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# Fairlington Commons Newsletter

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3367 S. Wakefield Street, Arlington, VA 22206

October 2008

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## Annual Meeting Results

The Annual meeting and election of Board Officers of the Fairlington Commons Council of Co-Owners was held October 2, 2008 at the Fairlington Community Center at 3308 S. Stafford Street. Long-time Commons resident and Board Member John Sinks was re-elected to the Board. Arvy Myers, who had filled the remainder of Patti Burke's term, was also elected, as was Jim Sharpe. The Council of Co-Owners wishes to thank outgoing Board Member Dennis Maridueña for his service, and candidates Cynthia Epler and Stephanie Reimers for their interest in serving our community.

On October 9<sup>th</sup>, the newly elected Board met for the purpose of reconstituting itself in accordance with our By-Laws. As a result of that meeting, John Sinks will continue as President, Christine Sivigny moved from Treasurer to Vice President, and Arvy Myers moved from Vice President to Treasurer. New Board member Jim Sharpe will serve as Member At-Large, and Bernie Weaver continues as Secretary.

Effective January 2009 and contingent on room availability, the Board has tentatively designated the first Tuesday of every month for its regular monthly meeting to be held at the Fairlington Community Center. Because of Election Day, this November's meeting will be held at 7:15 p.m. on Monday, November 3 at the Fairlington Community Center.

Co-Owners are reminded that the Council's annual Budget Meeting will be held on Tuesday, December 9<sup>th</sup> in Room 100 of the Fairlington Community Center beginning at 7:30 p.m. Formal notification of the meeting, a copy of the budget, and a proxy form will be mailed to all Co-Owners prior to the meeting as required by our By-Laws.

Minutes of the Annual and Board Organizational Meetings are available on the Fairlington Historic District Website at: <http://fairlington.org/commonsindex.htm>.

## Recycling & Trash

Single-stream recycling was brought up at the annual meeting, so this article is an attempt to explain the requirements in some detail. Reportedly, single-stream collection, which means recyclables may be co-mingled, increases recycling by up to 70%.

AAA, our trash and recycling contractor, picks up recyclables in the Commons on Thursdays using a single-stream collection process. Items may be mixed together in paper bags, clear bags or a reusable container. They collect only:

- Food and beverage small-necked glass and plastic bottles, including pill bottles
- Food and beverage tin and aluminum cans
- Mixed paper: junk mail, newspaper, magazines, catalogs, phone books, cereal boxes, flattened cardboard less than 3 feet-by-3 feet.

Caps and lids must be removed and the containers rinsed of residue.

AAA will **NOT** collect the following items for recycling:

- Glass: windows, drinking glasses, cups, plates, cookware, mirrors, light bulbs, broken glass
- Metal: pots, pans, foil, pie tins, scrap metal
- Plastic: wide-necked tubs, including containers for yogurt, dairy containers or Styrofoam containers
- Miscellaneous: any item contaminated with food such as pizza boxes, plastic or aluminum food trays; plastic grocery bags or dry cleaning bags; hard-back books; alkaline batteries; prescription vials.

Alkaline and carbon-zinc batteries may be put in the trash in small quantities only. Other batteries (watch, hearing aid, and phones batteries) should be taken to the fire station in North Fairlington and placed in the orange container there. Most service stations accept old car batteries.

## Yard Waste

As in the spring, fall is typically the season when co-owners have patio waste, such as twigs, leaves and small branches to dispose. These are considered trash and must be placed out only on trash days (Tuesdays and Fridays). Brush and limbs are to be cut in four-foot lengths and bundled with rope or twine. The size should not exceed what you can carry in your arms and not weigh over 50 pounds.

Grass clippings, leaves and twigs may be placed in paper bags or clear plastic bags. AAA will not accept yard waste in dark bags. Tree stumps and limbs larger than six inches in diameter or four feet long will not be collected.

Unbundled trash will be considered a special pickup for which you will have to pay extra. Call AAA Customer Service (703-818-8222) to make the necessary arrangements.

## Christmas Trees

Christmas trees will be collected with trash on trash days. All tinsel and ornaments must be removed. Trees are not to be placed in bags.

## Holiday Trash/Recycling Schedule

Recycled materials will NOT be picked up on Thursday, November 27 - Thanksgiving; Thursday, December 25 - Christmas; or Thursday, January 1 - New Years Day. Instead, recyclables will be picked up on these days:

- Saturday, November 29
- Saturday, December 27
- Saturday, January 3

Anyone who misses a weekly pickup or otherwise needs to dispose of recyclables can deposit them at the recycling center at Four Mile Run and Columbia Pike.

## Signs

**W**ith Election Day, Tuesday, November 4<sup>th</sup> approaching, now is a good time to remember what our By-Laws say about signs:

***“No sign, notice, or advertisement shall be inscribed or exposed on or at any window or other part of the Family Unit, except such as have been approved in writing by the board of directors, nor shall anything be projected out of any window without similar approval.”***

The General Common Element, in particular flower beds and lawns, is off-limits for signs without Board approval. Signs posted by companies performing unit renovations are also not permitted. The Board routinely grants approval for only three kinds of signs: real estate signs (on small stakes), small stickers in windows for safety officials regarding the number of children or pets, and security signs.

At two recent Council meetings, this Bylaw and the Board’s practice in granting permission for signs were discussed. At both meetings, a majority of co-owners voiced support for the rule and for keeping the Commons relatively sign-free, including at election time. Please cooperate.

## Commons Community Center Events

- **Board Meeting** - Monday, November 3 - 7:15 p.m.
- **Budget Meeting** - Tuesday, December 9 - 7:30 p.m., Room 100
- **Board Meeting** – Tuesday, January 6 - 7:15 p.m.

***2009 Board meetings will be held the first Tuesday of each month at 7:15 p.m. at the Fairlington Community Center.***

## Grounds Contract

**V**olunteers are being sought to assist the Board in competing our Grounds Contract. If you are interested in participating, please contact Board President John Sinks at “jsinks@comcast.net” or by calling 703-931-2660.

Fairlington Commons Board of Directors		
President	John Sinks <i>E-mail jsinks@comcast.net</i>	931-2660
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