

A Public Budget Hearing of the County Board of Arlington County, Virginia, held in Room 307 of #1 Courthouse Plaza thereof on Tuesday, March 22, 2011, at 7:05 p.m.

PRESENT: Christopher Zimmerman, Chairman
Mary Hynes, Vice Chairman*
Barbara A. Favola, Member
Jay Fiset, Member
J. Walter Tejada, Member

ALSO PRESENT: Barbara Donnellan, County Manager
Stephen A. MacIsaac, County Attorney
Hope L. Halleck, Clerk

*Arrived at 7:17

PUBLIC HEARING ON PROPOSED FISCAL YEAR (FY) 2012 BUDGET.

The Board held a duly advertised public hearing from 7:05 p.m. to 9:58 p.m. at which 72 persons testified on the proposed County and Schools expenditures budget for FY 2012 which begins July 1, 2011.

TWO-MINUTE SPEAKERS:

J. Douglas Koelemay of Northern Virginia Family Service (NVFS) spoke about NVFS Healthy Families Arlington, homelessness prevention programs and Headstart programs.

Florence Dale of V.O.I.C.E. spoke on behalf of Columbia Pike residents affected by the move of the Department of Human Services (DHS) and the cost of the bus service and transfers.

Hugh McGee of Community Resources of America spoke about increasing funding for the program for Scott Branon.

Carolina Espinosa of V.O.I.C.E. spoke about extending the #45 bus route for customers of the new DHS facility.

Nanci Pedulla of Healthy Families Arlington spoke about increasing funding for Health Families, particularly for recent immigrants.

Dennis Du-For, a consumer of the Community Services Board (CSB), spoke on behalf of Community Resources of America saying that the program allows CSB consumers to volunteer at social service agencies.

Caroline Jones, Interim Executive Director of Doorways for Women and Families, spoke of the need for funding for emergency shelter for women and families.

Sharon Wentland, Administrative Assistant for Community Resources of America, spoke about the need to continue funding the intern program.

Tim Ward, Vice President of the Board of Directors of A-SPAN, spoke about the need for increased funding for the homeless program.

Jack Cornman, President of the Alliance for Housing Solutions (AHS), speaking on behalf of the Board of Directors, spoke about his support for Affordable Housing Investment Fund (AHIF) going to AHS.

Joan Ritter, Medical Director of the Arlington Free Clinic and volunteer, spoke about the increased demand for services over the past years, and the need for funds from local governments and a new development position.

Mark Nation, a consumer at Clarendon Clubhouse, supports the Community Resources of America program.

Scott Branon, Founder of Community Resources of America and a consumer at Clarendon Clubhouse, stated that Community Resources of America currently has 13 interns but he would like it to grow to 26 interns.

Erik Gutshall, Board Member of Doorways for Women and Families and resident of Lyon Park, spoke of the need for County funding to pay for base operations, which will allow them to leverage that money for wrap-around services.

Kathy Sibert, Executive Director of A-SPAN, spoke about the value of ASPAN to the County, the residents and other non-profit agencies.

Robert Eldridge III, a patient and member of the Board of Directors at the Arlington Free Clinic, stated that he is a cancer patient with no insurance and a part-time art teacher and the Free Clinic has helped him.

Shelley Wade spoke in support of library services and a restoration of operating hours.

Kip Laramie, Owner of the Sante Fe Café and Co-Chair of Healthy Families, spoke in support of a year-round shelter in Rosslyn.

Ann Felker, Member of the Board of Directors of A-SPAN, spoke on behalf of A-SPAN volunteers who provide services on the streets to the homeless.

Richard Cobb, Pastor of the United Methodist Church, spoke in support of homelessness programs, and how they work with A-SPAN using an outreach worker and a case manager, and he stated that funds are needed for A-SPAN.

Norman Hill spoke in support of Community Resources of America.

Kari Galloway, Executive Director of Friends of Guest House, spoke about the need for increased AHIF funding and increased housing grants to help operate their more than 1,000 bed transitional housing facility for women coming out of detention facilities.

Valerie Royce, a recently homeless veteran, spoke about A-SPAN and the need for homeless services in Arlington.

Nury Marquez, Executive Director of the Hispanic Committee of Virginia, stated that the Hispanic Committee served 3,200 Arlingtonians last year and requested continued support.

Julie Kirchhoff, President of the Arlington Forest Citizen's Association, supports funding for the Lubber Run Amphitheater.

Terrance Toussiant, outreach worker at A-SPAN, spoke about A-SPAN's expanding programs, and the need for funding, particularly for street programs.

Chris Scheer, of the Lubber Run Amphitheater Foundation, Inc. supports funding for the Amphitheater.

Janet Irwin spoke about the Lubber Run Amphitheater and the need for a one-time capital investment from the County.

Dinahsta Thomas, of Residential Youth Services, spoke about the LIFT program for at risk homeless persons and the need for support for the expansion plan in Arlington.

Elizabeth Brown of Community Residences, Inc. requested support to fund energy efficiencies according to AIRE guidelines.

