



City of Richmond

Minutes

900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
www.richmondgov.com/cityclerk

Governmental Operations Standing Committee

Thursday, February 27, 2020

12:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Committee Members and Staff in Attendance

The Honorable Andreas Addison – Chair
The Honorable Chris Hilbert – Alternate Member
Samson Anderson, Council Budget Analyst
Haskell Brown, Interim City Attorney
Joyce Davis, Council Policy Analyst
Jamie Isley, Assistant City Clerk
Allison Miessler, Boards and Commissions Administrator
Candice Reid, City Clerk
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

Absent

The Honorable Michael Jones – Vice Chair
The Honorable Cynthia Newbille – Member

Call to Order

Chair Andreas Addison called the meeting to order at 12:08 p.m., and presided.

Evacuation Announcement and Citizen Speaker Guidelines

Upon the Chair's request, Assistant City Clerk Jamie Isley 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

Charles Price, Friends of Bandy Field Nature Park president, provided the committee with data regarding off-leash dogs in Bandy Field Nature Park and explained the potential danger to children and senior residents.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Alternate Member Chris Hilbert inquired about statistics regarding dog bite incidents in Bandy Field Nature Park. Alternate Member Hilbert also expressed intent to be proactive regarding leash laws.

Approval of Minutes

There were no amendments or corrections to the meeting minutes of Thursday, January 23, 2020, and the committee approved the minutes as presented.

Board Vacancies

Allison Miessler, boards and commissions administrator, discussed a board removal for consideration by the committee, and stated that attempts to contact Tanya Francis have been unsuccessful.

Alternate Member Chris Hilbert reviewed information regarding Ms. Francis' continued absence from board meetings and inquired about the process to have Ms. Francis removed from the Richmond Public Library Board.

Interim City Attorney Haskell Brown informed the committee that a patroned resolution is required to remove Ms. Francis from the Richmond Public Library Board and that the Office of the City Attorney and the Office of the City Clerk will coordinate.

Board Name	Criteria for Appointment	Applicant Name
Richmond Public Library Board (9 members)	Member Removal	Tanya Francis

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Presentation

City Fleet, GPS Tracking and Management

Torrence Robinson, Department of Public Works (DPW) deputy director of operations, and Chad Phillips, DPW asset manager - GIS, presented an overview regarding DPW tracking systems, current use of tracking technology, program costs and next steps.

Chair Andreas Addison noted that fleet tracking was included in the recommendations from the Office of the City Auditor, and thanked DPW for executing those recommendations.

Alternate Member Chris Hilbert asked about geo-fencing and marketing initiatives to ensure transparency regarding the increase of monitoring devices inside DPW fleet vehicles.

Chair Andreas Addison asked about unsafe driving and idling detection with regards to the city's green initiatives.

Mr. Phillips stated that such monitoring would be implemented during phase two of fleet tracking.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Paper for Consideration

The following resolution was considered:

RES. 2020-R012

To request that the Mayor propose a Fiscal Year 2020-2021 General Fund Budget that provides for an appropriation to the Office of Animal Care and Control to provide for two new animal control officer positions for the purpose of improving the enforcement of City Code § 4-243, concerning the prohibition against dogs running at large and the penalty therefor.

Patron: Ms. Robertson

Chair Andreas Addison introduced RES. 2020-R012.

Christie Peters, Richmond Animal Care and Control (RACC) director, informed the committee that while additional animal control officers are needed by the department, increasing the enforcement of leash laws alone will not solve the issue of dogs running at large within the city. Ms. Peters provided statistical information regarding RACC calls for service (CFS) and stated that of the 3,859 CFS, 63 involved Bandy Field Nature Park. She also expressed her support for RES. 2020-R012.

Chair Addison expressed intent to coordinate with the Henrico County Board of Supervisors to ensure the support of leash law measures.

Alternate Member Chris Hilbert formally requested that the Henrico County Board of Supervisors collaborate with the city to remedy dogs running at large in shared jurisdictional areas. Alternate Member Hilbert also requested signage and additional promotional materials to deter off-leash dogs and encourage the proper disposal of animal fecal matter.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Alternate Member Chris Hilbert moved to forward RES. 2020-R012 to the March 9, 2020, Council meeting with recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

Discussion Item(s)

There were no items for discussion.

Staff Report

Joyce Davis, Council policy analyst, provided the committee with the February staff report.

Alternate Member Chris Hilbert requested information regarding the addition of panhandling signs similar to those erected on roadway medians in Henrico County. He stated that the public is often misinformed about individuals who regularly panhandle in traffic.

Interim City Attorney Haskell Brown stated that the Office of the City Attorney will follow-up with committee members regarding the process for erecting signs to address panhandling.

A copy of the report provided has been filed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 12:57 p.m.