



Alexandria George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee

September 18, 2018

Mayor Silberberg
Members of the Alexandria City Council
Alexandria, Virginia

Ladies and Gentlemen:

As we do every year, the George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee has been considering ways to make the annual celebration better and more relevant to our community. We think that broadening the involvement of our residents in the planning and execution of the celebration would be helpful in this regard.

As we studied the existing makeup of our organization, we noticed that there are five organizations that have seats on the Committee who rarely, if ever, have appointed a representative in the past decade: Alexandria Chamber of Commerce (2 representatives), Veterans of Foreign Wars, Veteran designated by a Veterans Organization other than American Legion Post 24 or the Veterans of Foreign Wars, Alexandria Jaycees, and the Federation of Civic Associations. Our leadership approaches these organizations regularly but the positions remain unfilled. At the same time, individuals who would really like to serve on the Committee but who are not members of an appropriate constituency often approach us (several regularly attend our meetings and otherwise contribute to the organization of the activities of the Committee).

At our most recent meeting, the members of the George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee asked that a formal request be made to the Alexandria City Council to make the following changes to the membership: three members designated from the above organizations be changed to Citizens at Large, one be changed to a member designated by the City of Alexandria Pipes and Drums, and two members be changed to an individual who is a veteran. This would certainly not preclude the referenced organizations from proposing members, but it would open up the Committee to additional members from the general population who are interested and who want to serve.

Therefore, I respectfully request that the makeup of the 21 members of the Committee would be as follows: Alexandria High School Student; American Legion Post 24; Citizens at Large (7 members); City Manager (or designee); City of Alexandria Pipes and Drums; City Staff Liaison; Daughters of the American Revolution, Chapter in Alexandria; Director of Transportation, T&ES; First Virginia Regiment of the Continental Line; Friendship Veterans Fire Engine Association; Gadsby's Tavern Museum Society; Individual Veteran (2 members); Masonic Fraternity; and Sons of the American Revolution, George Washington Chapter.

I have attached a list of the proposed changes for your reference. Your prompt attention to this matter would be most welcome.

Sincerely,

Joseph S. Shumard, Co-chair



Alexandria George Washington Birthday Celebration Committee
Proposed Committee Changes

Proposed Membership	Replacement
Alexandria High School Student	
American Legion Post 24	
Citizen at Large (1)	
Citizen at Large (2)	
Citizen at Large (3)	
Citizen at Large (4)	
Citizen at Large (5)	replaces Chamber of Commerce (1)
Citizen at Large (6)	replaces Chamber of Commerce (2)
Citizen at Large (7)	replaces Federation of Civic Associations
City Manager (or designee)	
City of Alexandria Pipes & Drums	replaces Alexandria Jaycees
City Staff Liaison	
Daughters of the American Revolution	
Director of Transportation, T&ES	
First Virginia Regiment	
Friendship Vet. Fire Engine Association	
Gadsby's Tavern Museum Society	
Individual Veteran	replaces Undesignated Veteran Organ.
Individual Veteran	replaces Veterans of Foreign Wars
Masonic Fraternity	
Sons of the American Revolution	