



City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
www.rva.gov/office-city-clerk

Draft Meeting Minutes Education and Human Services Standing Committee

Thursday, May 8, 2025

2:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Committee and Other Council Members in Attendance

The Honorable Stephanie Lynch - Chair (late arrival)
The Honorable Andrew Breton - Vice Chair
The Honorable Nicole Jones - Member

Staff in Attendance

Maria Garnett, Council Policy Analyst
Kimberly Morris, Assistant City Clerk
Pamela Nichols, Council Management Analyst
Janet Palmer, Deputy City Attorney
Will Perkins, Senior Council Legislative Services Manager
Candice Reid, City Clerk
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

Call to Order

Vice Chair Andrew Breton called the meeting to order at 2:01 p.m., and presided.

Chamber Emergency Evacuation Announcement and Public Speaker Guidelines

Upon the Vice Chair's request, Assistant City Clerk Kimberly Morris provided information on the appropriate way to evacuate the Council Chamber in an emergency along with public speaker guidelines.

Public Comment Period

There were no public comment speakers.

Discussion Item(s)

**Introduction of Amy Popovich, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (DCAO) for
Human Services**

Sabrina Joy-Hogg, Interim Chief Administrative Officer (CAO), gave an introduction of Amy Popovich, Deputy Chief Administrative Officer (DCAO) for Human Services.

Presentation(s)

Update on Office of Aging and Disability Services Needs Assessment

Natasha Houpe, Human Services Manager, Office of Aging and Disability Services, provided the committee with a presentation regarding an update on the Office of Aging and Disability Services needs assessment.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

[CD.2025.163](#) Needs Assessment for Older Adults Update

Attachments: [OADS Assessment Update for 5 25 EHS](#)

Member Nicole Jones stated there is a high population of seniors in the 9th District. She also stated the discussion was a great start to highlight aging adults in the city.

Chair Stephanie Lynch arrived at 2:19 p.m., and was seated.

Chair Stephanie Lynch stated her district had seen the work that the Office of Aging and Disability Services did, and that the work was critical. She also asked about the status of direct mail for seniors.

Ms. Houpe stated she would follow-up about direct mail for seniors.

Vice Chair Andrew Breton asked what the successful Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities activities for the elderly were. He also asked what the city environment changes the elderly requested were, and whether newly built homes would be elderly accessible.

Ms. Houpe stated community events were not elderly specific, however the Senior Day event that is hosted every year was successful. She also stated residents would like sidewalks repaired and that 90 percent of adults would like to age in place, however, home repairs remain a challenge.

Vice Chair Breton asked whether the city had funding for home repairs for the elderly.

Ms. Houpe stated Healthy Homes, Project Homes and Habitat for Humanity offer funding for the elderly in conjunction with the city.

Board Vacancies

Pamela Nichols, Council Management Analyst, reviewed board applications for consideration by the committee.

[CD.2025.157](#) Boards Vacancy Report- Education and Human Services

Attachments: [20250508 EHS Board Vacancy Report](#)

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Chair Stephanie Lynch moved to forward the following board appointment and reappointment applications to Council with a recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

Advisory Board of Recreation and Parks:

Anne Brooks Rich (reappointment)

Thomas Briggs Jr.

Aging and Disabilities Advisory Board:

Jodi Winship

Charles Barker

Capital Area Partnership Uplifting People, Inc:

Sam Parker (reappointment)

Community Policy and Management Team:

Charlotte Talley

J Sargeant Reynolds Community College Board:

Brenda Drew (reappointment)

Joseph Chaudhari

Lewis Ginter Botanical Garden, Inc.:

Alan Davis (reappointment)

Madeline Mayhood

Richmond Behavioral Health Authority:

Kristi Babenko (reappointment)

Dennis Cohen, Jr. (reappointment)

Scott Cannady (reappointment)

Noreen O'Brien

Social Services Advisory Board

Caleb Fulford

Paper(s) for Consideration

The following ordinance was considered:

1. [ORD. 2025-089](#) To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute an International Rescue Committee Grant Contract between the City of Richmond and the International Rescue Committee, Inc. for the purpose of funding a youth development program for newcomer high school students enrolled in the school division administered by the School Board of the City of Richmond.

Patrons: Mayor Avula

Attachments: [Ord. No. 2025-089](#)

Eva Colen, Manager of the Office of Children and Families, provided the committee with an introduction of ORD. 2025-089.

Public Hearing

There were no public hearing speakers.

There were no comments or discussions, and Chair Stephanie Lynch moved to forward ORD. 2025-089 to Council with a recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

Approval of Minutes

There were no amendments or corrections to the meeting minutes of March 13, 2025, and the committee approved the minutes as presented.

[CD.2025.159](#) March 13, 2025 - Education & Human Services Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [20250313 EHS Minutes \(DRAFT\)](#)

Discussion

Councilmember Questions for RPS

Chair Stephanie Lynch provided the committee with information regarding Councilmember questions prepared for Richmond Public Schools (RPS).

[CD.2025.168](#) Councilmember Questions for RPS

Attachments: [RPS Budget Questions for City Council - 4.17.25 \(1\)](#)

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Staff Report

Will Perkins, Senior Council Legislative Services Manager, provided an update and information regarding the June 12, 2025, Education and Human Services Standing Committee meeting, which will consist of presentations from regional partners related to case management services for the unhoused, and gun violence prevention efforts with the Richmond Henrico Health District and the Richmond Police Department.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 2:47 p.m.