

INTRODUCED: October 15, 2024

AN ORDINANCE No. 2024-265

To amend and reordain City Code § 2-1056, concerning the creation and composition of the Advisory Board of Recreation and Parks, for the purpose of modifying the membership and composition of the City’s Advisory Board of Recreation and Parks.

Patron – Ms. Jordan

Approved as to form and legality
by the City Attorney

PUBLIC HEARING: NOV 12, 2024 AT 6 P.M.

THE CITY OF RICHMOND HEREBY ORDAINS:

§1. That section 2-1056, of the Code of the City of Richmond (2020) be and is hereby **amended** as follows:

Sec. 2-1056. Created; composition.

There shall be an Advisory Board of Recreation and Parks consisting of 13 members. All members of the Advisory Board of Recreation and Parks shall be appointed by the Council. [~~One member shall be nominated by the Board of Directors of the Monroe Park Conservancy to represent the Conservancy, one~~] One member shall be nominated by the Board of Directors of the Maymont

AYES: 9 NOES: 0 ABSTAIN: _____

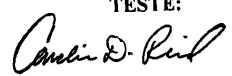
ADOPTED: NOV 12 2024 REJECTED: _____ STRICKEN: _____

Foundation to represent the Foundation[, and one member shall be nominated by the Board of Directors of the EnRichmond Foundation to represent the Foundation]. One member shall be selected from the staff of the City's Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities. Two residents of the city shall be selected to serve as at-large members. One member shall be selected from each of the nine Councilmanic Districts of the City, with each such member to be a resident of the Councilmanic District nominated by the Council member representing such Councilmanic District; provided, however, that should the Council member representing such Councilmanic District fail to nominate a resident of the Councilmanic District within 90 days of a vacancy, whether created by the expiration of a term or otherwise, in the seat assigned to that Councilmanic District, any Council member may nominate a resident of any Councilmanic District to fill such vacancy.

§ 2. This ordinance shall be in force and effect upon adoption.

APPROVED AS TO FORM:

CITY ATTORNEY'S OFFICE

A TRUE COPY:
TESTE:

Carolin D. Rind
City Clerk



Richmond City Council

The Voice of the People

Richmond, Virginia

Office of the Council Chief of Staff

Ordinance/Resolution Request

TO Laura Drewry, City Attorney

FROM Steven Taylor, Council Policy Analyst

COPY Katherine Jordan, 2nd District Council Member
Tabrica Rentz, Deputy City Attorney
Sven Philipsen, 2nd District Liaison

DATE October 1, 2024

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TITLE Altering the composition of the Advisory Board of Recreation and Parks to replace seats appointed by EnRichmond Foundation and the Monroe Park Conservancy with At-Large positions.

This is a request for the drafting of an **Ordinance** ☒ **Resolution** ☐

REQUESTING COUNCILMEMBER/PATRON

Katherine Jordan

SUGGESTED STANDING COMMITTEE

LUHT

ORDINANCE/RESOLUTION SUMMARY

Amends Section 2-1056 to alter the composition and membership of the Advisory Board of Recreation and Parks so that the two board memberships currently designated for appointment by EnRichmond Foundation and the Monroe Park Conservancy are replaced with two at-large positions appointed by City Council and requiring that those positions be held by residents of the City.

BACKGROUND

The Advisory Board of Recreation and Parks voted on June 11, 2024, to recommend that its composition be altered so the two seats currently appointed by EnRichmond Foundation and the Monroe Park Conservancy are replaced with two at-large positions. EnRichmond Foundation and the Monroe Park Conservancy are no longer functioning entities.

FISCAL IMPACT STATEMENT

Fiscal Impact Yes ☐ No ☒

Budget Amendment Required Yes ☐ No ☒

Estimated Cost or Revenue Impact \$ N/A

Note: No costs are anticipated from altering the composition of the Board.

Attachment/s Yes ☒ No ☐ Copy of Minutes of the Advisory Board of Recreation and Parks.

PRCF Advisory Board Meeting 6/11/2024

In attendance: Chris Frelke, Badia Hiwott, David Lambert, Charles Willis, Brook Rich, Charlie Williams (by phone)

Meeting began 6:05 PM at Parks and Rec Headquarters, 2401 West Leigh Street

Charles Willis was introduced as the new representative from the 8th District.