Susan Korfanty, Executive Director of BRAVO, spoke about the need for continued funding for BRAVO and all safety net programs in Arlington.

Vivian Delgado, Arlington resident and graduate of NOVA spoke about the need for capital funds to NOVA for Arlington programs.

Jim Burke, President of the Arlington Interfaith Council, supports increased housing as recommended by AHIF for residential treatment programs.

Kathy Fredgren of BalletNOVA spoke of the need for support for dance programs in Arlington and Lubber Run Amphitheater.

Francisco Yurrita of the Hispanic Committee of Virginia spoke about the Committee and the need for increased funding.

Shirley Figuereo spoke in support of the Lubber Run Amphitheater Bolivian Dance Troop.

Chris O'Connor, Chief Gardner of the South Four Mile Run Community Gardens stated that proposed rental fees are too high and that gardeners have to pay for materials with which to garden as well.

Michael Gessel, of the Citizens for Cherrydale Library, spoke about increasing hours at the library and his support for funding libraries.

Brandi Horton of the South Four Mile Run Community Garden stated she is opposed to a 33% increase in fees.

Sara Duke of Encore Stage and Studio requested the restoration of \$30,000 cut from grant funds last year and stated that the funds can be leveraged for increased arts funding.

Don Strehle, Board Member of the NVCC Educational Foundation and Regional President of BB & T Bank, spoke about the need for more funding to meet increased demand for services.

Laake Tesfaye, an employee of the ECDC stated that ECDC plays a unique and vital role and they need continued funding for the programs.

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Nina Janopaul, President and CEO, endorses the Manager's proposal for supportive housing programs and stated that AHIF needs to be funded.

Carol Skelly of the Community Services Board, asked for funding for children's mental health and substance abuse programs and the Job Avenue program.

Barry Gal, member of the Community Services Board spoke about the need for continued funding of services for youth and adolescents.

Liane Rozell of the Community Services Board supports an increase in funding for youth and adolescent services.

Janine Finnell spoke in support of the Community Services Board and stated her family has benefitted from home-based services and asked for continued support for these programs.

John McGuire of the Community Services Board spoke in support of children's mental health services.

Darcy Gruttadaro of NAMI, spoke in support of children's mental health services and stated there is a need for 4 FTE's to serve residents' currently on the waiting list of 1-6 months.

Tom Quinn of NAMI and the Community Services Board spoke of the need for a mental health therapist in the detention center.

Devona Watson supports Job Avenue, a Community Services Board program.

Catherine Franz of the Community Services Board supports the Job Avenue program.

Michael Nardolilli, President of the NVCT, supports the Manager's proposal for NVCT.

Erica Wood, Chair of the Commission on Long-Term Care Residences supports Culpepper Gardens and increased funding.

Rev. Tom Tunney, Associate Pastor at Our Lady Queen of Peace, supports year-round shelter.

Mark Blacknell, of the Arlington Bicycle Advisory Committee, spoke in support County staff and expanding the bike program.

Elaine Eisenbaum of the Arc of Northern Virginia spoke in support of the CSB budget priorities.

Kevin Kelly, Managing Director of the ECDC Enterprise Development Group requested continued support of Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) funding.

Paul Hedg-peth, Program Manager of the Health Access Program at Northern Virginia Family Service, supports the Dental Link program.

Stephen Davis of the Arlington Green Party spoke in support of the year-round shelter.

Andrea Walker of the Arlington Ridge Civic Association requested restoration of the hours at the Aurora Hills Library and an increase of staff support.

Elizabeth Giese, M. D., Primary Care Doctor at ANHSI spoke of the need for continued and increased funding due to decreases in grant funds.

Kristin Langlykke, Director of ANHSI, spoke of the need for continued and increased funding for ANHSI and stated that she supports the program in partnership with the CSB.

Eleanor Smith supports the County funding residents most in need first, and spoke of the need for increased coordination between the County and Arlington Schools in the future.

Candice Rose, Chair of the Commission on Aging, supports the proposed budget and spoke about the need for \$15,000 for the vertical village.

Elenor Hodges of Arlingtonians for a Clean Environment, supports the consolidated plan.

THREE-MINUTE SPEAKERS:

Charles Meng of the Arlington Food Assistance Center (AFAC) supports continued funding for AFAC and an increase of \$25,000 to buy food.

Angie Rodgers of the Northern Virginia Affordable Housing Alliance supports preservation and increase of funds for affordable housing with a focus on housing grants.

Angel Rivera of Habitat for Humanity of Northern Virginia supports an increase in affordable housing funding by \$500,000.

Jeanne Hudson supports restoration of library hours of operation and increased volunteerism.

Lois Athey of the Bugatta Tenants Association, stated that she continues to support the Buckingham Youth Brigade and the social safety net and requested restoration of hours at the Lubber Run Community Center.

Caroline Haynes of the Natural Resources Advisory Group supports the Natural Resources Manager position in the plan.

ADJOURNMENT

Without objection, at 9:58 p.m., the meeting was adjourned.

CHRISTOPHER ZIMMERMAN, Chairman

ATTEST:

HOPE L. HALLECK, Clerk
Approved: April 16, 2011