



City of Richmond

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

Meeting Minutes Organizational Development Standing Committee

Monday, June 5, 2023

4:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

DRAFT

Members Present

The Honorable Michael Jones – Chair (early departure)
The Honorable Kristen Nye – Vice Chair
The Honorable Andreas Addison – Member (late arrival and early departure)
The Honorable Katherine Jordan – Member (late arrival)
The Honorable Ann-Frances Lambert – Member (late arrival)
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch – Member (late arrival)
The Honorable Ellen Robertson – Member
The Honorable Cynthia Newbille – Member
The Honorable Reva Trammell – Member

Others in Attendance

LaTasha Holmes, Council Chief of Staff
Tabrica Rentz, Deputy City Attorney
Tori Cotman, Assistant City Attorney
Candice Reid, City Clerk
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk
Rachael Paul, Assistant City Clerk
Pamela Nichols, Council Management Analyst
Joyce Davis, Council Policy Analyst

Call to Order

Chair Michael Jones called the meeting to order at 4:09 p.m., and presided.

Chamber Emergency Evacuation Plan Announcement and Citizen Speaker Guidelines

Upon the Chair's request, Assistant City Clerk Rachael Paul 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.

Electronic Participation

Pursuant to Rule III(D)(4)(b) of Council's Rules of Procedure, Member Katherine Jordan made a request to participate in the meeting via Microsoft Teams from Wilmington, North Carolina, due to personal travel that prevented her physical attendance. The Committee members present were required to adopt a motion to approve Member Katherine Jordan's participation in the meeting by electronic communication means if it appeared to the body that her request complied with Rule III(D) of Council's Rules of Procedure. A motion was solicited from those members physically assembled to approve Member Katherine Jordan's participation in the meeting by electronic communication means.

Member Cynthia Newbille moved to allow Member Katherine Jordan to participate in the meeting by electronic communication means. The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 5, Robertson, Trammell, Newbille, Nye, and Jones. Noes None. Addison, Lambert, and Lynch had not yet arrived.

Member Katherine Jordan joined the meeting via Microsoft Teams at 4:11 p.m.

Member Ann-Frances Lambert arrived at 4:12 p.m., and was seated.

Approval of Minutes

There were no corrections or amendments to the minutes of the Monday, May 1, 2023 Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting, at 4:00 p.m., and the minutes were approved as presented.

[CD.2023.196](#) May 1, 2023 Organizational Development Standing Committee Meeting Minutes

Attachments: [20230501 -O.D. Minutes](#)

Reports from City Administration, Council Staff and Other Parties

Community Development Authority Timeline

Leonard Sledge, Director of Economic Development, provided the committee a presentation regarding the Community Development Authority timeline related to the Diamond District Development.

[CD.2023.212](#) 20230605 Community Development Authority Timeline

Attachments: [20230605 Community Development Authority Timeline Report](#)

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Member Ann-Frances Lambert asked how many members are needed on the Community Development Authority (CDA).

Mr. Sledge stated the CDA needs five members and that administration would collaborate with Council on membership criteria.

Member Ellen Robertson asked what authority of land does the CDA have for use.

Member Andreas Addison arrived at 4:15 p.m., and was seated.

Mr. Sledge informed the committee that certain property is being transferred to the city's Economic Development Authority. He advised that the CDA's responsibility is to issue the debt related to the financing of the development.

Vice Chair Kristen Nye asked if the administration is proposing that Council adopt the ordinance and appoint the members of the CDA at the same time.

Maritza Pechin, Deputy Director of the Office of Equitable Development, Department of Planning and Development Review, stated that Virginia Code requires the legislation creating the CDA must include its founding members.

Member Cynthia Newbille asked about the map of CDA properties and what the different colorations indicate regarding the deeds for the properties.

Mr. Sledge stated that the lightly shaded area is the Sportsbackers parcel owned by Virginia Commonwealth University (VCU), and the administration will ask VCU to be a part of the petition to create the CDA as a property owner.

Member Lambert suggested that Council review the CDA membership qualifications in July at the Council retreat.

Consideration of Appointments to Boards, Commissions and Similar Entities

Pamela Nichols, Council Management Analyst, reviewed board vacancies for the committee's consideration.

[CD.2023.206](#) June 5, 2023 - OD Board Vacancy Report

Attachments: [20230605 - OD Board Vacancy](#)

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Member Cynthia Newbille moved to forward the following appointment application to Council with the recommendation to approve:

Board of Commissioners of the Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority:
Dyanne Broidy

The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 8, Addison, Jordan, Lambert, Robertson, Trammell, Newbille, Nye, and Jones. Noes None. Lynch had not yet arrived.

