

BOARD OF HOUSING AND COMMUNITY DEVELOPMENT
Regular Meeting
MEETING
12:00 P.M., July 22, 2019
Glen Allen, Virginia

Members Present

Sonny Abbasi
John Patrick Carr
Susan Dewey
Sean Farrell
Andrew Friedman
Richard Gregory
Abby Johnson
Keith Johnson
Earl Reynolds
Jeff Sadler
Steve Semones

Members Absent

Mimi Elrod
Helen Hardiman
Patricia Shields

Call to Order

Mr. John Patrick Carr, Chairman of the Board of Housing and Community Development (BHCD), called the meeting to order at 12:00 p.m.

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

There was no public comment.

Approval of Minutes

A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the minutes of the May 13, 2019, meeting of the Board; the motion passed.

Annual Elections

Department of Housing and Community Development Director, Mr. Erik Johnston, opened the floor for nominations for Chairman.

Mr. Sonny Abbasi nominated Mr. Steven Semones. No other nominations were made. Mr. Semones was unanimously elected as Chairman.

Mr. Semones opened the floor for nominations for Vice Chairman. Mr. Carr nominated Mr. Abbasi. No other

nominations were made. Mr. Abbasi was unanimously elected as Vice Chairman.

Mr. Semones appointed Ms. Helen Hardiman and Mr. Andrew Friedman as Co-Chairs of the Housing and Community Development Committee. Mr. Semones appointed Mr. Richard Gregory as representative to the Fire Services Board. Mr. Semones appointed Mr. Abbasi as Chairman of the Codes and Standards Committee.

Housing and Community
Development Committee
Report

Mr. Friedman brought forward a motion to the Board to post rent to own best practices to the DHCD website, as directed by the General Assembly. Such posting would include notice that the best practices were subject to additions. The motion also directed staff to prepare a plan for consideration of any additional best practices. The motion was approved.

Mr. Friedman brought forward a motion to the Board to update program guidelines to expand eligibility for the Communities of Opportunity program to the Newport News, Norfolk, Virginia Beach Metropolitan Statistical Area (MSA). The motion was approved.

Mr. Friedman brought forward a motion to adopt the Port Host Communities Revitalization Fund guidelines. The motion was approved.

Code Change Process
Update

Ms. Cindy Davis, Deputy Director of DHCD's Building and Fire Regulation Division reported on the status of the Code Update Process and the progress of the various workgroups and topic specific subworkgroups.

Mr. Keith Johnson discussed the remaining work before the Fire Code Edit workgroup and what the process would include prior to Board action on the code changes.

Ms. Davis reported to the Board that the School Safety Subworkgroup may not reach consensus and that the Board may receive multiple proposals from that subworkgroup.

Public Participation Guidelines	Mr. Flanders reported that a 2012 change to the enabling legislation for Public Participation Guidelines should be incorporated into the Board's Public Participation Guidelines. Mr. Flanders indicated that the change would not alter existing public participation procedures. A motion was made and properly seconded to approve the change. The motion passed.
VHDA Report	Ms. Dewey reported that VHDA had brought a shipping container home to the Housing X Conference from the Idaho company indieDwell. She reported that VHDA was leveraging low income housing tax credits (LIHTC) to facilitate an innovation round for innovative affordable housing projects. VHDA is currently considering applications for this new program. Ms. Dewey also reported that VHDA has initiated a new mixed use mixed income program.
VFSB Report	Mr. Friedman reported that the VFSB passed a new fire prevention and control plan.
Report of the Director	<p>Mr. Johnston informed the Board that he would be representing Virginia at a congressional hearing to speak about the importance of the Community Development Block Grant (CDBG) program.</p> <p>Mr. Johnston reiterated the Governor's commitment to housing issues noting that the Governor attended an event in Arlington to highlight a building that created hundreds of dwellings with veteran's preference as a part of the Housing Trust Fund Announcements. Mr. Johnston also noted that the Governor's Housing Conference is coming up in November and Board members are encouraged to attend.</p>
Unfinished Business	There was no unfinished business.
New Business	There was no new business.
Adjournment	Upon a motion duly made and seconded, the meeting was adjourned.