

City of Richmond

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Minutes

Education and Human Services Standing Committee

Thursday, February 8, 2018

12:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Committee Members and Staff in Attendance

The Honorable Michael Jones – Chair (Late arrival)
The Honorable Kristen Larson – Vice Chair
The Honorable Kim Gray – Member
Debra Bowles, Assistant City Clerk
Joyce Davis, Council Policy Analyst
Charles Jackson, Council Budget Analyst
M. Janet Palmer, Assistant City Attorney
Candice Reid, Interim City Clerk

Call to Order

Vice Chair Kristen Larson called the meeting to order at 12:11 p.m.

Evacuation Announcement and Citizen Speaker Guidelines

Debra Bowles, assistant city clerk, provided information on the appropriate manner in which the Council Chamber is to be evacuated in the event of an emergency along with citizen speaker guidelines.

Public Comment Period

Paige Bullen, Executive Director of Substance Abuse and Addiction Recovery Alliance (SAARA) of Virginia, informed the committee that SAARA provides state wide advocacy for resources that are available and for those needed to further combat addiction. Ms. Bullen stated that she would welcome the opportunity to return before the committee to share more of what the alliance does and possible opportunities to collaborate.

Chair Michael Jones arrived and was seated.

Approval of the Minutes

Vice Chair Kristen Larson moved to approve the meeting minutes of January 11, 2018, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

Presentation(s)

Update on Richmond Public Schools and Capital Improvement Plan

Richmond Public Schools (RPS) Chief Operating Officer Thomas Kranz provided a brief overview of the RPS Capital Improvement Plan (CIP). Mr. Kranz stated that the CIP is a comprehensive twenty year plan that addresses all schools; however, the plan could change if emergencies occur. Mr. Kranz also stated that the CIP would be reviewed annually and that there is a 3% inflation factor

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included in phases II, III and IV. Mr. Kranz further stated that construction of an elementary school can be completed within twelve months and a middle school within eighteen months. Mr. Kranz reported that phase I concentrates on schools south of the James River and phase II, beginning in year six, would include schools north of the James River. Mr. Kranz informed the committee that the population of an elementary school should be approximately 500 students, a middle school 700 – 750 students and a high school 1,000 students, to pay for the administration and operations of a building.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Overview of the Opioid Task Force

Deputy Director of the Richmond City Health District (RCHD) Dr. Melissa Viray provided an overview of the Opioid Task Force and the opiate epidemic in the city. Dr. Viray reviewed the policy and best practice considerations. Dr. Viray stated that raising awareness and educating individuals on opioid use and disposal will assist in the reduction of opioid abuse. Dr. Viray also stated that Naloxone is used as an opioid overdose antidote and is available without a prescription and can also be obtained free of charge through RCHD. Dr. Viray reported that the cost of Naloxone can be up to \$150 without insurance and could range between \$30 and \$75 with insurance. Dr. Viray stated further that legislation was created on the federal and state levels in 2017 with additional legislation being considered in 2018; however, additional policy work is needed on the federal, state and local government levels.

Chair Michael Jones stated that he would like to see a chart that shows how much of the Naloxone has been sold, where it has been sold, specific to communities, and the specific areas where deaths take place.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Paper(s) for Consideration

Vice Chair Kristen Larson moved to forward the following papers to the February 12, 2018, Council meeting with recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved:

RES. 2018-R004

To consent to the Mayor's appointment of Kelly Chopus as a member of the Education Compact Team established by the Mayor.

RES. 2018-R005

To consent to the Mayor's appointment of Andrew P. Daire as a member of the Education Compact Team established by the Mayor.

RES. 2018-R006

To consent to the Mayor's appointment of Willie Hilliard as a member of the Education Compact Team established by the Mayor.

RES. 2018-R008

To consent to the Mayor's appointment of Amy Wentz as a member of the Education Compact Team established by the Mayor.

RES. 2018-R009

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To consent to the Mayor's appointment of Shelly Worsham as a member of the Education Compact Team established by the Mayor.

Board Vacancies

There were no appointments for consideration.

Discussion Item(s)

There were no discussion items for consideration.

Staff Report

Council Policy Analyst Joyce Davis provided the committee with the February staff report.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 1:34 p.m.

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