



## City of Richmond

900 East Broad Street  
Richmond, VA 23219  
[www.richmondgov.com/cityclerk](http://www.richmondgov.com/cityclerk)

### Minutes

## Education and Human Services Standing Committee

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Thursday, October 3, 2019

2:00 PM

Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall

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#### Committee Members and Staff in Attendance

The Honorable Kristen Larson – Chair  
The Honorable Ellen Robertson – Member  
Joyce Davis, Council Policy Analyst  
Jamie Isley, Assistant City Clerk  
Allison Miessler, Boards and Commissions Administrator  
M. Janet Palmer, Deputy City Attorney  
Candice Reid, City Clerk  
RJ Warren, Deputy City Clerk

#### Reported Absent

The Honorable Chris Hilbert – Vice Chair

#### Call to Order

Chair Kristen Larson called the meeting to order at 2:05 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

There were no public comments.

#### Approval of Minutes

There were no amendments or corrections to the meeting minutes of Thursday, September 5, 2019, and the committee approved the minutes as presented.

#### Board Vacancies

Allison Miessler, boards and commissions administrator, reviewed board applications for consideration by the committee.

Member Ellen Robertson requested district residency information for applicants to the Richmond Behavioral Health Authority (RBHA) board.

Member Ellen Robertson moved to forward the following appointment and reappointment to Council with the recommendation to approve and to continue consideration of the RBHA vacancy to the November 7, 2019, committee meeting, which was seconded and unanimously approved.

<u>Board Name</u>	<u>Criteria for Appointment</u>	<u>Applicant Name</u>
<b>Aging and Disabilities Advisory Board</b> (9 members)	Senior Citizen* (1 vacancy)	A. Lynn Ivey (reappointment)
<b>Capital Area Partnership Uplifting People, Inc.</b> (3 Members)	Applicant must work or reside in the city (2 vacancies)	Nathan Thomson
<b>Richmond Behavioral Health Authority</b> (15 members)	Individual and/or family member of individual receiving services* (1 vacancy)	Melodie Patterson
		Mary Sharon Wayne

\* Applicant must work or reside in the city

A copy of the material provided has been filed.

## Paper for Consideration

The following ordinance was considered:

### ORD. 2019-266

To authorize the Chief Administrative Officer, for and on behalf of the City of Richmond, to execute a Facility Use Agreement between School Board of the City of Richmond and City of Richmond for the purpose of facilitating the joint use of the City's public schools and Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities' properties and facilities.

**Patron:** Mayor Stoney

Ray Chavis, Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities recreation program manager, and Chris Frelke, Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities director, introduced ORD. 2019-266.

Chair Kristen Larson suggested that Richmond Public Schools, the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities and the Department of Public Works coordinate to provide clarity on the delegation of maintenance assignments.

Mr. Frelke advised that there are lines of communication in place to prevent redundancy of services and that the Department of Parks, Recreation and Community Facilities intends to continue using the workforce development program for certain maintenance needs in addition to future budgetary changes and written maintenance agreements.

There were no further comments or discussions and **Member Ellen Robertson moved to forward ORD. 2019-266 to the October 14, 2019, City Council meeting with recommendation to approve, which was seconded and unanimously approved.**

## Presentation

### Richmond Public Schools (RPS) Performance Indicators

RPS Superintendent Jason Kamras presented the committee with an overview of the Dreams4RPS goals, baselines, targets and data analysis regarding performance indicators.

*Member Ellen Robertson requested an itemized list and associated map of schools working towards accreditation and the twenty schools currently accredited. She also asked that RPS document practices that contribute to student success within its measurements, so that those items may be accounted for during budget deliberations.*

*Chair Kristen Larson asked for clarification regarding the RPS absentee policy and requested statistical information regarding RPS students who are chronically absent. She also requested longitudinal data regarding completion rates of RPS students who enroll in post-secondary education.*

*Mr. Kamras advised the committee that recent changes to the RPS absentee policy include a waiver process for students with extraordinary life circumstances.*

*Member Robertson inquired about the percentage of first-year teachers compared to experienced teachers employed with RPS, and requested an itemized list of those percentages within individual RPS schools. She expressed her surprise at the high level of parental and caregiver school satisfaction rates.*

*Mr. Kamras stressed the importance of the relationship between teachers and principals as a key factor in low retention numbers and spoke of efforts to retain experienced teachers. He explained that parental and caregiver school satisfaction rates are attributed to their student's emotional response to school and that RPS plans to increase academic transparency so that parents and caregivers are aware of their student's performance level and methods for improvement.*

*Chair Larson emphasized the importance of inclusive post-graduation discussions with students and caregivers in such a way that caregivers of first generation college students, national service applicants and job candidates feel supported. She requested Council staff to include a request within the 2020 legislative packet to loosen the requirements for the Virginia Preschool Initiative so that every seat is filled.*

*Scott Barlow, Richmond School Board 2<sup>nd</sup> District representative, informed the committee of a legislative priorities meeting to be held October 3, 2019, at 5:00 p.m., where the Virginia Preschool Initiative will be discussed.*

*A copy of the presentation has been filed.*

### **Discussion Item(s)**

There were no items for discussion.

### **Staff Report**

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

*A copy of the report has been filed.*

### **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 3:29 p.m.