



## ARLINGTON COUNTY, VIRGINIA

### County Board Agenda Item Meeting of September 15, 2012

**DATE:** September 7, 2012

**SUBJECT:** Acceptance and appropriation of a \$2,700 matching grant from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) Certified Local Government (CLG) program to research and prepare a Preliminary Information Form for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, located at 4444 Arlington Blvd., as a prerequisite to drafting a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

#### C. M. RECOMMENDATIONS:

1. Acceptance and appropriation of a \$2,700 matching grant (101.364501) from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) Certified Local Government (CLG) program to the Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development (101.72303) to research and prepare a Preliminary Information Form for the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, located at 4444 Arlington Blvd, as a prerequisite to drafting a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.
2. Authorize the County Manager to sign the grant agreement (Attachment A).

**ISSUES:** This is an acceptance of a \$2,700 grant from the Virginia Department of Historic Resources. The County will match the \$2,700 from budgeted funds. There are no outstanding issues.

**SUMMARY:** In 2010, Arlington County completed a reconnaissance-level architectural survey of its historic buildings, better known as the Countywide Historic Resources Survey. This effort was carried out in partnership with the Virginia Department of Historic Resources (VDHR) using State Survey and Planning Cost Share and Certified Local Government (CLG) grant funds to augment County financial contributions. Based on County staff's analysis of the survey results, the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington appears to be eligible for listing in both the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places. In order to pursue listing of this building in the aforementioned registers, staff has decided to take the next step and conduct the necessary historic research needed to prepare a Preliminary Information Form (PIF) for the Unitarian Universalist Church, a prerequisite to drafting a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. This research and preparation of the PIF will be conducted with VDHR support through a matching grant from their CLG program.

County Manager:

*BMD/GA*

County Attorney:

*GA*      *CLM*

24.

Staff: Michael Leventhal, Neighborhood Services Division, DCPHD

The grant funds will be used to pay for a consultant to conduct the necessary research and to complete the PIF. The VDHR has awarded the County a \$2,700 CLG grant. Arlington County must match this grant with \$2,700 of County funds. The County's match for this grant is available from the approved FY 2013 budget for the Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development.

**BACKGROUND:** For the past twelve years, County staff has applied to the VDHR's CLG grant program. Examples of Arlington projects funded through this program in years past include the completion of PIFs, National Register nominations, and architectural survey work. For this year's grant program, the HPP elected to submit a proposal to study the historical and architectural significance of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington in preparation for the completion of a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places. County staff believes that the Unitarian Universalist Church is indeed eligible for inclusion in both the Virginia Landmarks Register and the National Register of Historic Places.

The Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington was built in 1964 and designed by the renowned Modernist architect Charles M. Goodman, FAIA (1906-1992). Goodman was a leading architect of the Modernist movement who helped introduce Modernist architecture to the Washington metropolitan area in the mid-20<sup>th</sup> century. Much of his work is located in Northern Virginia, with the Hollin Hills development in Fairfax County among his most notable and recognized residential projects. In 1950, Goodman designed 21 semi-detached dwellings on 11<sup>th</sup> Street South in Arlington's Virginia Heights subdivision; these are the only known examples of Goodman's residential work in Arlington County. Likewise, the Unitarian Universalist Church is Goodman's only known institutional building in the County.

**DISCUSSION:** Together with matching County funds of \$2,700, this \$2,700 grant award would be used to hire a consultant to research and complete the necessary Preliminary Information Form (PIF) for the Unitarian Universalist Church, a prerequisite before drafting a nomination to the National Register of Historic Places.

In awarding its grants for this CLG grant program cycle, VDHR has decided to fund Arlington County's grant request in two parts. The first part is for \$2,700 to complete the historic research and to prepare a Preliminary Information Form (PIF). Once the PIF is submitted and approved by the VDHR, an additional \$2,700 will be awarded for the completion of a National Register nomination. The process for acceptance of the second half of the award will be pursued in the coming fiscal year and will require matching County funds from the HPP budget.

The attached proposed grant agreement, once signed, is the County's acceptance of the matching CLG grant with VDHR. County staff recommends that the County execute this agreement.

