MPDUs? A: MPDU requirements do not apply to all zones. Jerry Garson: There's no cost to the County? MPDUs must yield less in property taxes. A: Yes, there are indirect costs. Charles Pritchard: What about fraud on 99-year MPDUs? A: Covenants, recorded in land records, should protect against this. Barbara: A select few get into the program, while many don't. What about helping out on closing costs? Help many people a little rather than a few people a lot. Peggy Dennis: What about sweat equity? A: Never heard of it, but it sounds like a good idea. Jim Humphrey: County Executive can unbundle fees. Why doesn't he? Wayne Goldstein: What about an impact fee for all units instead of only larger housing developments (35 units or more)? A: It was considered.

Cary Lamari. Cary presents the Community Hero Award to Ira Shesser.

Nominating Committee. Peggy Dennis presents slate: Pres., Dan Wilhelm; 1st V.P. Wayne Goldstein; Treasurer, Luella Mast; Recording Secretary, Richard Zierdt; Corresponding Secretary, Lyle Schofield; District 1 V.P., Jim Humphrey; Dist 3 V.P., Tom DeGraba; Dist 4 V.P., Arnold Gordon; District 5 V.P., Dale Tibbitts; 2nd V.P.s, Mark Adelman, Rosie Poole & John Warnock. Two vacancies noted. Volunteers and nominations from the floor will be taken at June meeting.

Election Reform subcommittee. Dale Tibbitts: Petitions are moving along. Need 12K signatures by August. Ice Cream Social for Citizen for a Greater Montgomery on Sunday, May 16: Good opportunity to collect signatures.

Phil Andrews proposal to be in hearing tomorrow night: Reduce the tax rate by 2%, but raise the energy tax, in a manner that is revenue-neutral. This would reduce the property tax more than the rise in energy tax. Dale Tibbitts moves the MCCF support County Council member Phil Andrew's motion. Motion passes 24-0-4.

Electronic Voting Machines. Nancy (...). Distributes a handout about electronic/computer voting fraud. Refers to www.truevotemd.org Will write an article for the newsletter.

Education. Mark Adelman. Moves that the MCCF urge that no real estate properties owned by MCPS shall be transferred to any other agency, either governmental or otherwise, unless

such transfer is in exchange for land of equivalent or greater value that is within Montgomery County and is suitable for use in fulfilling MCPS missions. Five seconds. Some express that this motion may be overkill; most others feel it is necessary. Motion passes. 25-0-1.

Treasurer's report. Luella Mast. Report is available on table.

Bylaws Committee. Dan Wilhelm. Bylaws changes are published in the newsletter. These will be voted in June.

Meeting adjourned. 10:12 pm.

Executive Committee Meeting Minutes

7:45 Call to order with 9 in attendance.

Allied Banquet is Sunday, June 6 at an Italian Restaurant

Approval of previous mtg's minutes voted with no changes.

Treasurer's Report: Luella Mast, report on table. \$200 paid to reserve venue for holiday reception. Still running \$200 ahead of budget. Hoping to end up "not worse" than last year.

Guest: Devin Battley, owner Rockville Harley Davidson.

Issues: (1)some illegal riding of motorcycles by minors.

(2)Lack of places for riding off-road cycles. Marilyn Praisner has proposal for all off-road bikes to be registered. Battley wants MCCF to write letter to council asking part of registration fee be used to support a site for off-road bikers. (3) Dealership sponsors motorcycle ride. County is requesting \$5000 fee for police coverage. Amount seems excessive and so high that it defeats the purpose of the benefit. Mark suggested this issue be addressed as a general concern. Unanimous agreement. Will send letter to that effect.

Dan made a motion to endorse the position of using funds from registration. Seconded. 5 yea, 1 nay, 2 abstain.

8:20 - Election Reform Committee - petition drive discussed. Cary described meeting with Ike Leggett & MCDCC Issues Committee. MCDCC will not support until we have required number of signatures. Motion made to raise funds to hire firm to help collect remaining signatures. Vote: unanimous in favor. Charles Wolff to raise funds and find firm.

President's Report: - Cary had a "President's Seal" stamp made for Federation. District 2 VP and a 2nd VP seat still unfilled.