We discussed the need to appoint a new board and the slate was presented:

Chair- Brook Rich

Vice Chair- Charlie Williams

Secretary - vacant

Charles asked how we came to this slate and it was explained that we have been discussing the need for a new board during the last 2 meetings as our previous Chair, Vice and Secretary were no longer on the board. After the last board meeting, Charlie Williams volunteered to be Vice. When no one else expressed interest, Brook spoke with Chris Frelke and put herself forward, but was happy to step aside if someone expressed an interest. There was discussion about adding a Parliamentarian to the Board and a motion was made by Charles. It was decided that we should vote on the Chair and Vice Chair first.

The motion was made and seconded to approve the new board. Voting was completed and the new board was approved unanimously.

A motion was made and seconded to add the position of Parliamentarian to the board. Voting was completed and unanimously approved.

Motion was made by Charles and seconded by Badia for David Lambert to be appointed Parliamentarian. Voting was completed and approved unanimously. David has agreed to work on by-laws and Brook will follow-up with the city to see if we have anything.

David brought up his desire for more sports tourism in Richmond and there was discussion how surrounding areas have benefitted from the added dollars. Chris spoke about eco tourism and how that relies more on what is already in the area bringing in the tourism dollars without added investment. Agreed to revisit the topic and continue exploring options.

Discussion continued about board make-up. Brook and Chris explained that EnRichmond is no longer a functioning organization and no one from Monroe park Conservancy has been to or responded to emails in 2 years. As far as we know they have not met as a board in over 12 months. A motion was made by Charles to remove those positions from the board and seconded by David. Vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Discussion continued with a motion to add two at-large members to the board. Charles questioned if the Council members would have a chance to fill their open seats and do we need 2 more at-large members. Chris explained that sometimes Council members have appointed people to open seats that are not in their district, as is allowed. Later someone from that district may want to be on the Board, but we don't have an open seat. This allows the Council to add some-one in the at-large position. The goal is to have representation from every district. Question was asked what makes a quorum and Brook explained we have 6 people on the board as of the date and we would need 4 voting to make a quorum. That will change as members are added or drop off. We discussed the rules that if you miss 3 meetings, a Board member

loses their seat. David motioned to add 2 at-large members. Brook seconded. Vote was taken and unanimously approved.

Discussion of board meeting date and time. It was agreed we would move to the 3rd Tuesday of the month. We discussed a facilities tour for the next meeting and date of Saturday Aug 24, 9AM. This will be considered our August meeting. We will tour some of the capital improvements (TBD) followed by a short meeting. Meeting dates for the rest of this year:

24 Aug

22 Oct, 6PM, Bon Secours Training Center

Dec meeting will be the night of the Holly Ball at 6PM (checking on the date)

Chris gave a presentation on the summer food program with a hand-out that can be used to give to our community organizations. (See attached). It highlighted how the PRCF team works with the USDA guidelines to feed children under 18, 5 days a week. This is a separate program from RPS. Children who are not in summer camp can still register to go and get the free meal. PRCF has put this out to bid for the past several years, but no vendor has picked it up as the reimbursement is not cost effective. PRCF has figured out how to work with local restaurants and vendors to feed the children and cover the additional costs out of their budget. The PRCF staff works to follow all the USDA guidelines and manages to deliver the food to 18 sites every day. USDA reimburses most of the cost, but there is a shortfall every year.

Chris talked about a long term plan for PR. He talked about being strategic and investing dollars where it can be most beneficial. There may be opportunities with school space and allow PR to get into even more communities. Chris talked about how our ranking nationally as the best park system is now at 22 from 58! Still trying to get us to 100% of people within 10 minutes of a park. People from the surrounding areas come to our parks because Richmond has outstanding facilities.

We discussed what we want to see as future topics for board meetings. Those included food insecurity, gun violence, work force development.

Chris mentioned the possibility of meeting with Babylon Farms. PRCF is in the process of working with Babylon Farms from Scotts Addition to provide kits that help people grow their own food. Starting with Hotchkiss. Possible tour of the facilities at a later date.

Chris will follow-up with an organization chart and a list of parks and rental sites broken up by district.

Charles expressed his goal to support the vision of the Director and asked that we be aware of what is happening on Parks sites. Chris explained that PRCF can get us access to events that they put on. PRCF does not have the ability to get us access to private events. Chris can add us to the weekly list of what is happening in every park on the week-ends. Week-end report usually comes out on Wednesday.

Meetings have been running 90 minutes or longer and Chris has offered to provide a small boxed meal if we want. This will allow for continued open dialogue.

Chris asked we watch or attend the organizational development meeting where they will be discussing PR master plan. Details will be sent in a later email.

Meeting was adjourned at 7:40

Next meeting August 24, 9AM. Meet at Bon Secours Training Center.