Paper(s) for Consideration

The following ordinance was considered:

4. [ORD. 2023-172](#) To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Richmond Riverfront Performing Arts Venue Performance Grant Agreement between the City of Richmond, Richmond Amphitheater, LLC, and the Economic Development Authority of the City of Richmond for the purpose of developing and operating an amphitheater at 470 Tredegar Street. (6th District)

Patrons: Mayor Stoney and City Council

Attachments: [Ord. No. 2023-172](#)
[20230605 Richmond Amphitheater City Council Presentation](#)
[20230612 Formal 2023-172-Handout Joseph Rogers](#)

Leonard Sledge, Director of Economic Development, provided the committee a presentation regarding the amphitheater project for the city referenced in Ord. 2023-172.

Member Stephanie Lynch arrived at 4:30 p.m., and was seated.

Coran Capshaw, Founder and Chief Executive Officer of Red Light Management, thanked the committee members and stated he looked forward to continuing conversations with Council regarding the amphitheater project.

Grant Lyman, President of Live Nation Southeast Region, expressed his excitement over the partnership with Red Light Ventures and the city. He stated that Live Nation manages over 50 amphitheaters in the United States, and that the Richmond amphitheater would provide a location for big artists on tour.

Preston Lloyd, Real Estate Attorney at Williams Mullen, stated that it has been a privilege to work with the team and partner with the administration on the amphitheater project. Mr. Lloyd informed the committee that the team continues to go through an engagement process with neighbors and stakeholders.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Public Hearing

Clay Mountcastle, Director of the Virginia War Memorial, spoke in opposition to ORD. 2023-172, and stated his concerns regarding the amphitheater's proximity to the war memorial. Mr. Mountcastle asked the committee to continue consideration of the ordinance to give them more time to discuss the issues with the developers.

Rain Burroughs spoke in opposition to ORD. 2023-172, and stated her concerns regarding the amphitheater and the effect it will have on her neighborhood, and she asked the committee to continue consideration of the ordinance.

Charles Pool, Representative of Oregon Hill Home Improvement Council, spoke in opposition to ORD. 2023-172, and stated his concerns regarding the amphitheater and the effect it will have on his neighborhood and parking. He asked the committee to continue consideration of the ordinance.

Bryan Green, Representative of Oregon Hill Neighborhood Association, spoke in opposition to ORD. 2023-172, and stated his concerns regarding the amphitheater and asked for more discussion on parking hours, hours of operation, and noise levels. He asked the committee to continue consideration of the ordinance.

Valerie L'Herrou spoke in opposition to ORD. 2023-172, and stated her concerns regarding parking and noise levels that will be present from the amphitheater and asked the committee to continue consideration of the ordinance.

Brian Anderson, President and Chief Executive Officer of ChamberRVA, spoke in support for ORD. 2023-172, and explained how it would help grow and improve the city.

Member Ann-Frances Lambert asked about infrastructure improvements and if the city is required to pay for street traffic signs, bus routes and stops, and parking concerns. Ms. Lambert addressed her concerns about noise and asked if there would be a sound barrier built.

Mr. Sledge stated that there is a parking plan that is required to be submitted annually.

Mr. Lloyd informed the committee that the project is located in a downtown civic and cultural zone, therefore there is no requirement for additional off street parking. He also informed the committee that the developers have been researching other parking areas outside of the venue that are available to the public. He stated that the city is currently collecting taxes on the lot as a grassy field, but once the development is complete, the city will receive new increased revenue.

Member Ann-Frances Lambert asked to be added as a co-patron of Ord. 2023-172.

Member Stephanie Lynch thanked the residents of Oregon Hill and others for their comments and concerns. Ms. Lynch stated that Council takes their concerns seriously and that she believed many of them have been addressed. She also stated that the amphitheater would fall under the city's noise ordinance, Ord. 2022-219.

Member Ellen Robertson stated that the development would be in the 6th District and that she takes all residents' concerns into consideration. Ms. Robertson requested a schedule from the developers detailing scheduled communication with the surrounding neighbors.

There were no further comments or discussions and Member Ellen Robertson moved to forward ORD. 2023-172 to Council with a recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

Member Ellen Robertson, Vice Chair Kristen Nye, Member Andreas Addison, and Member Stephanie Lynch asked to be added as co-patrons of Ord. 2023-172.

The following ordinances and resolution were considered:

1. [ORD. 2023-170](#) To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Resort Casino Host Community Agreement between the City of Richmond and RVA Entertainment Holdings, LLC, for the purpose of facilitating the development of a resort casino project in the city of Richmond.