The current leadership of the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington is in full support of this project (see Attachment B for their official letter of support). In addition, the HPP staff is excited to complete this project, as it will be the first of its kind in Arlington to highlight the historical and architectural significance of a truly modern architectural design that also is attributed to the esteemed Charles M. Goodman.

**FISCAL IMPACT:** The recommended consultant work is estimated to cost \$5,400, of which the County will provide \$2,700. The \$2,700 of County funds are budgeted in historic preservation consultant services in the Department of Community Planning, Housing and Development's FY 2013 budget.

**Certified Local Government Grant Agreement  
2012-2013**

This agreement entered into this 1st day of June, 2012, by the Commonwealth of Virginia, Department of Historic Resources (DHR), and Arlington County, the Certified Local Government (CLG), WITNESS that DHR and the CLG, in consideration of the mutual covenants, promises, and agreements herein contained, agree that the grant awarded by DHR to the CLG shall be described below:

**Project Title: Preliminary Information Form for the Unitarian Universalist Church**

**Grant Amount: \$2,700    Matching Share: \$2,700    Total Project Costs: \$5,400  
Grant Period: June 15, 2012,\* through June 15, 2013.**

\*Actual start date is the date of full execution of agreement.

**This grant agreement incorporates the following documents:**

- (1) **This signed form;**
- (2) **DHR Request for Applications – 2012-13 CLG Subgrant Program, dated April 18, 2012;**
- (3) **Grant Application** from the Arlington County, dated May 4, 2012;
- (4) **Any negotiated modifications thereto, all of which are referenced below:**
  - a. Any publications produced with grant funds must include the language concerning NPS financial assistance and nondiscrimination as shown below:

This publication has been financed in part with Federal funds from the National Park Service, U.S. Department of the Interior. However, the contents and opinions do not necessarily reflect the view or policies of the U.S. Department of the Interior. This program receives Federal financial assistance for identification and protection of historic properties. Under Title VI of the Civil Rights Act of 1964, Section 504 of the Rehabilitation Act of 1973, and the Age Discrimination Act of 1975, as amended, the U.S. Department of the Interior prohibits discrimination on the basis of race, color, national origin, disability or age in its federally assisted programs. If you believe you have been discriminated against in any program, activity, or facility as described above, or if you desire further information, please write to: Office of Equal Opportunity, National Park Service, 1849 C Street, NW, Washington, D.C. 20240.

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**IN WITNESS WHEREOF**, the parties have caused this Grant Agreement to be duly executed, intending to be bound thereby.

**CERTIFIED LOCAL GOVERNMENT**

**COMMONWEALTH OF VIRGINIA  
DEPT. OF HISTORIC RESOURCES**

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Signature: \_\_\_\_\_

Name: Barbara Donnellan

Name: Kathleen S. Kilpatrick

Title: County Manager

Title: Director

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

Date: \_\_\_\_\_

# Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington

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4444 Arlington Blvd, Arlington VA 22204



703-892-2565 | [www.uucava.org](http://www.uucava.org)

May 8, 2012

Michael Leventhal  
Historic Preservation Coordinator, Arlington County  
2100 Clarendon Blvd., Suite 700  
Arlington, VA 22201

Dear Mr. Leventhal:

This is a letter of support from the Unitarian Universalist Church of Arlington, supporting the research needed to undertake a PIF (Preliminary Information Form) and possible National Register nomination for our church sanctuary, the building designed by Charles Goodman in the 1960s. We have been proud to use this structure as our worship home for almost 50 years, and continue to cherish it as we live into the future.

We support the County's Historic Preservation Program in pursuing a PIF and NR nomination on the Church.

Thank you so much.

Sincerely,

Rev. Michael McGee  
Rev. Dr. Linda Olson Peebles  
Rev. Carlton Elliott Smith  
The Ministers

Brian Smith,  
Chief Administrative Officer

Rev. Michael McGee, Lead Team Minister | Rev. Carlton Elliott Smith, Consulting Minister  
Rev. Dr. Linda Olson Peebles, Minister of Religious Education  
Brian Smith, Chief Administrative Officer | Robert Griffith, Director of Creative Arts