

**PRESS RELEASE**  
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## Fisette Connects Community Leaders with Community Initiatives

**Arlington, VA** - With over 100 people in attendance, Leadership Arlington held its first Meet the Chairman event at George Mason University's Arlington Campus on Thursday, January 30, 2014, providing an opportunity for community members to learn about Arlington County Chairman **Jay Fisette's** 2014 County initiatives. The event was moderated by **Scott McCaffrey** of the *Sun Gazette*.

Fisette addressed the Arlington community's solid foundation, sustainability and ability to foster innovative change. In reflecting on his own experience as a renter in in Pentagon city years ago, he discussed how redevelopment has been a prime example of change and economic growth in Arlington.

Yet, Fisette prided the community on staying true to its culture and the Arlington Way. "Though this growth and change - and with change brings challenge - we've held on to our community." Fisette touched on the young professional community, noting Arlington has one of the highest concentrations of 25-34 year olds in the nation. He discussed the possibilities of their civic engagement and representation in the future of this community.



*Jay Fisette engages in a conversational dialogue expressing his 2014 initiatives.*

"We have shown resilience to challenges that would have crippled any other community. Arlington has assets that will continue to be fundamental to our strengths." For example, environmental sustainability will play a large role in the County's success. "Environmental sustainability and economic sustainability go hand in hand," Fisette explained. He looks forward to pursuing his dream of Arlington being a zero waste community.

The evening ended with a town hall style question and answer period. Fisette answered questions surrounding his 2014 initiatives, which focus on addressing growing enrollment in schools, housing affordability and ways to stay competitive in a rapidly expanding economic environment. Fisette

recognizes these challenges as "a symptom of our own success."



*Guest Tim Hughes complimented the Chairman on his loyalty and leadership to the Arlington community.*

With all of these ideas brewing, Todd Ihrig, Financial Advisor for H.D. Vest Investment Services, asked Fisette how he balances his priorities in determining wants versus needs. Fisette responded, "I start out as everything as a want and move towards the goal [of making it happen]," mentioning that community needs are influential to which pieces move more quickly towards their goals.

At the end of the evening, every guest left with a better understanding of their community and the man leading efforts to make Arlington a thriving community. "You're a great example of servant leadership," Tim Hughes, Shareholder at Bean, Kinney & Korman, PC, shared with Fisette at the program ended.

Pictures from the event may be viewed online at [www.leadershiparlington.org](http://www.leadershiparlington.org).

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*Moderator Scott McCaffrey, Leadership Arlington President & CEO Betsy Frantz, Arlington County Chairman Jay Fisette*



*Betsy Frantz of Leadership Arlington, Arlington County Chairman Jay Fisette, Marie Schuler of Comcast*

### About Leadership Arlington

The mission of Leadership Arlington is to enlighten, inspire and connect leaders to strengthen the community. The vision of Leadership Arlington is a prepared, inspired and inclusive leadership who together embrace responsibility for the common good. For more information, visit [www.leadershiparlington.org](http://www.leadershiparlington.org) or call 703-528-2522.