Patrons: Mayor Stoney, Ms. Trammell, President Jones, Ms. Lambert, Ms. Robertson, Ms. Newbille and Vice President Nye

Attachments: [Ord. No. 2023-170](#)
[20230605 Richmond Resort Casino City Council Presentation](#)

2. [ORD. 2023-171](#) To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Community Support Agreement among City of Richmond, Casino Owner, and Casino Manager between the City of Richmond, RVA Entertainment Holdings, LLC, and Richmond VA Management, LLC, for the purpose of facilitating the fulfillment of certain negotiated community benefits in connection with the development of a resort casino project in the city of Richmond.

Patrons: Mayor Stoney, Ms. Trammell, President Jones, Ms. Lambert, Ms. Robertson, Ms. Newbille and Vice President Nye

Attachments: [Ord. No. 2023-171](#)

3. [RES. 2023-R027](#) To select RVA Entertainment Holdings, LLC, as the City's preferred casino gaming operator to operate a casino gaming establishment located at 2001 Walmsley Boulevard and 4700 Trenton Avenue and to provide for the requisite referendum thereon pursuant to Va. Code § 58.1-4123.
(8th District)

Patrons: Mayor Stoney, Ms. Trammell, President Jones, Ms. Lambert, Ms. Robertson, Ms. Newbille and Vice President Nye

Attachments: [Res. No. 2023-R027](#)

Leonard Sledge, Director of Economic Development, provided the committee a presentation regarding the casino project for the city referenced in Ord. 2023-170, Ord. 2023-171, and Res. 2023-R027.

Alfred Liggins, Urban One Chief Executive Officer, expressed his gratitude and excitement for the casino project. He stated that the project will bring many benefits to the city, and he highlighted career opportunities and potential revenue for the city.

Joe Quinn, Churchill Downs, Inc., Senior Counsel, informed the committee that Churchill Downs partnered in the casino project because they believe in the project and the benefits it will bring to the community. He also stated that the project will provide thousands of jobs and increased revenue for the city.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Public Hearing

Rain Burroughs spoke in opposition to ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and stated her concerns regarding the casino and the effect it will have on the community.

Charles Skelly, President of Richmond Building Construction Trades Council, Business Manager IBEW Local 666, spoke in support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and explained how the casino project will provide jobs for construction workers and many benefits for the city.

Carnell Lewis, South Richmond Adult Day Care Center Executive Director, spoke in support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and she stated all the benefits she believed the casino would bring to the city.

Sam Epps, Political Director for Unite Here Local 25, spoke in support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027. He stated that the Unite Here Union supports gaming workers across the country and that the casino project will bring career jobs to the city.

D'Ante Pulliam spoke in support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and stated that there are not many career opportunities in the city and the casino will provide many career options.

Ma'Sasha Williams spoke in support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and she explained that the casino will create more career opportunities for her that will be closer to her home.

Niejah Jones spoke in support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and explained how she believed the casino project will help the community.

Madeline Enminger spoke in support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and she stated that she believes in the casino project and that it will bring revenue and jobs to the city.

Dr. Allia Carter, Executive Vice President and Chief Operating Officer at Virginia Union University (VUU), spoke in support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and she expressed her support for the many employment and tourist opportunities the casino project will provide.

Walt Goree, Assistant Business Manager IBEW Local 666, spoke in support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and he stated the casino project will benefit construction workers and that it will bring revenue and many jobs to the city.

Tommy Gibson, Member of the United Association Plumber and Steam Fitters Local Union 10, spoke in support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and he explained that the casino project will provide many career opportunities.

Miguel Jimenez spoke in support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and he stated the casino project will provide benefits for everyone in the city.

Knight Williams spoke in support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and he stated the casino project will create thousands of jobs and increase revenue that the city can use towards improving schools.

Frank Ward, Sr., Carpenters Local 205, spoke in support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and he stated the casino project will provide many benefits for the city.

Marty Jewell, Vice President of Richmond Crusade for Voters, spoke in support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027. Mr. Jewell stated the city needs help with low income housing and that the revenues provided from the casino project would help.

Brian Anderson, President and Chief Executive Officer of ChamberRVA, spoke in support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and he stated the casino project can bring national recognition to the city as a resort.

Jasmine Hayes spoke in support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and she informed the committee that the casino project would bring increased tourism that would also increase revenue for local and small businesses in the area.

Member Reva Trammell expressed her support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and stated that the casino project will have a huge impact on the city and will bring more businesses to the city. Ms. Trammell also stated that the resort will create many career opportunities.

Member Ann-Frances Lambert stated her support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and informed the committee that the city needs the project. Ms. Lambert also stated that the casino project would provide many benefits and career opportunities.

Chair Michael Jones departed the meeting at 5:57 p.m.

Member Ann-Frances Lambert asked to be added as a co-patron to ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027.

Member Cynthia Newbille informed the committee of her support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and that she views the casino project as a growth opportunity for the city. Ms. Newbille stated that the project has many benefits for the city and for city residents.

