**Quality of Life Committee**

**Notes from 6/25/13**

1. **Presentations by:**

* **Anne-Marie Bairstow, Executive Director of the DC BID Council**
* **Jill Griffin, Development Specialist for Arlington Economic Development**
* **Matt Pfeiffer, Planner for Arlington County**

**Arlington:**

* Clarendon has 18 restaurants/bars offering live entertainment within a half-mile radius.
* In 1993 they entertainment/night life trend began to take off.
* Virginia law requires establishment to be restaurants.
* Offering live entertainment requires a Special Exception approval by the County Board of Supervisors.
* A separate permit is required for dance halls.
* The concentration of these businesses has been good for placemaking.
* The County decided to consolidate permit applications for greater efficiency.
* In 2002 community concerns began to increase so a Neighborhood Advisory Group was established.
* The major issues have been noise, patron behavior, parking, and trash removal.
* Conditions of approval require the business owners to take care of maintenance.
* 1:30 a.m. is the cut off for live music.
* Bars must provide security from 9:00 till closing.
* Outside live entertainment is not allowed.
* A “TIPS” program is required to train wait staff.
* Signage is used to remind patrons to be respectful of the residential neighbors.

**Washington D.C.:**

* There are 9 BIDs in DC and they held a nighttime economy summit in January 2012.
* They employ a “management approach” not a punitive approach.
* Regulating live entertainment is done through the alcohol permit process.
* They are grappling with the concern that there may be clubs that are too large.
* Outside promoters can create problems because they are not licensed or qualified.
* Pub crawls have created problems and the city is struggling with regulating them because they are difficult to define.
* The noise issue is best addressed through a noise inspector with expertise in this area.
* Most problems do not occur in the clubs, but at the pizza and donut shops where patrons go after the clubs close.