



City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street
Richmond, VA 23219
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Minutes

Organizational Development Standing Committee

Monday, July 1, 2019

5:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

Committee Members and Others in Attendance

The Honorable Cynthia Newbille – Chair
The Honorable Chris Hilbert – Vice Chair (early departure)
The Honorable Andreas Addison – Member
The Honorable Parker Agelasto – Member
The Honorable Kim Gray – Member
The Honorable Michael Jones – Member
The Honorable Kristen Larson – Member
The Honorable Ellen Robertson – Member
The Honorable Reva Trammell – Member (early departure)
Haskell Brown, Deputy City Attorney
Meghan Brown, Interim Council Chief of Staff
Candice Reid, City Clerk
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

Call to Order

Chair Cynthia Newbille called the meeting to order at 6:27 p.m., and presided.

Chair Newbille informed the Committee that the Council Awards and Street Naming discussion items would be continued to the Monday, July 22, 2019, Informal Council meeting.

Approval of the Minutes

There were no corrections or amendments to the minutes of the Monday, June 3, 2019, Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting at 5:00 p.m., and the minutes were approved as presented.

Reports from City Administration, Council Staff and Other Parties

Policy and Process for the Sale of Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority (RRHA) Properties

Damon Duncan, RRHA chief executive officer, provided the Committee with an informational update of RRHA and the disposition of surplus properties.

Member Michael Jones requested that RRHA fully inform the public about the process of property sales.

Member Ellen Robertson engaged in a discussion with Mr. Duncan regarding affordable housing and its relationship with RRHA.

Vice Chair Chris Hilbert raised concerns about flyers being distributed in public housing regarding the sale of RRHA properties, and it causing fear within the community.

Member Kim Gray discussed with Mr. Duncan the combined salary limits for assisted housing eligibility and the sale of RRHA properties to private investors.

Mr. Duncan informed the Committee that selling RRHA properties to investors generates capital needed to address public housing improvements. In addition, he stated RRHA was beginning negotiations with the firm associated with the potential Navy Hill redevelopment project.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Member Reva Trammell departed the meeting at 7:05 p.m.

Cessation and Disease Intervention Funding Presentation

Dr. Danny Avula, Richmond & Henrico Health Districts director, and Sarah Birkhead, regional tobacco control specialist, provided the Committee an update on the Richmond City Cessation Program.

Member Kim Gray inquired how cannabis and vaping relate to the program.

Dr. Avula stated he anticipates many current tobacco laws will be applied to vaping use. He added that cannabis use will require more data and analysis.

Member Gray asked city administration about the new stamp purchased requirement for store owners selling tobacco within the city. She stated her concern with the shortened time frame between owners being notified of the requirement, and the time allowed to purchase required stamps.

Chair Cynthia Newbille asked that city administration address Member Gray's question after the presentation.

Member Ellen Robertson asked for an itemized budget containing the appropriations provided by the city. In addition, she asked that Dr. Avula work with City Council in creating legislation that would discourage the promotion of smoking.

Member Parker Agelasto requested that quarterly reports be submitted to City Council that provide data on efforts to quit the smoking of tobacco.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Lenora Reid, deputy chief administrative officer for Finance and Administration, addressed Member Gray's earlier question regarding the shortened time frame between owners being notified of the requirement to purchase cigarette stamps, and the time allowed to purchase stamps. Ms. Reid stated administration only had 30-45 days once the city's cigarette tax was adopted to notify the public. She informed the Committee that limited staffing and the procurement of stamps also added to the delay.

Chair Newbille inquired from Ms. Reid how the city would work with individuals who did not receive notification about the stamp requirement until after July 1, 2019.

Ms. Reid stated she would defer consideration of the matter to the Office of the City Attorney.

Vice Chair Chris Hilbert departed the meeting at 7:38 p.m.

Consideration of Appointments to Boards, Commissions and Similar Entities

It was the consensus of the Committee to continue consideration of appointments to boards, commissions and similar entities to the Monday, July 22, 2019, Informal Council meeting.

Discussion Item(s)

Appointments to the Navy Hill Development Advisory Commission

Boards and Commissions Administrator Allison Miessler reviewed Navy Hill Development Advisory Commission applicants for consideration to the position of chair and vice chair.

After a brief discussion, Chair Cynthia Newbille confirmed there were no objections from Committee members to the chair and vice chair selections.

Member Parker Agelasto moved to forward with approval the recommendations of Pierce Homer as chair and John Gerner as vice chair, to the Monday, July 22, 2019, Formal Council meeting. The motion was seconded and approved: Ayes 6, Robertson, Larson, Agelasto, Gray, Addison, Newbille. Noes 0. Jones was excused.

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

Adjournment

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:49 p.m.