Member Ellen Robertson expressed her support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and stated that the city needs economic growth and development.

Member Ellen Robertson asked to be added as a co-patron to ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027.

Member Stephanie Lynch stated her support for ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027, and informed members that she believed the casino project would create many benefits for the city.

There were no further comments or discussions and Member Ann-Frances Lambert moved to forward ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027 to Council with a recommendation to approve, which was seconded and approved: Ayes 7, Addison, Lambert, Robertson, Lynch, Trammell, Newbille, and Nye. Noes 1, Jordan.

Member Cynthia Newbille and Vice Chair Kristen Nye asked to be added as co-patrons of ORD. 2023-170, ORD. 2023-171, and RES. 2023-R027.

The following resolution was considered:

5. [RES. 2023-R024](#) To request that the Chief Administrative Officer cause the preparation of a study to identify a location in the Shockoe Bottom area of the city of Richmond for the National Slavery Museum.

Patrons: Ms. Newbille, Ms. Lambert and President Jones

Attachments: [Res. No. 2023-R024](#)

Member Cynthia Newbille stated that she would like to give city administration more time to review the request referenced in the proposed legislation before the committee considers RES. 2023-R024.

Member Cynthia Newbille moved to continue Res. 2023-R024 to the July 3, 2023 Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting, which was seconded and approved: Ayes 5, Addison, Jordan, Lynch, Newbille, and Nye. Noes None. Lambert, Robertson, and Trammell were excused.

Discussion Item(s)

There were no discussion items.

Closed Session

At 6:14 p.m., Member Cynthia Newbille moved that the Organizational Development Standing Committee go into a closed meeting pursuant to subdivision (A)(8) of section 2.2-3711 of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act to consult with legal counsel retained by the public body regarding collective bargaining requiring the provision of legal advice by such counsel.

The motion seconded and approved: Ayes 6, Addison, Jordan, Lambert, Lynch, Newbille, and Nye. Noes None. Robertson and Trammell were excused.

Member Andreas Addison departed the meeting at 6:15 p.m.

Member Ellen Robertson motioned to exit closed session. The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 6, Lambert, Robertson, Lynch, Trammell, Newbille, and Nye. Noes None. Abstentions 1, Jordan.

Members reconvened in open session at 6:58 p.m.

Certification of Closed Meeting

WHEREAS, the Organizational Development Standing Committee has convened in closed meeting on this date pursuant to an affirmative recorded vote and in accordance with the provisions of the Virginia Freedom of Information Act; and

WHEREAS, Section 2.2-3712 of the Code of Virginia requires a certification by the Organizational Development Standing Committee that such closed meeting was conducted in conformity with Virginia law:

NOW, THEREFORE,
BE IT RESOLVED:

That the Organizational Development Standing Committee hereby certifies that to the best of each member's knowledge (i) only public matters lawfully exempt from open meeting requirements by Virginia law were discussed in the closed meeting to which this certifying resolution applies; and (ii) only such public business matters as were identified in the motion convening the closed meeting were heard, discussed or considered by the Organizational Development Standing Committee.

WITNESS the following vote of committee members, as recorded by Candice D. Reid, City Clerk:

CERTIFYING:

Kristen M. Nye, Vice Chair
Ann-Frances Lambert
Ellen F. Robertson
Stephanie A. Lynch
Reva M. Trammell
Cynthia I. Newbille

DECLINING TO CERTIFY:

Reports of Standing Committees

Education and Human Services

Member Stephanie Lynch updated committee members on items from the Education and Human Services Standing Committee. Ms. Lynch informed the committee that topics discussed during the previous meeting included updates on the city's homeless shelter and evictions. Ms. Lynch thanked Ms. Newbille for her expertise on the Head Start program.

Member Cynthia Newbille provided an update regarding the Head Start program.

Public Safety

Member Reva Trammell updated members on the last Public Safety Standing Committee meeting. Ms. Trammell thanked the Interim Police Chief for doing pop up events throughout the city. Ms. Trammell provided an update regarding the Richmond Ambulance Authority.

Finance and Economic Development

Member Cynthia Newbille provided an update regarding the Finance and Economic Development Standing Committee. Ms. Newbille informed members that the committee discussed the fund balance and 5% retiree bonus pay.

Governmental Operations

Member Ann-Frances Lambert provided members information regarding the last Governmental Operations Standing Committee meeting. Ms. Lambert gave an overview of each presentation topic and paper discussed during the meeting. She also provided information regarding honorary street naming in the city.

Land Use, Housing and Transportation

Member Ellen Robertson updated members on the last Land Use, Housing, and Transportation Standing Committee meeting. Ms. Robertson stated the committee had a follow up on the city's zoning ordinance and had a discussion on affordable housing.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:21 p.m.