

**BOARD OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
MEETING
10:00 A.M., January 28, 2019
Richmond, Virginia**

Members Present

Sonny Abbasi
John Patrick “J.P.” Carr
Sean Farrell
Andrew Friedman
Richard Gregory
Helen Hardiman
Abigail Johnson
Keith Johnson
Earl Reynolds
Jeff Sadler
Steve Semones
Mimi Elrod

Members Absent

Susan Dewey
Patricia Shields

Call to Order

Mr. J.P. Carr, Chairman of the Board of Housing and Community Development, called the meeting of the Board to order at 10:00 am.

Roll Call

The roll was called by Mr. Kyle Flanders of the Department of Housing and Community Development’s (DHCD) Policy Office. Mr. Flanders reported that a quorum was present.

Public Comment

No one from the public wished to comment; the public comment period was then closed.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the minutes of the October 26, 2018, meeting of the Board; the motion passed.

2018 Code Change Cycle

Ms. Cindy Davis, Deputy Director of Building and Fire Regulation for DHCD presented the tentative schedule for the 2018 Code Update Cycle. Discussion ensued among board members regarding a key dates. Mr. Erik Johnston, Director of DHCD, noted that a large body of work would be accomplished through the work groups. Ms. Davis noted additional workgroups would be meeting in regards to the following topics: energy, use groups, and the Statewide Fire Prevention Code edits.

A motion was made and properly seconded to adopt the tentative 2018 code change cycle schedule. The motion passed.

Periodic Reviews

Mr. Flanders presented information to the Board regarding the Periodic Review of Regulations for the Public Participation Guidelines, the Virginia Standards for Individual and Regional Code Academies, and the Solar Energy Criteria for Tax Exemption. Mr. Flanders indicated that public comment on the regulations would last for 30 days and the Board would be presented with the findings of the periodic reviews in the coming months.

A motion was made and properly seconded to direct staff to proceed with a periodic review of regulations for the Public Participation Guidelines, the Virginia Standards for Individual and Regional Code Academies, and the Solar Energy Criteria for Tax Exemption. The motion passed.

Conflict of Interest

Mr. Flanders stated that Board members are required to complete Conflict of Interest Act (COIA) Financial Disclosure forms by the end of the week. He also noted the required online training requirements for COIA, indicating he would follow-up with the Board members about this training.

Legislative Update

Mr. Johnston discussed active legislation during the General Assembly session pertinent to the work of the Board. This included legislation related to the building and fire codes, fair housing, evictions, and related budget items.

Mr. Sean Farrell indicated the Board should carefully consider any regulation adopted based on legislation from the General Assembly session.

VFSB Report

Mr. Farrell reported that the Virginia Fire Services Board (VFSB) had not met since the last Board meeting and that the next meeting would be February 22, 2019. Mr. Farrell reported information from the State Fire Marshal's Office regarding fire related fatalities in the Commonwealth; discussion ensued among the Board members regarding presentation of the information.

Report of the Director

Mr. Johnston presented the Governor's Executive Order 25

regarding housing in the Commonwealth. Mr. Johnston noted that work on the Annual Action Plan (part of the Consolidated Plan) was ongoing and provided upcoming input session dates. Mr. Johnston stated that the Alliance for National and Community Resilience (ANCR) published a system for benchmarking resiliency of buildings; Mr. Johnston indicated that DHCD staff has been involved with the development of the benchmarks.

Unfinished Business

Mr. Keith Johnson inquired about a potential replacement for Mr. Farrell as representative to the Fire Services Board. Mr. Carr indicated that pending conversations with interested Board members, a decision would likely be made soon.

New Business

There was no new business to be discussed.

Board Matters

Mr. Justin Bell, Assistant Attorney General Representative to the Board, instructed that should Board members have concerns or questions regarding Conflict of Interest, they should consult with the Attorney General's Office or the Ethics Council.

Future Meetings

The next meeting of the Board will be March 18, 2019.

Adjournment

Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.