



# City of Richmond

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

## Minutes

### Organizational Development Standing Committee

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**Tuesday, September 8, 2020**

**5:00 PM**

**Council Chamber, 2nd Floor - City Hall  
(Virtual Meeting)**

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#### **Committee Members**

The Honorable Cynthia Newbille – Chair  
The Honorable Chris Hilbert – Vice Chair (late arrival)  
The Honorable Andreas Addison – Member  
The Honorable Kim Gray – Member  
The Honorable Michael Jones – Member (late arrival)  
The Honorable Kristen Larson – Member (late arrival)  
The Honorable Stephanie Lynch – Member (late arrival)  
The Honorable Ellen Robertson – Member  
The Honorable Reva Trammell – Member (early departure)

#### **Others in Attendance**

Lawrence Anderson, Council Chief of Staff  
Haskell Brown, Interim City Attorney  
Meghan Brown, Deputy 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 6:01 p.m., and presided.

#### **Electronic Meeting Announcement**

Deputy City Clerk RJ Warren, in accordance with Ordinance No. 2020-093, adopted April 9, 2020, as amended by Ordinance No. 2020-183, adopted August 20, 2020, announced the meeting would be held through electronic communication means. Deputy City Clerk Warren stated notice of the meeting was provided to the public through a public information advisory issued on September 1, 2020, and through Legistar on the city website in accordance with usual practice. Deputy City Clerk Warren also stated there would be no opportunities for public comment at the meeting.

#### **Approval of the Minutes**

There were no corrections or amendments to the minutes of the Monday, July 7, 2020, Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting, at 5:00 p.m., and the minutes were approved as presented.

*Vice Chair Chris Hilbert joined the meeting at 6:05 p.m.*

*Member Michael Jones joined the meeting at 6:06 p.m.*

#### **Consideration of Appointments to Boards, Commissions and Similar Entities**

Deputy City Clerk RJ Warren reviewed board applications for consideration by the committee.

**Member Ellen Robertson moved to forward the following appointments and reappointment to Council with the recommendation to approve:**

Board Name	Criteria for Appointment	Applicant Name
Richmond Redevelopment and Housing Authority (9 members)	Tenant Representative*   (3 vacancies)	Veronica Blount 6 <sup>th</sup> District Resident (reappointment)
		Charlene Pitchford 3 <sup>rd</sup> District Resident
		Patrice Shelton 6 <sup>th</sup> District Resident

\*Applicants must either reside or work in the city

**The motion was seconded and approved:** Ayes 7, Jones, Robertson, Gray, Trammell, Addison, Hilbert, Newbille. Noes None. Larson and Lynch had not yet arrived.

*A copy of the material provided has been filed.*

*Member Kristen Larson joined the meeting at 6:08 p.m.*

## **Reports from City Administration, Council Staff and Other Parties**

### **Special Session Update**

Ron Jordan, council lobbyist, Advantus Strategies, and Laura Bateman, council lobbyist, Advantus Strategies, provided members with an update regarding the Virginia General Assembly (GA) special session. Mr. Jordan and Ms. Bateman discussed legislation that was addressed by the GA and also discussed legislation scheduled to be reviewed by the GA throughout the remaining special session.

*A copy of the material provided has been filed.*

*Member Stephanie Lynch joined the meeting at 6:21 p.m.*

### **Monument Disposition Update**

Council Chief of Staff Lawrence Anderson provided members with an update regarding the collection of offers from interested parties seeking to acquire certain monuments removed from city property. Council Chief of Staff Anderson stated Council staff had received over 30 inquiries regarding disposition of the monuments since the adoption of ORD. 2020-154, on August 3, 2020. Mr. Anderson also stated Council staff was beginning to assess received proposals while also collaborating with city administration to determine the best outcome for the city. Mr. Anderson informed Council that a report of recommendations would be provided to members for consideration prior to final disposition.

### **Richmond Sheriff's Office Update**

Richmond Sheriff Antionette Irving provide members with an update regarding the impact of COVID-19 on the Richmond Sheriff's Office. Sheriff Irving informed members of the response taken by Sheriff's Office staff regarding positive infections of COVID-19 amongst staff and the inmate population. Sheriff Irving addressed safety measures implemented by the Sheriff's Office to prevent potential COVID-19 outbreaks within the inmate population.

*Member Kristen Larson inquired how the Sheriff's Office was communicating positive infection rates to the inmate population and public.*

Sheriff Irving stated that staff inform inmates of test results, which includes information regarding potential exposure to other inmates that test positive for COVID-19. Sheriff Irving also stated that staff attempts to provide media with information requested regarding COVID-19 statistics within 24 hours. Sheriff Irving also provided information regarding the number of inmate hospitalizations.

*Chair Cynthia Newbille requested that Sheriff Irving provide Council with future press releases and updated statistics regarding COVID-19's impact on the Richmond Sheriff's Office.*

## **Reports of Standing Committees**

There were no reports of standing committees.

## **Paper(s) for Consideration**

There were no papers for consideration.

## **Discussion Item**

### **Council's Legislative Priorities**

Ron Jordan, council lobbyist, Advantus Strategies, and Laura Bateman, council lobbyist, Advantus Strategies, discussed with members a review of Council's legislative priorities for the 2021 Virginia General Assembly. Mr. Jordan informed members that updated information regarding legislative priorities would be provided at the next Organizational Development Standing Committee meeting.

*Vice Chair Chris Hilbert stated he believed state legislation that allowed localities to regulate firearms in public spaces included language that was too vague, and he inquired if there was potential for the Virginia General Assembly to address his concern.*

Mr. Jordan stated he believed gun legislation would be addressed by the Virginia General Assembly in 2021, and that it would provide a good opportunity to seek clarification regarding firearm regulations by localities.

*Member Andreas Addison stated he reached out to elected members of the Virginia General Assembly regarding the need for electronic enforcement of speed limits within urban areas, rather than requiring enforcement by police officers. Member Addison also stated he believed requiring that only police officers be present to enforce speed limits created an undue burden for police to provide resources.*

*A copy of the material provided has been filed.*

Chair Cynthia Newbille informed members that she received a request from Mayor Levar Stoney to collaborate with Council regarding honoring former Richmond City Clerk Edna Keys-Chavis.

## **Adjournment**

There being no further business, the meeting adjourned at 7:14 p.m.