June program. (Wayne not present). All county council members have indicated they will attend. This will be a large program with refreshments (cake and coffee). 3rd floor hearing room and conference room for evening. Need extra

publicity for this, a strong agenda & script for presentations.

September program: Discussion tabled for July meeting.

Floreen bill on MPDU discussed. Suggested issue be sent to Housing Committee for study. Mark made motion that ExCom take a position against buy-outs. Vote unanimous with 1 abstention. Housing committee should meet to study.

Community Hero for September: Tabled until June meeting.

Annual Awards: must be approved by ExComm. Committee recommends Cary Lamari receive Star Cup historically given to outgoing Federation president. Approved by vote: 8-0-0. Volunteer Fire Fighters recommended for Gazette Award presented to individual or group for outstanding service to people of Montgomery County. Committee recommends presenting this to the Volunteer Firemen of Montgomery County. "Riding members" and not officers of the corporations should be honored. Charlie Pritchard drafting language for presentation. Dan will Consult Gazette for cost of multiple frames. Sentinel Award for contribution to good government: Martha Waddy, president and active in New Hampshire Estates association; worked for youth programs, member of Long Branch Initiative. 9-0-0 voted for. Star Cup needed for engraving. Write ups needed for newsletter.

By Laws Committee - Lengthy discussion of proposals to move awards from June to December's holiday reception and to create a standing committee to vet all awards. Bylaws committee will create list of options to present to others.

July Brainstorming and Potluck Dinner Meeting: Thursday, July 22. Much discussion of format & objective.

Transportation Committee: discussion of Vermont judge ruling on insufficient environmental impact study and issue that ICC may be privately funded (toll road)..

Education Committee - Response from Dr. Weist that Board of Education wants response on charges for incidental supplies. Comes from fees to students for specific classes, but different policies in different schools. Diana Conway to serve on Education Committee.

Newsletter Assignments - 12 pages to be the target.

Motion to fund President to attend Allied Civic's dinner where Dan Wilhelm is receiving an award. Passed 8-0-0.

Motion for Adjournment: 10:12 p.m. Original, full length minutes available on MCCF website

Federation Meeting

Monday, June 14 - 7: 15 p.m. **3rd floor Council Hearing Room**, County Council Office Building
110 Maryland Avenue Rockville

Tentative AGENDA

7:15 Refreshments
7:45 Call to order, Cary Lamari presiding
Announcements and introductions
7:47 Adoption of agenda
7:50 Approval of minutes
7:55 Program: CITISTAT, Honorable Martin O'Malley
Presenting
9:25: Annual Awards
· Star Cup to Federation delegate or committee
· Gazette Award for outstanding service to citizens of the county
· Sentinel Award for contribution to good government
9:45 Old Business/ Officers Report
9:50 Election reforms sub-committee/ Dale Tibbitts
9:55 Housing sub-committee
10:00 new business
10:10 by-laws amendments
10:20 Election of Officers
10:30 Adjournment

The **Montgomery County Civic Federation** is a countywide nonprofit, educational, and advocacy organization. It was founded in 1925 to serve the public interest. Its monthly Delegates meetings are open to the public and are held on the second Monday of each month (except for holidays, July, August and December) at 7:45 p.m., normally in the First Floor Auditorium, County Office Building, Rockville, MD.

The **Civic Federation News** is published monthly. It is mailed to Delegates; associate members; news media, and local, state, and federal officials. Permission is granted to reprint any article provided proper credit is given to the "**Civic Federation News of the Montgomery County Civic Federation.**"

Deadline for submissions for the next issue: Midnight Sunday August 22. Prepare submission as a MS Word, Word Perfect or text-only document, attach it to e-mail, and send it to mccfnewsletter@comcast.net. Please send all address corrections to Dan Wilhelm, 904 Cannon Road, Silver Spring, MD 20904, 301-384-2698, or djwilhelm@erols.com.

NEXT EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING

Thursday, June 24, 7:45 p.m.

RED BRICK COURTHOUSE

29 Courthouse Square, Rockville

(Note: there is free parking in front of the courthouse.)

MONTGOMERY COUNTY CIVIC FEDERATION

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