



City of Richmond

Council Retreat Minutes

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

Wednesday, February 17, 2021

9:00 AM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall
Virtual Council Retreat: Day 1

Councilmembers Present

The Honorable Cynthia Newbille, President
The Honorable Ellen Robertson, Vice President
The Honorable Andreas Addison (late arrival)
The Honorable Michael Jones
The Honorable Katherine Jordan
The Honorable Ann-Frances Lambert
The Honorable Kristen Larson
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch
The Honorable Reva Trammell (late arrival)

Council President Cynthia Newbille called the retreat to order at 9:02 a.m., and presided.

ELECTRONIC MEETING ANNOUNCEMENT

City Clerk Candice Reid, in accordance with Ordinance No. 2020-093, adopted April 9, 2020, as most recently amended by Ordinance No. 2020-232, adopted December 14, 2020, announced the retreat would be held through electronic communication means. Ms. Reid stated notice of the retreat was provided to the public through a public information advisory issued on February 12, 2021, and through Legistar on the city website in accordance with usual practice. She also stated there would be no opportunities for public comment at the retreat.

WELCOME AND INTRODUCTIONS

President Cynthia Newbille provided opening comments and stated her appreciation for the investment members were making by attending the Council retreat. President Newbille also stated the purpose of the retreat was to create a shared vision and to determine Council priorities to be addressed over the next two years. President Newbille further stated that she was hopeful Council would establish the top five priorities of Council by the conclusion of the retreat.

Vice President Ellen Robertson stated she was excited to engage with fellow members in a conversation to map out a tactical plan to establish goals and identify a shared vision of the city.

Councilor Andreas Addison joined the retreat at 9:09 a.m.

Interim Council Chief of Staff Joyce Davis provided an introduction and background information of the facilitators of the Council retreat.

Dr. Larry Terry, II, Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service executive director, provided Council with a background of the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service, and he led a conversation regarding the concept of reimagining public service.

DISCUSSION

Charles Hartgrove, Virginia Institute of Government at the Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service associate director, and Yvonne Crenshaw, Weldon Cooper Center for Public Service facilitator and trainer, addressed Council and provided information regarding the logistics, ground rules and objectives of the retreat. Mr. Hartgrove and Ms. Crenshaw facilitated a discussion with Council regarding an analysis of Council's strengths, weaknesses, opportunities and threats (SWOT). Ms. Crenshaw informed Council that day one of the Council retreat would consist of the SWOT analysis. Ms. Crenshaw also informed Council that day two of the retreat would be used to review the SWOT analysis to help identify Council's top five goals. Ms. Crenshaw also stated that day two of the retreat would be used to determine how to successfully undertake a plan to accomplish the goals identified by Council.

Councilwoman Reva Trammell joined the retreat.

The retreat recessed at 10:40 a.m.

The retreat reconvened at 10:55 a.m.

Yvonne Crenshaw and Charles Hartgrove led Council through the process of SWOT analysis and facilitated discussion amongst members.

The retreat recessed at 11:53 a.m.

The retreat reconvened at 12:30 p.m.

Yvonne Crenshaw and Charles Hartgrove continued to facilitate Council's process of SWOT analysis.

The retreat recessed at 2:52 p.m.

The retreat reconvened at 3:01 p.m.

Yvonne Crenshaw and Charles Hartgrove concluded the SWOT analysis with Council and discussed with members plans for day two of the Council retreat. Ms. Crenshaw informed members that the information collected from the SWOT analysis would be used to identify Council's top five shared goals. Ms. Crenshaw and Mr. Hartgrove stated day two of the retreat would also be used to determine a path forward to accomplish the goals identified by Council.

Copies of all materials provided have been filed.

ADJOURNMENT

There being no further business before the Council, day one of the Council retreat adjourned at 3:20 p.m.

CITY CLERK